

Vol. XVII No. 1

# Kapatiran

magazine

**BCBP** in the  
Marketplace...

**23** AWESOME  
years







# **The BROTHERHOOD OF CHRISTIAN BUSINESSMEN AND PROFESSIONALS**

## ***VISION***

**Life in Christ in all its fullness for  
businessmen and professionals (John 10:10)**

## ***MISSION***

**We provide a way of life and support environment where  
businessmen and professionals guided by the Holy Spirit,  
can experience Christ through a continuing  
process of;**

***Conversion* to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.  
*Commitment* to the values espoused by Him, and  
*Commissioning* as disciples to spread the Good News in  
the marketplace.**

## **The BCBP CORE VALUES**

**LOVE For GOD**

**LOVE For COMMUNITY**

**COMMITMENT to the LORD'S WORK**



# Kapatiran is back!

## NEWER fresher

# re-charged

During its two-year lull, there was no Kapatiran to chronicle momentous BCBP events. We celebrated our 22nd Anniversary in Iloilo. Outreaches sprung up in Santiago Isabela, Marikina, Pasay, Borongan Leyte, Naval Biliran, Sogod, Daet, San Jose Mindoro, Boracay, Kalinog, Talisay, Binalbagan, San Carlos and Siquijor.

We missed Annie's practical advice on how to raise a family, Ronnie's astute comments on how to be fishers of men, true secrets of Christian business success as revealed by Francis, Nancy's discussions on practical ways of living our Christianity, Sammy's travelogues, Larry's minute reflections, the inspiring sharings of our brothers from far flung places and from those that have stood up to corruption in high places. Yes, we greatly missed the Kapatiran.

Now the Kapatiran is back with an innovative format, fresher columns and features, new writers and correspondents. And, yes, we are re-invigorated and raring to go! We've reduced the page size but are including a colored photo spread. Texts are easier to read but, we hope, more substantial in content. Interviews, regional highlights and a bible crossword add variety for your reading pleasure.

Indeed, the Kapatiran Magazine is back . . . to inform, to inspire, to form, to evangelize, to unify and harmonize. The Kapatiran is the **CHRONICLER** of events for our evangelization march, it is the **CONSCIENCE** that voices out our core values and it is the **LINK** that unites our 98 chapters and outreaches so that collectively we may attain our vision of bringing Christ into the marketplace.

Let us welcome back the Kapatiran. And support it by getting a subscription NOW!

**Ricky Beltran**  
Managing Editor

## Kapatiran is back!

- ✓ New format
- ✓ Better editorial content
- ✓ More articles
- ✓ Wider coverage

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## Kapatiran The national magazine of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals

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# Kapatiran's

## Mission and Vision

**INFORMATION ... INSPIRATION ... FORMATION ...  
EVANGELIZATION ... UNIFICATION/HARMONIZATION**

The **Kapatiran** provides a channel for the flow of **information** from BCBP national level to BCBP chapter and member level, and between chapters - and vice versa - to help members keep up-to-date with relevant happenings and policies in the BCBP nationwide, and by keeping everyone informed of what and how others are doing, thus providing opportunities for linkages and closer communication. As the official magazine of the BCBP, it also serves a historical purpose since it documents the development of the BCBP over the years.

The **Kapatiran** is a source of **inspiration** to members through its publication of sharings, inspiring articles and features.

The **Kapatiran** serves as a vehicle for the **formation** of members through its "Back to Basics" article and other features and teaching articles that highlight important aspects of the BCBP member's Christian Way of Life. It provides supplemental material to help chapters and outreaches develop powerful talks based on the BCBP Curriculum.

The **Kapatiran** is designed to help members **evangelize** and reach out to others by providing an attractive and interesting, quality nationally-based magazine that espouses BCBP's mission and values as it strengthens the BCBP Way of Life, making it a valuable tool for bringing Christ to the marketplace.

The **Kapatiran** helps **unify and harmonize** BCBP chapters and outreaches by directing the members' focus on the BCBP as a national organization, not just a town-based, provincial or regional organization.

## Kapatiran

The national magazine of the  
**Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and  
Professionals.**

**Vol. XVII No. 1. June 2003**

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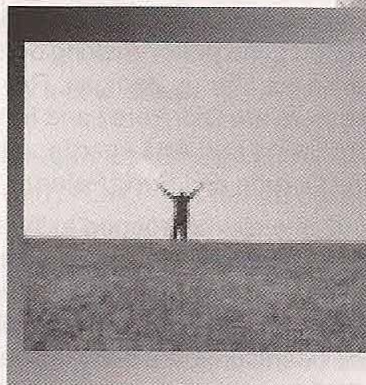
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# C O N T E N T S

## **COVER UP**

*BCBP's 23 years in the marketplace are bursting with awesome joy in this exuberant graphic presentation by Nancy and Sammy. The 23 rays were inspired by the background design of the Monstrance at St. Joseph the Worker Parish Church near the BCBP National office.*



# Meet the BCBP

**A**fter three action-packed, dynamic evangelization and visitation-filled years, 2003 ushers in a whole new set of national leaders. The process began in the mid morning of April 27, 2002 during the 22nd national anniversary celebration in Iloilo. The chapter heads and the incumbent national leaders, as well as those who have served in both service positions, known as the senior members, gathered to choose the new set of Board of Trustees.

Ten brothers representing Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao and Metro Manila were chosen by the senior members. Immediate past Board Chairman Louie Morales completed the list of the 11-man Board of Trustees (BOT), the policy-making body of the Brotherhood. Representing Metro Manila are Manny Banigan, Roy Calleja, Manolet Siojo and Bobby Laviña. Luzon BOT members are Didi Perez and Edwin Tan; Visayas members are Ed Lising and Art Legarde, with Mindanao being represented by Joe Coruña and Bong Pelaez.

On June 29, 2002, the eleven trooped to Tagbilaran to select the national officers. Manny Banigan was selected as the Chairman of the BOT. Manolet Siojo and Bobby Laviña were chosen as National President and Vice President respectively of the Management Committee (ManCom), the body that manages the day-to-day activities of the BCBP.

The task of selecting the members of the ManCom resides on the shoulders of the new president. In order to provide a more cohesive delivery of service and caring and support system, the regional organization was evaluated and new regions were created. Foremost is the splitting of the Metro Manila Region into Metro Manila North with Bobby Atendido as the Regional Council Director (RCD) and Metro Manila South Region with Rene Cortes as RCD.

In Northern Luzon Ted Siapno is the RCD of the new Northwest Luzon Region, with the Northeast Luzon Region being headed by Didi Perez as its RCD. A new region was created in Central Luzon with Art dela Cruz as its RCD. South Luzon Region maintains Max Joaquin as RCD.

Visayas produced two relatively new regions. What used to be Visayas Central is now simply Cebu Region with Nelson Daus at the helm. Two provinces that used to be included in the former Central Visayas have now become a separate region named as the Tagbilaran/ Dumaguete Region with Peter Dejaresco as its RCD. The Panay Region with RCD Gau Arancillo, Negros Region (Ilongo side)



Roy



Manolet



Louie



Art L.



Manolet



Sadi



Ed L.



Fr. Herb.



Teddy



Art DC



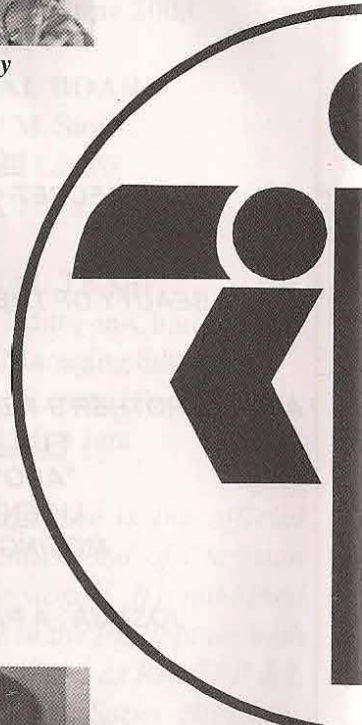
Max



Rene



Bobby A.





# LEADERSHIP

with Art Legarde, Visayas East covering Leyte and Samar with RCD Larry Veloso complete the lineup in the Visayas region.

The two Mindanao regions remain with Mindanao East handled by RCD Oskee Olib and Mindanao West by Casi Nadela.

Also members of the Mancom are the National Treasurer, Fuji Rodriguez, and the National Service Coordinators (NSCs) - Roy Calleja NSC for Formation, Sadi Saguisag NSC for Mission, Bobby Laviña NSC for Programs and Services, and Ed Lising NSC for Special Projects.



*Manny*



*Joe*

**Now let's get to know a little bit more about our national leaders.**

**Manny Banigan** is not new to most of us. He served as chapter head (CH) of Las Piñas before becoming the president of the former National Council and then moving on to the BOT. Manny is a practicing lawyer managing his own law firm. He is supported by his ever-energetic wife Haydz.

**Manolet Siojo**, former CH of BCBP Greenhills, served as vice president and concurrent NSC for Formation during the administration of Louie Morales. Manolet is a Training Consultant and a professor with the John Gokongwei School of Management, Ateneo de Manila. Manolet is married to Carla who also works in ADMU.

**Bobby Laviña** previously served as the national treasurer of the former National Council, and then Programs and Services Director (PSD) of the Greenhills chapter. Bobby works with Phinma as its Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. Marite joins Bobby in his service in the BCBP.

**Roy Calleja**, formerly Q.C. chapter head, has been the RCD for Metro Manila for several years. Real estate and low-cost housing is the marketplace of Roy in addition to his newly opened financing firm. Roy and his wife Janet typify the BCBP servant couple team.

**Sadi Saguisag** rose through the ranks from CH of Cebu, director for Visayas and Mindanao to RCD of the Visayas Central region. He has always been actively involved in the evangelization of the Visayas and Mindanao regions. Sadi is a CPA by profession and was connected with Ford Philippines. His wife Ester is always there to boost Tatang Sadi.



*Bobby L.*



*Bong*



*Fuji*



*Oskee*



*Didi*



*Ed T.*



*Nelson*



*Larry*



*Gau*



*Peter*



*Casi*





*Leaders in praise and worship.*

**Ed Lising** held various positions in his mother chapter of Cebu before becoming the NSC for Mission in the previous administration. He has done a tremendous job in bringing Christ to the marketplaces of Cebu and neighboring provinces throughout his BCBP years. A typical businessman, Ed is earning his keep by distributing flavors of different sorts. Quiet yet very perceptive, Ester is always at Ed's side in all his mission work.

**Fuji Rodriguez**, formerly chapter head of Puerto Princesa, served as Director for Luzon before settling down to being the RCD for South Luzon Region prior to becoming the current National Treasurer. Fuji is connected with the Philippine National Oil Company as senior vice president for Management Services. His wife, Chit is a happy lady to be with; Fuji, for sure, is happy!

**Didi Perez** served for many years as Tuguegarao CH before his selection to the BOT. Didi owns his own law firm and is an active defense lawyer. Tita Teresing always makes it a point to be with Didi in all his travels.

**Ted Siapno**, formerly Dagupan CH, served as director for all of Luzon before becoming RCD for North Luzon, now

narrowed down to only Northwest Luzon as the regions grew and were organizationally split. He is a businessman who sells anything from bagoong to Bolinao bangus. His beautiful wife Joan is one distinct asset Ted has.

**Art dela Cruz** was dynamic as chapter head of BCBP Quezon City. A CPA by profession, he works as vice president for operations for the SHDA Guarantee Fund Inc. Laly, his very active, articulate and supportive wife, is truly a perfect partner for Art.

**Bobby Atendido**, immediately after completing his term as Alabang chapter head, was commissioned to serve in the Mancom as national treasurer. Bobby is the president

of Asian Alliance Investment Corporation. Petit and soft-spoken, Fe, his wife, is the strong lady in Bobby's life.

**Rene Cortes** previously served as chapter head of Parañaque. Rene is the president of Reliable Customer Oriented Distributor, Inc. which markets consumer products. Nonee, his always smiling wife, makes it more joyful for Rene to serve.

**Max Joaquin** took the cudgels as Rizal chapter head before becoming the RCD for the whole of South Luzon. Basically a pre-need expert, he has enjoyed tenure in several leading companies and is presently the vice president and director of a Metro Manila agency of Phil-American Life and General Insurance Co. Mimay, his imposing six-footer wife, is really a gentle and sweet lady.

**Nelson Dautz**, fresh from being the CH of Mactan, takes over the whole province of Cebu. Nelson is engaged in agri-business and runs his own firm. Baby, his wife, is quiet, very supportive and always there for Nelson.

**Peter Dejaresco** was the first CH of Tagbilaran. He is a media man who manages the family-owned radio station network and a newspaper in Tagbilaran. He is married to

*Leaders singing in harmony. The "Tinago Choir"*





Zarah, together they make a perfect team for BCBP service.

**Larry Veloso**, the quietly active RCD for Visayas East, was the CH of Cebu prior to its growth into four separate chapters. He is in the mining business, holding the position of president of Velore Mining Corp. His wife, Dedith, is a typical cebuana, carinosa and yet gently strong.

**Art Legarde** was the chapter head of Bacolod before it split into two chapters. He served as RCD for the Ilongo areas of Panay and Negros before Panay became a separate region. Art simply wants to be identified as a farmer; yes, he farms his several hectares of land in Bacolod. Lucille, his wife, is the ever-smiling strength of Art.

**Gau Arancillo** took over from Art Legarde as RCD of Panay Region. Gau was the former CH of Iloilo. He is the administrator of Arancillo Real Estate Lessor in Iloilo. Truly dynamic and active, his wife Lori is Gau's many blessings.

**Oskee Olib**, one of the newest RCDs, now responsible for Mindanao West, was previously chapter head of Butuan. Oskee has his own agri-business in Butuan. Oskee is single again.


**Casi Nadela**, the debonaire gentleman of the Mancom, is continuing his post as RCD of Mindanao East although he is actually from Cebu where he served as Mactan's CH. He used to be a farmer but now manages his own subdivision in Cebu. You'll never see Casi without Emma, whom he laughingly refers to as his commanding officer ( Emma is a retired general in the medical corps).

In the Board of Trustees, **Bong Pelaez** formerly served as chapter head of Cagayan de Oro West, **Edwin Tan** was chapter



*Leaders at work.*

head of Puerto Princesa, and **Joe Coruña** was chapter head of Cagayan de Oro before becoming RCD of Mindanao West under Tatang Louie's administration. Bong is an entrepreneur engaged in agri-business. Edwin is in the electronics and restaurant businesses. Joe is a medical practitioner specializing in

psychiatry. And of course, **Tatang Louie** is in the corporate communications and advertising business. Bong is married to fast-talking yet truly caring and sweet Beng. Edwin is married to Gina, Joe to Hedy, also a medical practitioner, and Tatang Louie to Mother Lily. 

- Sammy M. Ulanday

**JOY IN SERVING THE LORD**  
By Bro. Mong Robillo, BCBP Davao

Jesus blazed the path of mission,  
doing good wherever He went,  
Now He awaits our decision  
if we are willing to be sent.  
We've been chosen for His mission,  
so must be bold to face the tests,  
Dispel all fears, doubts, indecision,  
for God will take care of the rest.

Life can be like a barren tree, no fruits to share,  
just standing there.

Or it can bear abundantly by serving  
in Christ's ministry. . .

None can deny the Great Divide,  
one day we'll have to face our goal;  
The deeds we do now in this life will decide  
the fate of our soul.



## Back to Basics



Nancy R. Catan

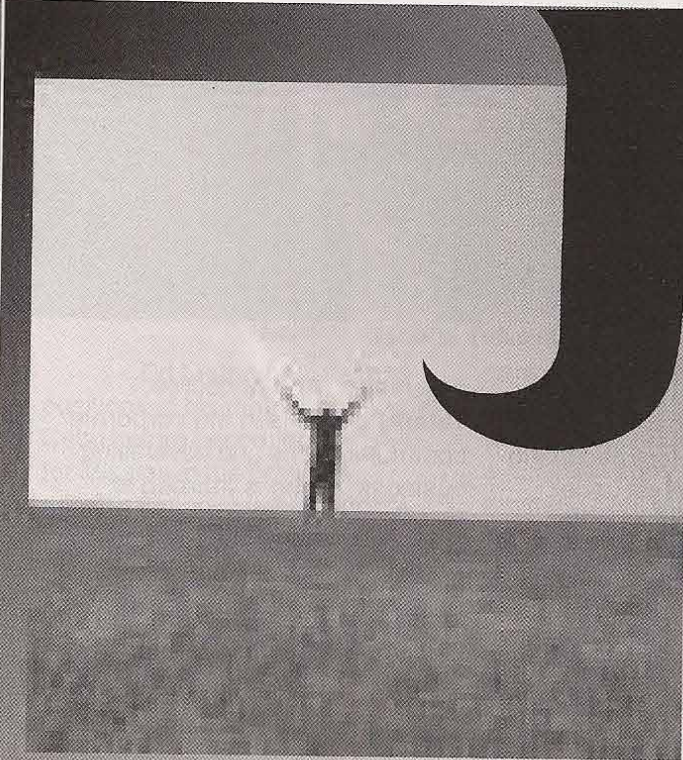
# joy

barkada, our worldly desires to do more, to have more, to be more than what we are. This continuing compulsion to be happy actually results in widespread dissatisfaction with our state of being ... resulting in labor unrest, battles for control of resources in businesses and even between nations, the seeking of unchristian life alternatives by many young people, and the general unrest of people.

On the other hand "joy" is defined as a vivid emotion of extreme pleasure or gladness particularly of being in the presence of someone or something we love. Joy is a response, while happiness is a condition. Christian writer Paul Thigpen says that while happiness possesses, joy appreciates; while happiness grasps, joy beholds. He believes that to discover joy, we must abandon the search for it, and go looking instead for the One who is Himself joy to see, to know, and to love.

### Joy - a Net of Love to catch souls

I love to read and reread the story of creation in the book of Genesis. Every time God creates something, he pauses and exclaims in joy, "It is good!" And I love this quotation from the wisdom of Mother Teresa giving insight into why God was so joyful. She says that "Joy is a net of love by which you catch souls." I believe that God rejoiced and continues to rejoice in His creation - you and me - because we are a sign of His love and joy and thus we become the net of love by which He catches souls. Wow! What a wonderful feeling to know that we, you and I, are, each one of us, a piece of His divinely woven net He uses to catch souls. Isn't this what Jesus meant when He said, "I will make you fishers of men...?"



I've often wondered why one of the so-called basic freedoms is called "the pursuit of happiness". Why is it so important to man to be happy? Why does it seem that the more we pursue happiness, the more we try to be happy, the more dissatisfied and unhappy we become when our dreams are not attained?

And then as I've read the Bible over the years, I've wondered why Paul tells us to be joyful always (1 Thess. 5:16) instead of being happy. He says that being joyful is "the will of God for us in Christ Jesus". Again in his letter to the Philippians Paul reiterates "Rejoice... and again I say rejoice!" And in his letter to the Galatians, 5:22, he tells us the Lord promises "joy" as a fruit of the Spirit, not happiness.

### Happiness vs. Joy

'Happiness' is defined as being satisfied or content, and to be content is to contain or possess what we want. In this day and age being content is so difficult as we are continually bombarded by media, our



How can we know Joy? We rejoice as we grow in believing and experiencing God's love for us. We love God. We see Him in Creation. We see His loving hand working in the world today. We know joy as we evangelize and bring others to a closer personal relationship with Him. We grow in joy even as we grow in our relationship with God.

### Nine Thieves of Joy

As we grow in knowing Him, in loving Him, in enjoying Him, we come to realize that anything that obscures our vision of God can steal away our joy — oftentimes little by little so that we don't notice what is happening. There are at least nine major areas where Satan's thieves seek to rob us of God's joy and our joy. Sin and Guilt. Anxiety and Fear. Anger and Bitterness. Discontent, Comparing and Coveting. Busyness and Overcommitment. Despair and Giving Up. Holding on too tightly to the shadows in our lives. Joyless people. Unbelief and Lack of Trust.

Why is it so important to recognize these joy stealers? God created us for Joy and the thieves of joy recognize that, especially the master thief who "comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy." *John 10:10*. The master thief wants us to be fearful, doubting and sorrowful. He wants to undermine our trust and our belief in the Maker of Miracles. For he knows what we often forget: "**Joy in the Lord is your strength.**" *Nehemiah 8:10*

### Cultivating JOY

I've learned that being joyful requires some discipline. Joy is not merely a feeling. Joy is like a tender plant, one that must be cultivated and nurtured, fertilized and harvested. We need to practice JOY. One of the best ways to maintain an

outlook of joy is to abide in Christ in all that we do. There are also many other ways to cultivate joy.

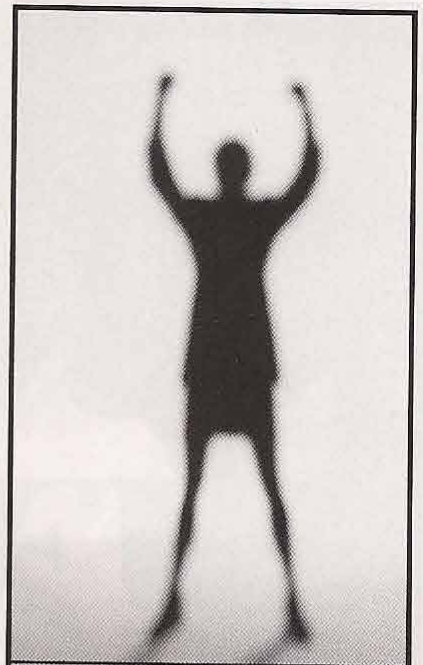
We experience joy as we read and reflect on the word of God in scripture. Singing and worshipping nourishes our joy. Joy gives; a generous spirit is a joyous spirit. Joy never forgets ... to remember God's mercies and goodness in one's life. Joy asks - Jesus tells us "Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete." *John 16:24*

Jesus showed us that it is joyful to serve others, especially those in most need of his love. The heart of a genuine servant is a joyful one; the face of a true servant is full of joy. And when we are full of joy, we enjoy what we are doing. God's presence fills us with joy. He promises in Psalm 16:11 to show us the path to life and fullness of joys in His presence.

### God invites us to be Joyful

God gives us freedom of choice; He does not force us to be joyful. Like a good host at a party, he issues the invitation, even sends reminders. He provides all that is needed to make the party a success - good food, pleasant atmosphere, exciting people to be with. But it is our attitude that determines how much we enjoy.

Joy, genuine Christian JOY, is one thing we cannot afford to miss. In being joyful, we are practicing for heaven. And I, for one, want to practice over and over so that I will be truly ready for heaven. I anticipate looking forward to hearing Him say, "Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy." Yes, Lord, I choose to be JOYFUL! 



Happiness comes when things are going our way ... Joy, on the other hand, does not come because something is happening or not happening but every once in a while rises up out of simply being alive, of being part of the terror as well as the fathomless richness of the world that God has made.

- Frederick Buechner

At every moment of our life we have an opportunity to choose joy. ... It is in the choice that our true freedom lies, and that freedom is, in the final analysis, the freedom to love.

- Henri J. M. Nouwen

Joy is a net of love by which you catch souls. - Mother Teresa

Think back to your youth and remember how easy it was to find joy in every day - by riding a bike really fast, or jumping into the waves breaking on the shore. What types of things bring you that kind of joy today? Seek them out. The smiles and laughter they bring will help you connect with others and fill your heart with JOY.





**C**oming off the wheel from an 8-hour drive from the BCBP's 23rd Anniversary celebrations in Legazpi, Albay back to Manila the farthest thought from one's mind would be about "Serving the Lord with Joy in our hearts". To stress the point further I thanked our brothers and sisters who took the train, they were entering the 12th hour of a 15-hour trek to get back to Manila. You would probably say that I might be stretching my legs a little too far if I insisted that there is joy in serving the Lord despite the aching bodies and lack of sleep. But you know I would. And so would many thousands of BCBP brothers and sisters who have lived a life of joyful service. They would agree with me. Memories of a glorious anniversary celebration and Spirit-filled national assembly seemed to remove all the tiredness from me.

### Why do we serve the Lord?

This then begs the questions: "Why do we serve the Lord? And from where do we derive that joy?" Basically, I believe that we serve out of gratitude for a great love that the Lord is showing for all of us. And we serve in imitation of the Lord from whom we derive inspiration.

I would say our Lord is a person of action because love without action is not love. Matthew 20:28 says, "*Just so, the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.*" He knew that it was against his very nature NOT to express his great love concretely. In fact it was the very nature and purpose of God in the creation of man to share his glory to all of us. A time-tested principle of love is the saying "Love requires a test." And usually, both humanly and divinely, love is tested, proven and shown IN ACTION.





Ronnie Caballero

# The Secret of JOYFUL SERVICE

The Word became flesh, and he dwelt  
amongst us. God being Creator knew only too  
well human ways. Jesus' coming down to Earth  
was not only divine intentions but proved  
divine love in human terms as well. "No one has  
greater love than this, that one lay down one's  
life for one's friends." John 15:13. And we all  
know too well how Jesus did just that on Cal-  
vary. The Father was in no minor role either,  
sending up his only Son to die for all our sins.  
A great sacrifice. Great love. Great God.

## Word is present in service

But what does all this have to do with us  
and our joy in service to the Lord in the BCBP? I  
think the strongest reason, though you may  
doubt, is the existence of joy in serving the  
Lord because of the PRESENCE OF THE  
LORD IN OUR SERVICE.

The Lord in calling all of us to service  
is calling us to his PRESENCE: *The eleven  
disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to*

*which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw  
him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then  
Jesus approached and said to them, "All power  
in heaven and on earth has been given to me.  
Go, therefore, and make disciples of all  
nations, baptizing them in the name of the  
Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit,  
teaching them to observe all that I have com-  
manded you. And behold, I am with you al-  
ways, until the end of the age."* Matthew  
28:16-20

But before we come to a conclusion, take  
notice of verse 17: *When they saw him, they  
worshiped, but they doubted.* Fr. Gerry Orbos  
SVD in one of his PDI Sunday columns about  
the doubting St. Thomas said that doubt can be a  
very healthy thing when it comes to our faith. All  
of us individually should make it our holy grail  
or our highest personal journey to find the  
convincing living presence of the Lord in our  
very lives. Because the LORD'S PRESENCE  
CAN BE FELT AND HE IS ALWAYS THE  
REASON FOR OUR TRUE JOY. *page 14 pls.*



# Our Love for BCBP Community must combine COMMITMENT and PASSION

*Interview with Manolet Siojo,  
BCBP National President*



**K**apatiran: How did you come to be a member of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals?

**Manolet:** It was early in 1985 when I first attended the Breakfast in Club Filipino because the husband of Carla's (my wife's) first cousin pestered me so much I wanted to get him off my back. It was during that first breakfast that the Lord got me already. The CLP after that was more of a formality. Since that time, I know that I belong in the BCBP.

**Kapatiran:** You must have been a pretty spiritual person at that time to be able to appreciate the Lord at such an early stage.

**Manolet:** Maybe... I wouldn't say that I was that spiritual. I enjoyed the company and the caring and friendship of brothers whose common desire was to serve God. As I look back, it was our first action group that got me committed. Our action group leader couple was our role model in leadership. They were

a kind of reflection of Jesus to us. And this is what I keep harping on in the Brotherhood today - the key is leadership and how the leadership reflects Jesus to each member.

**Kapatiran:** Any other reasons for your commitment to the BCBP up to now?

**Manolet:** I just feel very strongly that with the gifts that the Lord has given me, this is where He wants me to be. Carla and I were also in another community for 8 years and in a way I guess I was able to compare culture and activities. So I am certain that the Lord has prepared me for serving the BCBP and I am sure that this is where I belong.

**Kapatiran:** Why did you accept the service of being President of the BCBP?

**Manolet:** Good question (laughter)... For awhile I felt that maybe it was because I've always been a stickler for submitting to my leaders. Even when Rolly Aberion asked me to take over the chapter headship of BCBP Greenhills, I just told him, well, if you think I can do it, then I trust your decision cause you're my leader. Of course, as with any decision, I really prayed hard to the Lord ... I trust the Lord's decision even more so. I believe that God will put you into a particular place at a particular time either by His direction or by His permission and I feel that the Lord wants me here for a purpose. And I accept that. For the many blessings He has showered me and my family with, this service is nothing compared to that. This is just my chance to give back to Him something for all the things He has done for us. I try always to be obedient to His call.

**Kapatiran:** That's nice to hear because many brothers would be intimidated by the magnitude of service required by this position.

**Manolet:** I agree. Many times I feel inadequate. Especially before the National Anniversary when I knew that I had to lead the assembly. Yet, you know, minutes, no seconds before I stood up



when I was introduced in Legazpi, it just became so clear that I was stepping forward and saying, "Yes, Lord, now I'm here to answer your call." As if the Lord was getting impatient with me as I had kept praying asking Him what He wanted me to do. I experienced healing at that moment as the Lord taught me that this is His work, not my work, that He is giving me to do, that I should be optimistic about it, and that there are so many brothers in the Mancom and Board of Trustees I can run to for advice and help (laughter). But I know that this is going to take a lot of prayer and one-on-one sessions with the Lord.

**Kapatiran:** So far how does your family feel about this service?

**Manolet:** Even before I accepted the position, we talked it over in the family about what it might mean in terms of time and sacrifice. Carla and my family agreed to support me all the way. My service poses a challenge to prioritize my time as I don't want my family to suffer. Once you enter the Brotherhood, your priorities change; we need to be available to our families and to our livelihood as well as to the Brotherhood for service.

**Kapatiran:** What are the three top priorities you feel that the Lord is directing the BCBP to?

**Manolet:** The first one is that we need to go back to the essentials of community — the major practices that we used to have that were really very good. I feel we need to get back to the basics to strengthen more our community - every member must be an active part of an action group under a caring and loving leader. Secondly, the formation program needs levels of formation for new members, for those who are 'mid-life-ing' in the BCBP, and for those who are quite senior. Spiritual growth should be tailored to each group's needs. More focus should also be on leadership programs. And my third priority is for the BCBP to become more visible in the outside community. This is now happening through the eco-reach program and we will be seeing more of this in terms of various advocacies. We need to also have some sort of advocacy for the Mindanao area.

**Kapatiran:** What do you think is one aspect of your character that will help you realize these plans for the BCBP?

**Manolet:** I always ask the Lord's will, what does He want me to do. Before I decide on anything, I really pray first. I have met so many different personalities, both difficult and pleasing in my 18 years in the BCBP, and I see that as a blessing. It doesn't matter who the Lord gives to work with me. In the end, what matters is the desire to serve the Lord.

**"Even before I accepted the position, we talked it over in the family about what it might mean in terms of time and sacrifice. Carla and my family agreed to support me all the way."**

**Kapatiran:** Any final words for our brothers and sisters out there?

**Manolet:** Yes. I strongly believe that our love for our community, the BCBP, must be seen in terms of **commitment and passion**. Being in a community like the BCBP requires a kind of passion - of loving God, of being sensitive and obedient to His Will in community. This passion doesn't come from convenience ... like, okay, I'll serve if I have the time ... this passion contains the readiness to make the sacrifice and to accept some inconvenience. The Lord has called us to this life in community, to feel His love and grace and to see His vision of the future. For this, we must have **Love, Commitment and Passion**.

— *Interviewed by Ronnie Caballero, transcribed by Ricky Beltran, edited by Nancy R. Catan.*

### About BCBP's new National President

Manolet Siojo joined the Brotherhood in 1985. He has been active in various services including one term as chapter head of BCBP Greenhills, before becoming national Vice President during the term of Louie Morales, year 2000-2002.

He is married to Carla; they have four lovely children, two boys and two girls. The eldest Miguel, 21, is majoring in Communications in Ateneo. Bea, 19, is entering her second year in Ateneo, taking AB Psychology. Gabby, their third, is entering 4th year high school in Xavier. Their youngest Betina, 12, will be grade six in the Immaculate Conception Academy.

Manolet presently is a full-time training consultant and is also teaching part-time at the Ateneo University's John Gokongwei School of Management. He teaches organizational behavior and human resource management.



## Enjoying the Lord's Presence

Personally I have the firm conviction that the best place to enjoy the Lord's presence aside from His sacraments is IN SERVING HIM.


Some brothers and sisters may not be aware of it but the MAIN REASON why we are drawn to our assemblies and our mission IS THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD.

This all has to do with another principle in loving and that is "LOVE is best proven in sacrifice."

Attending the 23rd Anniversary has spoken volumes of grace to me personally about the saving power of the Lord. I had been to this place when there was not even one BCBP brother in it. Several years down the line of mission, sacrifice and brotherly love we find ourselves now celebrating with no less than 2000 brothers and sisters from all over the BCBP country. I don't know about you but this thought just floors me. And so with any BCBP brother and sister who has had the experience of returning to a

former outreach now become a full-blown chapter. The missionary memories of sleeping on bamboo benches, tents on beaches, loneliness, occasional despair in prayer, panic, are just golden memories now as the hand of the Lord has broken down all barriers.

## The Lord rides tricycle, too

As the anniversary celebrations wound down late in the evening, I was drawn to the entrance where a tricycle was waiting. Even though I could easily phone my driver, I hopped in by instinct. I was still in euphoria trying to take in all what the BCBP 23rd Anniversary meant to me when a strong sense flooded my mind, "Didn't it all start with a tricycle ride?" the inner voice said. Immediately, my eyes were filled with tears. It was the Lord! He was bringing me back to my first hesitation in jumping into a tricycle on our first mission hop in Legazpi. "Yes, Lord it did! Thanks for pushing me in!" I said. And my heart was flooded with joy as I rode back to my hotel in the tricycle with the Lord. 



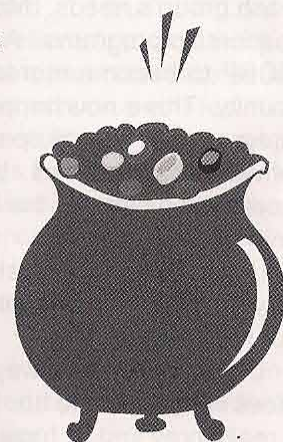
# Anyone for Stone Soup?

After meeting for some time with the same group, a little creativity in your activity may help emphasize the elements of caring and community. Try making "Stone Soup".

Begin by reading this tale: *An outsider came to a small village one day. He took a large pot of water, added several large stones, and set it to boil over an open fire in the center of town. One by one, the villagers came by and asked what he was stirring. Each time, the outsider replied, "I'm making stone soup, but it's missing something." Each villager returned to his or her home, fetched some small morsel to add to the soup, and brought it to the outsider. Some brought potatoes, some carrots, some onions, and so on until it became a rich concoction. While they waited for the soup to cook, the villagers chatted and eased into a party spirit. Soon they enjoyed a tasty, nourishing meal made possible by teamwork.*

Explain to your group that the next time you meet, you'll make 'stone soup'. Ask each one to bring an ingredient to contribute to a soup pot. (No fair discussing with each other what to bring!) Don't be surprised if you encounter some apprehension. You may need to assure some members that if the soup is a total flop, you'll order pizza - but this seldom happens. As host, you'll supply the pot, the stone, the water and the bread to eat with the soup.

This is not only a fun activity but can stimulate a lively discussion on cooperation, caring, community and interrelatedness.





# Will the BCBP make the DIFFERENCE?

*Most Rev. Jose C. Sorra, D.D., Bishop of Legazpi*

*Excerpts from his homily during the BCBP's 23rd Anniversary*

Welcome to the Diocese of Legazpi! One big word that caught my attention in your Program is **Brotherhood**. **Brotherhood** presupposes a Fatherhood - in other words, that you all believe in God the Father, Creator and Author of human life - making man, in fact, to his image and likeness. A denial, therefore, of God's Fatherhood renders our brotherhood meaningless and without direction or purpose. On the other hand, if we truly believe in the Fatherhood of God, there is meaning to our calling one another brothers.

**Brotherhood of Christians.** Another ecclesial term for "Brotherhood of Christians" is "Christian community." But no so-called Christian Brotherhood or Christian Community can withstand the vicissitudes of time - unless firmly grounded on the foundation of Truth, Justice, Love, and Freedom. In fact, these very four values are the four cornerstones of Pope John XXIII's Structure for Peace, as described in his Encyclical Letter: Peace On Earth. And an authentic Christian Brotherhood is what Christ has been offering to His followers for the building of authentic World Peace.

**Truth** must characterize the life of a BCBP leader for peace - not half-truths, which are the euphemism of hypocrisy. A BCBP leader can build Truth for peace by invoking not only his or her rights but also his or her duties and responsibilities to God's people and country.

**Justice.** This simply means "Giving to everyone what is his or her due." It is respecting the rights of others and fulfilling one's duties towards them. Justice, like charity, begins at home but should not die in the home. To be a BCBP leader for justice and peace in society, one should practice this in the family.

**Love or Charity** builds peace if one will feel the needs of others as his or her own, in the measure that one shares what one has with others. And Jesus teaches us that authentic love or charity is self-sacrificing.

**Freedom.** Our business capitalists say that our economic system is a system of Free Enterprise. But I ask: free to whom and for whom? There are two forms of poverty: the economic poverty of the materially poor, and the moral poverty of the economically rich. And more often than not, the economically poor have often been made poor and kept poor by the moral poverty of those who control the wealth and those who are entrenched in power. And we must submit that the moral poverty of the rich is a far worse kind of unfreedom or slavery that urgently needs your Christian liberating hand. It is here, I believe, where the greatest challenge to your BCBP lies.

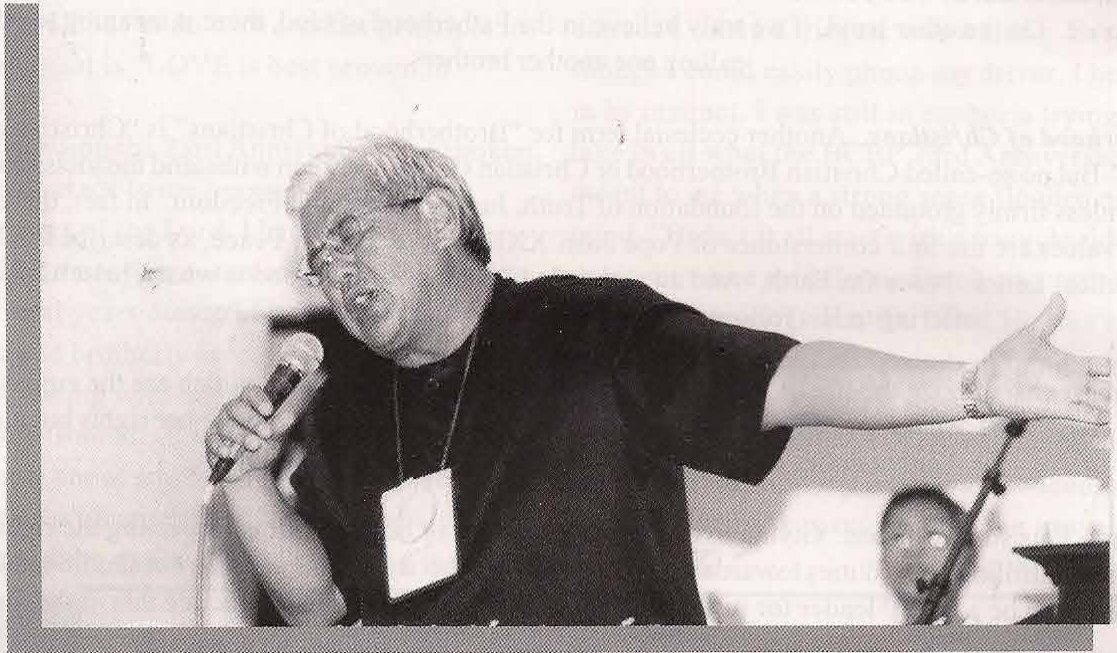
Will the BCBP truly make a difference - towards building Peace, a peace firmly grounded on Truth, Justice, Love and Freedom? Will the BCBP fully commit itself, as a Seed buried dying to itself, to make such a difference? If so, then you certainly will "Serve the Lord with joy in your Hearts".



## 23rd National Anniversary



# AWESOME!



*I thank the Lord for having given me the opportunity to serve the BCBP community for the last 3 years. It is a stage in my life that I will always cherish and remember, for the journey that the Holy Spirit laid out for me was simply "awesome"! It is uniquely amazing to witness His power at work in the BCBP and His endless grace pouring upon our community is simply "boundless". The 3 years of service is a proof of this! (Highlights of Louie's years of service follow.)*

*With thanksgiving to the Lord and in behalf of all the leaders of the BCBP, who are major instruments in our continuing Vision and Mission, we also thank all brothers and sisters for their genuine support and love. We urge you to continue your passion for the community that the Lord has gifted us with. May the Lord keep on showering you and the Brotherhood with His love and blessings.*

**- Louie Morales BCBP President 2000-2002**

**23rd National**



### Year 2000

- ▶ The 5 regions in 1999 expanded to 9 regions composed of 34 chapters and 37 outreaches
- ▶ Appointed 9 RCDs (Regional Council Directors) and 6 NSCs (National Service Coordinators)
- ▶ Defined the BCBP Curriculum of teachings and formation tracks
  - ▶ Evaluated, revised and manualized all BCBP programs
  - ▶ Launched the BCBP Website
  - ▶ BCBP Caring System emphasized
- ▶ Monthly Metro Manila and Metro Cebu Breakfasts launched
  - ▶ National office upgraded
- ▶ BEP, Business Evangelization Program, formalized for implementation
- ▶ Discipleship/Leadership development seminar launched
- ▶ Extensive chapter and outreach visitations enhanced relationships between the national leadership and members of the BCBP nationwide

### Year 2001

- ▶ Membership increased to form 41 chapters and 44 outreaches in the 9 regions
- ▶ Programs and Services Directorate established and new directors appointed
- ▶ Completed and disseminated the BCBP Formation Curriculum of a total of 30 programs. Compiled over 40 other teachings, available through the National Office
  - ▶ Accounting and treasury systems improved
  - ▶ Commitment to tithing improved by 30%
- ▶ Operationalized CRV, Chapter Review and Visitation

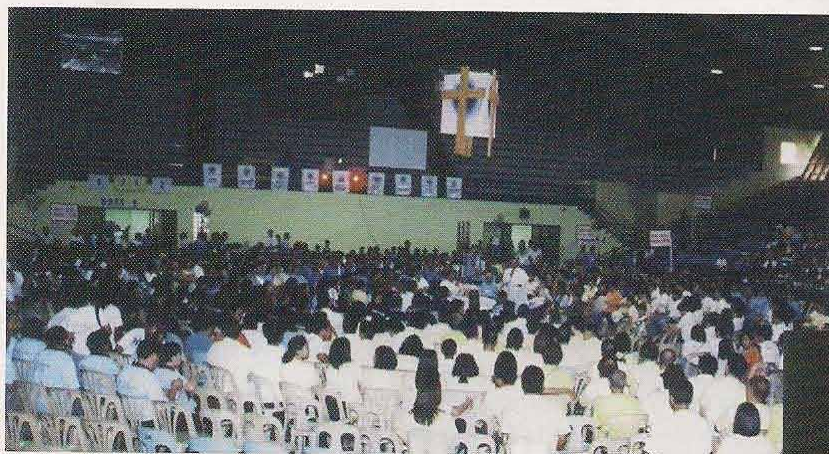
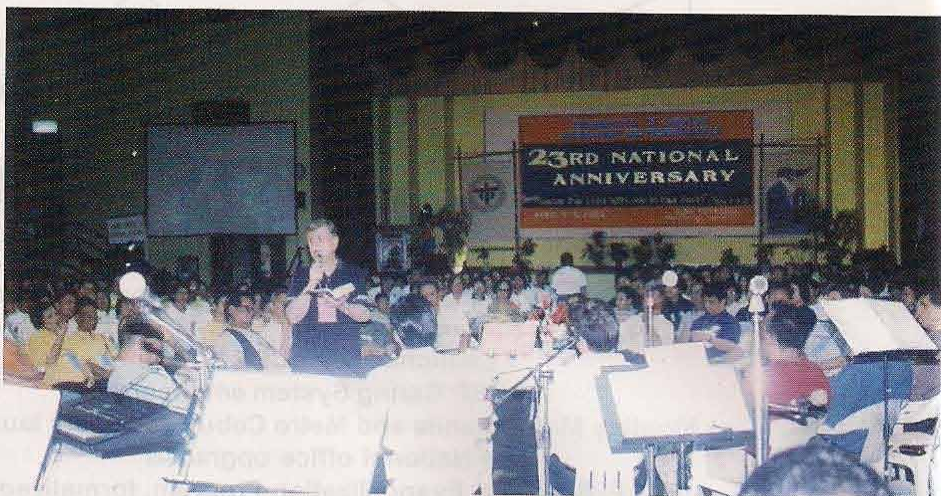
### Year 2002

- ▶ Expanded to 13 regions with 47 chapters and 48 outreaches, covering 48 provinces and 53 dioceses, with over 30,000 community members nationwide
- ▶ BCBP became independent from Partners In Mission to be able to devote full-time to the God-given mission of the BCBP in the marketplace
- ▶ Eco-Reach Program (Micro-Finance) formally launched with the setting up of the Eco Reach Foundation; pilot areas identified as Alabang, Quezon City, Las Pinas and Greenhills
  - ▶ CRVs and Mancom visitations in most all chapters and outreaches continued
  - ▶ Financial support system further improved not only in resources but in the understanding of our financial responsibility in community; deficits erased
  - ▶ Continuity of service and leadership strengthened

# Anniversary



*"It was a success! The response and support of the chapters nationwide inspired us the most. We enjoyed the presentations most. Schedule of activities was well planned. Worship assembly and healing session was filled spiritually. The food was sumptuous but procedure in distribution, etc., not well planned ... anyway there is always a flaw in any preparation - nothing is perfect."*  
 - Sonny Camposano,  
 CH Puerto Princesa North



*"To BCBP Legazpi, thank you for allowing us to experience a wonderful celebration of God's workings in our growing BCBP. We are surely going home enriched by BCBP's caring love to make all of us experience oneness as God's people. We love you."*  
 - Manny/Haydz Banigan,  
 Board of Trustees

*"Inspired most by the great worship. Enjoyed most meeting brothers, new and old. Liked best the visit to new places. Liked least the long, long drive."*  
 - Larry Veloso, RCD East Visayas  
 - Mayong Rodriguez, Deputy RCD East Visayas



*"The Praying/Healing Session inspired me most, seeing sisters and brothers, the whole family, and children being prayed over was a touching sight. It really made me feel the awesome presence of our Lord God during that part of the celebration."*  
 - Beth Lugtu, BCBP Manila

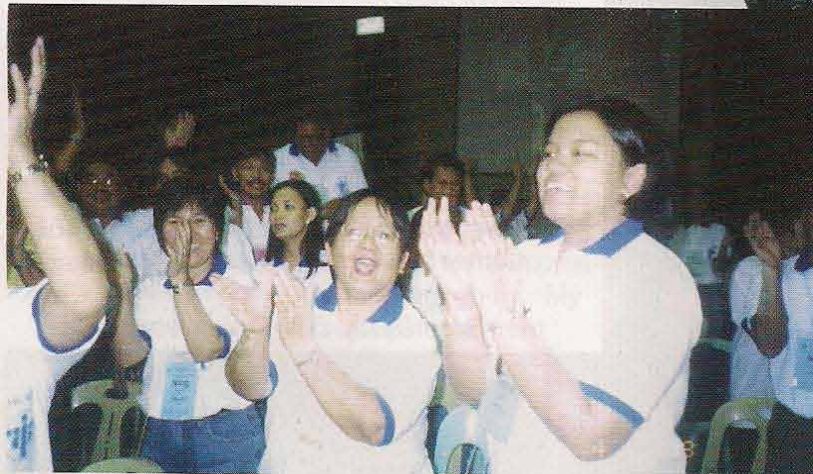
# 23rd National





**"Inspired? Breakfast sharings. Enjoyed? Fellowship night. Liked best? Effective healing. Liked least? Accommodations and food."  
- Rudy Desolog, PSD Butuan**

**"It was an answered prayer for me. Not only did we praise and thank God and fellowship with one another .. I got to visit Mt. Mayon. Thank you Lord."  
- Charisse Fortich, BCBP Cagayan de Oro West**



**"What a wonderful time and all the preparations, wow! Memorable ang train trip naming 15 hours got home at 2 am na pero grabe ang memories naming fun, fellowship, eating, saya saya."  
- Jun/Beth Ginete, BCBP Makati**

**Most inspiring and liked was the Praise and Worship.  
Most enjoyable was the chapter fellowship at the beach.  
Coordination of meals and choice of mass songs can still be improved.  
- Oca Cruz, CH Rizal**



# Anniversary





*Mayon Volcano inspired me most along with the worship and healing stands (stations). I enjoyed the fellowship and eating.*  
**- Oskee Olib, RCD Mindanao East**

"The prayer assembly really inspired me and I always look forward to this event whenever I am able to attend the anniversary. The powerful singing and praising is so joyful and alive that it made me forget for awhile the so many problems which our country and the rest of the world are experiencing ..."  
**- Polly Misenas, BCBP Manila**



*"I was inspired by the efforts of our brothers and sisters who traveled long distances just to join the anniversary. I learned that the Cagayan de Oro group traveled 32 hours by land just to reach Legaspi. I enjoyed the presentations. I liked the Praise and Worship and the opportunity to see our other brothers and sisters from the different chapters."*  
**- Mon Dizon, BCBP Quezon City**



*"What most inspired me during the anniversary was seeing so many delegates from different chapters. I enjoyed the sights in Legaspi as well as in Sorsogon. During the anniversary, one aspect I liked the best was the worship ... the least was the sounds. From the bleachers area we failed to understand the speakers. It would have been nicer if like in Iloilo there were fellowship or action groups because we got a chance to make new friends from different chapters."*  
**- Anon., BCBP Ormoc**



## 23rd National



"In behalf of the Legaspi Chapter we would like to thank everyone in your chapter/outreach for your support and love in making the anniversary a joyful and spirit-filled celebration."

- Dofel Banares, BCBP Legaspi



*The homily was very inspiring and the sharings, too. The part that needs improvement is in the choice of songs. Mass and worship songs should be familiar ones in general.*

- Jules/Lalai Advincula, PSD Ormoc



"I was inspired most by the attendance of many members even coming from far places who traveled by land 2 - 3 days to get to Legaspi. I enjoyed most the food. I liked best the Friday Prayer/Worship Assembly. It was truly spirit-led and it featured a format conducive to greater participation. The assembly was one of the best in format, songs and responses of the congregation. The breakfast and anniversary dinner show were great icing. Directional signs and route stops were impressive. Truly we improve as years go by. My congratulations to Legaspi for a great anniversary celebration."

- Rene Cortes, RCD Manila South



**This trip made me believe in the Filipino spirit and love amongst ourselves. I, for one, had a great time bonding with my God and my mother.**

**I highly recommend BCBP yearly anniversaries for the family, couples and kids. I believe such events promote the joy of love, family and God.**

**P.S. My mom is already starting to put aside P20/day for each of us so we can attend next year's anniversary.**

- R.J. Gaité, BCBP Manila's Youth member



# Anniversary



# Fighting Against My **BABYLON**

By *Eli Dejaresco, BCBP Dumaguete*

*The theme assigned to me is about Relationships - about loving the unlovable, and forgiving the people that we hate the most.*

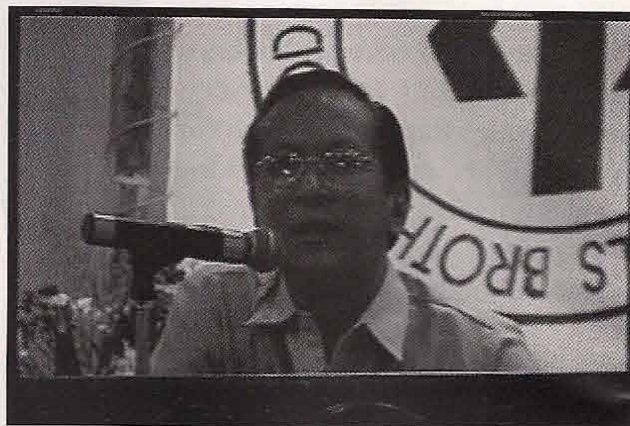
*I hate to admit it, and I'm close to being embarrassed to admit it, but sa totoo lang, one of the most, if not the most, hated person in my life, is my wife. It seems that the old cliché of the song holds true: "why is it that we always hate the one we love?"*

*I've been nine years in the BCBP, and I've found out that the greatest obstacle to the bad things husbands, and I'm talking of myself, are prone to do - is the wife. Whether it is success or failure, the woman in our life always has had a great role in what we become. She was the greatest obstacle to my womanizing, to my gambling and other vices. Her name was Kill-Joy!*

*But, brothers, at the end of the day, when I look back to those years where she blocked my way, in many subtle ways, to my macho brand of happiness, I finally realize that all the while, she was actually the good angel sent by the Lord to my life in order to prevent me from going to Hell. When I thought I was "sleeping with the enemy", I was indeed sleeping with the angel, sent by God to help me finish the race and gain the pearl of great price.*

*Seriously, brothers and sisters, I want to thank God today for giving me a wife who has virtually turned my life upside down. It was she who taught me how to pray by heart and not by lips. It was she who inspired me to read the Bible through her daily example. She brought me back to the Lord every time I wandered aimlessly away.*

*If the Israel in each of us has to reign, then the Babylon in each of us must be crushed. While the US is still fighting Babylon or Iraq as it is called today, my wife has already started and continues the conquest of the Babylon in me, this old proud and incorrigible sinner and idolater, who worshiped mammon and pride, instead of manna...*



*The stronghold of the Babylonian marketplace is Mammon and Pride. Dependence on money and trust in the world used to be the core of my Babylonian philosophy. I used to be king of all kings in my household. As a journalist I used to be among the hard-hitting radio commentators in our place where lambasting people on the air or in the newspapers was one of my great loves. I pursued the business of Babylonian journalism without regard as to who got hurt.*

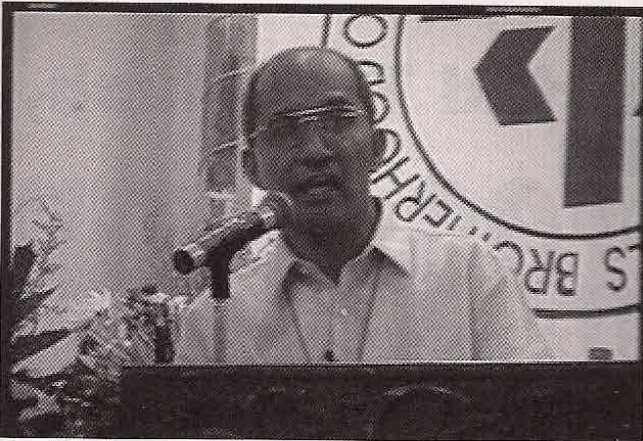
*It took my wife's continuing prayers and love, sharing our life testimony in ten chapters all over the Visayas and Mindanao, then losing millions in wrong investments, and subsequently losing the respect of my family and being all alone - except for BCBP friends, to make me realize that it was only me and my fickle faith left. It was only me and the Lord. I said like Peter, "But Lord, without you, where will I go?"*

*God has always endless ways of shaking things up in our lives - to bring us to repentance and back to Him. To bring us to the point where we can love the unlovable and forgive those we hate. And when we come back to Him, He remembers our sins no more. He sends us angels disguised as wife, friend, BCBP brother, enemy, but always doing His will in leading us back to Him.*

*I continue my fight against the Babylon in my life together with the angels He has sent me. I claim victory as I now rest in His promise in Psalm 37:3,4: Trust in the Lord and do good, that you may dwell in the land and enjoy security. Take delight in the Lord, and he will grant you your heart's requests.*

## 23rd National





How would you feel, brothers and sisters, when for the first time in your life, you received a warrant of arrest for eight criminal cases at 4:00 pm on a Friday?

Our company is engaged in real estate development and construction of houses. We also offer in-house financing for buyers. It was some of our client-buyers that filed these cases against us. We had tried many times to settle their complaints out-of-court by asking them to pay their obligations directly to the bank, but they refused. Court hearings were scheduled monthly for 3 ½ years. If convicted, my wife and I faced up to six years in prison.

We cried out to the Lord in the words of Habakkuk 1:2,4: *"How long, O Lord, I cry for help... but you do not intervene. ..."* It was also during those times that the country and its financial institutions underwent economic slowdown and financial constraints. Buyers stopped buying, we reduced our production from ten units a month to two units. We could hardly meet our monthly amortizations. Our house was even foreclosed.

And yet, the Lord was looking after us. It was also during the peak of this crisis in our lives that we finished the Brotherhood's Christian Life Program (CLP 7) in 1998. We learned to pray together every morning for at least an hour seeking for strength and light. We claimed His promise in Habakkuk 2:3:

*"For the vision still has its time, presses on fulfillment, and will not disappoint. If it*

# The Vision still has its time...

By Manny Imperial, BCBP Legazpi

*delays, wait for it, it will surely come, it will not be late."*

Three and a half years later, by the grace of God, first one case and then the others were either dismissed or withdrawn as the judges acquitted us from all alleged liabilities. The Lord answered our prayers as we waited on Him. He prepared us through the BCLP. He provided us the strength, light and strong faith we needed to endure those long days of trials, sufferings, fears and anxieties. He taught us to trust Him and let go of our attachments to properties and things.

Not only that, He replaced the fore-closed residential house with a new family home. Our real estate business continues to have a cash flow from our receivables. He has provided us with more responsibilities and opportunities to serve Him. In the BCBP I am our chapter's PSD and coordinator for this anniversary. He has also blessed me with the vice chairmanship of the Albay Parish Council. Further, God has given me the opportunity to serve the poor, with my appointment as Deputy Presidential Assistant for Bicol Region on Poverty Alleviation.

Truly I delight to serve the Lord with Joy in my Heart! Praise God!

## Anniversary





# I Had Too Much, Too Soon

Chito Lopez, BCBP Dipolog

My sharing is a case of having “too much, too soon”. In my younger days as an upcoming lawyer in Cebu City, money was the least of my concerns. I had a good law practice, ran a thriving bakery business with outlets in Cebu and Dipolog, and was drawn into serious real estate activities after I passed the broker’s examination in 1992. Soon I had my first subdivision development in Dipolog, then another and another. One business venture led to another and I found myself involved in cement dealership, construction materials supply, cable TV and heavy equipment rentals. The local banks were only too willing to lend me money to enable me to expand more and more.

Then came the financial crisis of 1996-97. My buyers begged off paying, my suppliers and the banks demanded payment. The thought of losing my businesses loomed as a reality.

BCBP came to Dipolog at that most opportune time. I found myself appointed first as breakfast head, then outreach and chapter head. I was caught up with so many things to do in the BCBP that I wondered how I could be able to cope up with my business and financial difficulties.

It was then that I questioned the Lord as to why He had placed me in that situation. All through those trying times, it was the reassuring love and care of my wife April that sustained me to stay in the BCBP. Realizing then that the enemy was intensifying his offensive on me hoping to frustrate my service to the community, I fell on

bended knees and invoked the Lord’s grace and mercy. His message to me: “Be still, be patient, and know that I am God.” So I continued to serve Him in the BCBP and trusted Him to take care of my business.

All was going well until an agitated creditor pressed me to settle my multi-million peso account with them. They gave me a non-negotiable date by which to pay one-third of the amount. Strangely enough, I was unfazed and trusted the God who was in charge of my business. Yes, brothers and sisters, 3 days short of the deadline, a friend of mine, who was not even one among several of my listed prospective buyers, phoned me wanting to buy one of my properties, offering to pay me his first installment immediately. I received the exact amount needed to pay my creditor an hour before the deadline they had given me. **Nag exhibition na naman si Lord sa akin.**

It was the BCBP that made me aware of God and his goodness. The BCBP made me look at my own vulnerability - and realize that nothing can possibly be done without God allowing it. Looking back I see now that He was testing me, how well I trusted and loved Him, and how far I would go in serving Him.

St. Paul tells us in Phil. 4:6: “*Don’t worry about anything, pray about everything. Tell God your needs and don’t forget to thank Him for His answer.*” And so I end this sharing saying “Thank you BCBP for bringing Jesus Christ to me, and thank you, Lord, for everything you have done for me and for my family.”

## 23rd National Anniversary

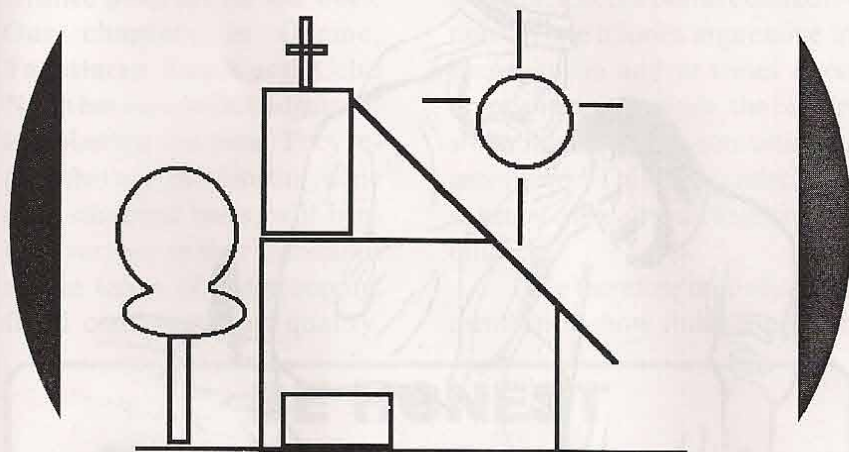


Discovering...



Alex Tan

# The Beauty of the CATHOLIC CHURCH



abound to again question its authority. We have to credit the power of the Holy Spirit to guide the Church and allow men of true orthodoxy to lead it. And the current Vicar of Christ, the most Holy Pope John Paul II is one such man.

In this column, we will seek to discover or re-discover the rich heritage of the Church. Topics like how the Eucharistic Sacrifice developed, the lineage of the Pope, the origin of the Bible, and the Blessed Virgin Mary will be dealt with. We will also entertain questions about the faith and lead the readers to discover on their own by pointing out references which one can explore in his own time.

May God bless us in this endeavor and may this column contain only truth that will serve to enlighten and inspire Catholics to have a better appreciation of their faith. Amen. ✠

**M**ost of us Filipinos were born inside the Church, or "born Catholic". That's one very good reason to be joyful. But sadly enough, most of us take this for granted and lack appreciation of our Catholic faith.

Well cheer up! The purpose of this column is to help Catholics discover the beauty and treasures of the Catholic Church. Much of what will be written here is not a secret. It's there to be discovered and learned from history, from the Bible, and from the Tradition handed down to us by our apostolic fathers and their successors.

When Jesus commissioned St. Peter to be the head of His church on earth, He declared that 'the powers of death shall not prevail against it' (Matt 16:18) and this was a fitting prophecy since the Catholic Church still stands strong and firm after 2000 years. How did the Church survive to this day? During its long history, many lives were sacrificed to martyrdom, its saints have toiled hard to the point of incredible success to spread the Gospel, there was even a period of dark ages when the authority of the Pope was questioned, and now today, a host of enemies

#### **About the author:**

Alex Tan is a member of Alabang Chapter, CLP 12. He is President of Clariant (Philippines) Corp. a multinational company that is engaged in the production of specialty chemicals. He is also the President of Defensores Fidei Foundation, a non-stock non-profit foundation whose mission is to make Catholics better Catholics via a clearer understanding of their faith using Scriptures and Sacred Tradition. Readers can send questions via email to [defensoresfidei@mail.com](mailto:defensoresfidei@mail.com).





Bobby Laviña

# I am My Brother's Keeper

(The Advocacy Thrusts of the BCBP)

**A**t the Sabbatical Mass for my daughter's graduating class, Fr. Romeo Intengan, S.J. exhorted the graduates to develop and fuel further their nationalistic fervor. The battle cry was, "Kristiyano kaya makabayan!"; I add, "Kristiyano kaya makatao!"

Jesus said it a different way: "You shall love the Lord your God with your whole heart, mind, soul and strength and you shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Over the years, the BCBP has been evolving as the Lord has directed it. From a purely evangelistic community in the beginning, formation programs were developed and added for the benefit of the members and recently, the BCBP Mancom decided to formally add three new ministries in Advocacy, Family Life and Social Action. While many of our chapters have had projects in these three areas in the past, these have never been coordinated as national programs with unified mission statements and shared resources. We now have these.



In the area of **ADVOCACY**, our mission is to identify opportunities and plan out activities for the members to actively express their support for the causes that affect the marketplace, the nation and the church. As such we have therefore launched a number of programs nationwide that are consistent with this mission and congruent with the core values of the BCBP.

The **HONESTY** campaign is one such project. Very simply, it consists of our chapters and members reproducing a poster and posting it in as many places as possible; the more sensitive (eg government offices), the better.

The back cover of this issue is a tear-off poster that anyone can photocopy and post. It is simple, so all of our members can get in



volved in it. It is direct, so there is no room for ambiguity. It is in accordance with our core values and it is aimed at bringing Christ to the marketplace. Several of our chapters have already included this in their plans for the year.

Environmental concerns also figure in our agenda. The Greenhills Chapter has planted and adopted two hectares at the La Mesa Dam Watershed Area, committing to a three year maintenance program for the trees. Our chapters in Ormoc, Tagbilaran South and Cebu North have set aside budgets for tree planting this year. They realize that a project like this, done on a sustained basis, will benefit everyone in their communities in terms of water supply, flood control and air quality.

sage of these bills. These are proposed legislation that seek to legalize and promote the availability of all sorts of contraceptives. They hide behind all sorts of euphemisms and legalese that initially sound acceptable in their purpose but fail in the definition of implementation. There is a provision that seeks to prevent abortion but leaves the door open to the use of abortifacients. As Bishop Oscar Cruz of Dagupan said, "...To be anti-abortion and not to be anti-abortifacient is a pitiful contradiction. While it looks impressive in composition and at times even cryptic in terminology, the bill, in short, is anti-babies, anti-citizens, anti-people. This is the underlying substance and overall spirit of the bill."

We therefore urge all of our members to show your indignation


## BE HONEST

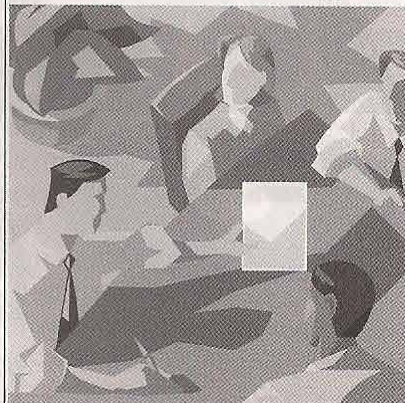
**Even if others are not  
Even if others will not  
Even if others cannot**

According to Bantay Kalikasan, we need at least five (5) trees to offset the negative environmental impact of one car. We can all use this as a rule of thumb: For every car I own and use, I must plant at least five trees. Again, simple, direct and broadly beneficial.

Church issues are, likewise, an important area of advocacy. In consultation with lawyer brothers as well as other church organizations, we have recently reviewed the proposed House Bill 4110 and its counterpart Senate Bill 2323 on reproductive health and see clearly what the Church has been saying about it. We must fight the pas-

at this attempt to hoodwink the Christian population into opening the gate to those who would kill the unborn. Write, call or even text your congressmen and the senators.

The two greatest commandments are like unto each other. Each is a translation of the other. Each is a completion of the other. If we love our neighbor as our self, we show our love for God and if we love God, we will truly love our neighbor. Our vision is that the whole BCBP membership lives out these commandments and the commandment to love one another as Jesus has loved us. 



## "Ako"-mmittee at work

The best way to become a popular member of a committee is to be the first one to move for adjournment. Everyone else wants to, but they don't want to appear lazy.

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*One good way to save face in a committee meeting is to keep the lower part of it shut.*

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**If you know all the answers, then you probably misunderstood some of the questions.**

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**Too many Christians want to serve the Lord in advisory roles.**

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**Were it not for that last minute, few things would be done on time.**

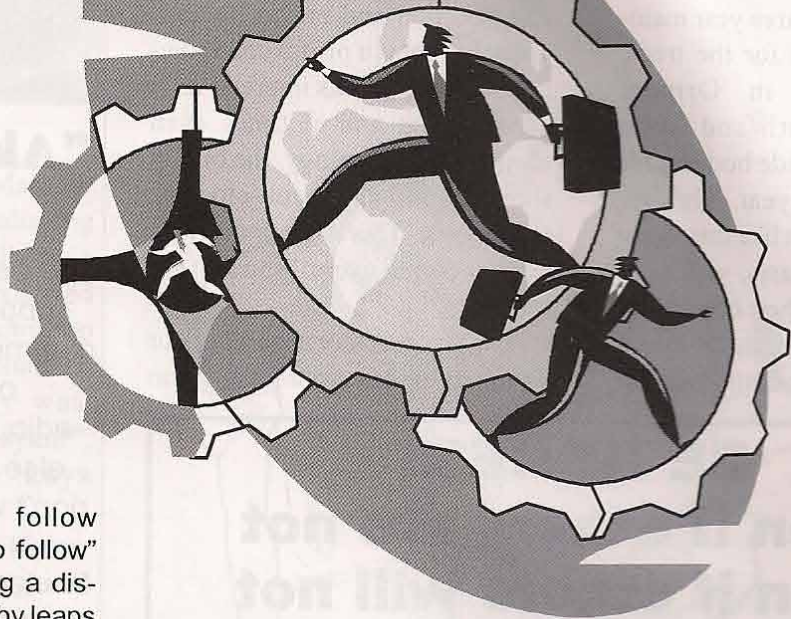


Licensed  
to Parent



Annie Salvador

# Moving On



**T**he call is to follow Jesus. And "to follow" implies covering a distance, whether by leaps and bounds, or more gradually, by changing, by being transformed.

Over the last few years, part of this call, as I recognized it, was to simplify. To shed unnecessary burdens, to remove unhelpful trappings, to shun unwanted distractions... to what end? Always, it was to follow Jesus more closely, to focus on more important things, to spend time and energy on the more near and dear, to love in greater capacities.

All my adult life, I have wanted to raise my standards of loving. Thus, the quest for greater knowledge, to heighten awareness and insight. Thus, the pursuit of personal development, to have more to offer and better ways to do it. And in the process,

a changed and changing heart: the more I grew, the more I became, the more I realized how small I was. And the less of me, the more of God, in my motivations, in my actions, in my relationships.

And then, a bout with burn-out, dark and heavy, leading to self-examination and certain realizations, among which: that time was short. If love were to be given, the time to offer it in no uncertain terms was now. If dreams were to come true, the time to energize them into reality was now. This one moment, this one day, was all that really belonged to me. Yesterday was a given, tomorrow is a promise. Only now is what I hold in my hands.

Baguio was always a dream. As a teen-ager, I thirsted after being able to study there, kahit isang sem lang!, but I was too timid to explore that in any real sense. Later, Baguio was a wonderful place for weekend hops, and a romance in Baguio was a prevalent daydream, and that too was ephemeral. Later still, as new parents, Nelson and I trooped to the place of my dreams, toddler son in tow, to fantasize about a little home - with just room enough to shower and sleep.

And as God would have it, this was the dream he blessed with the stuff of reality: six bedrooms just outside city limits, on a thousand square meters, with a dozen pine trees. It needed so



much work, but we gladly did it. Slowly, we inched forth with repairs, slowly creating a nice-enough recharging center for us, there in Baguio.

But dreams evolve. And whenever there, we looked at each other, we whispered about how wonderful it was, and how blessed we were, and how nice it would be to retire there. We would count the years... retirement seemed a long way forward, but as dreams went, it seemed good enough. For the time being.

While our family grew, so did our experiences. We learned, first-hand, how stresses, whether of the daily variety or the kind that came with life, however lived, were the same-yet-different for families elsewhere in the world. We learned, first-hand, how agitations and pressures of our own daily grind were helping-yet-not-helping us, adding to our feeling old and unwell. We learned, first-hand, how devils lurked in corners - not necessarily dark and lonely - to beguile and enthrall and entrap, not just us, but our young, especially our young. We learned, first-hand, that midlife brought restlessness and disturbance, shaking us up in our comfortable complacency with many, many questions.

So we asked, struggling to find answers that would satisfy, not just the questions themselves, but the one who was asking as well. We chased for resolutions that would keep us right on track with the way we were going. We were following Jesus, right? There has got to be a better way!

It's funny, how, searching for true north, we looked everywhere - Cebu, Davao, Bacolod, Iloilo, even Los Angeles - but missed literal north. For there, nestled in the Benguet mountains, was Baguio. And as far as answers went, it seemed good enough. We have always wanted

to retire there, must we wait that long, would we live that long? The children's schooling kept us bound to Manila, but then again, who said that education was solely a matter of schools? And prayer after prayer, in retreats, in reflections, in homilies, the urge was stronger and stronger: simplify! Simplify!

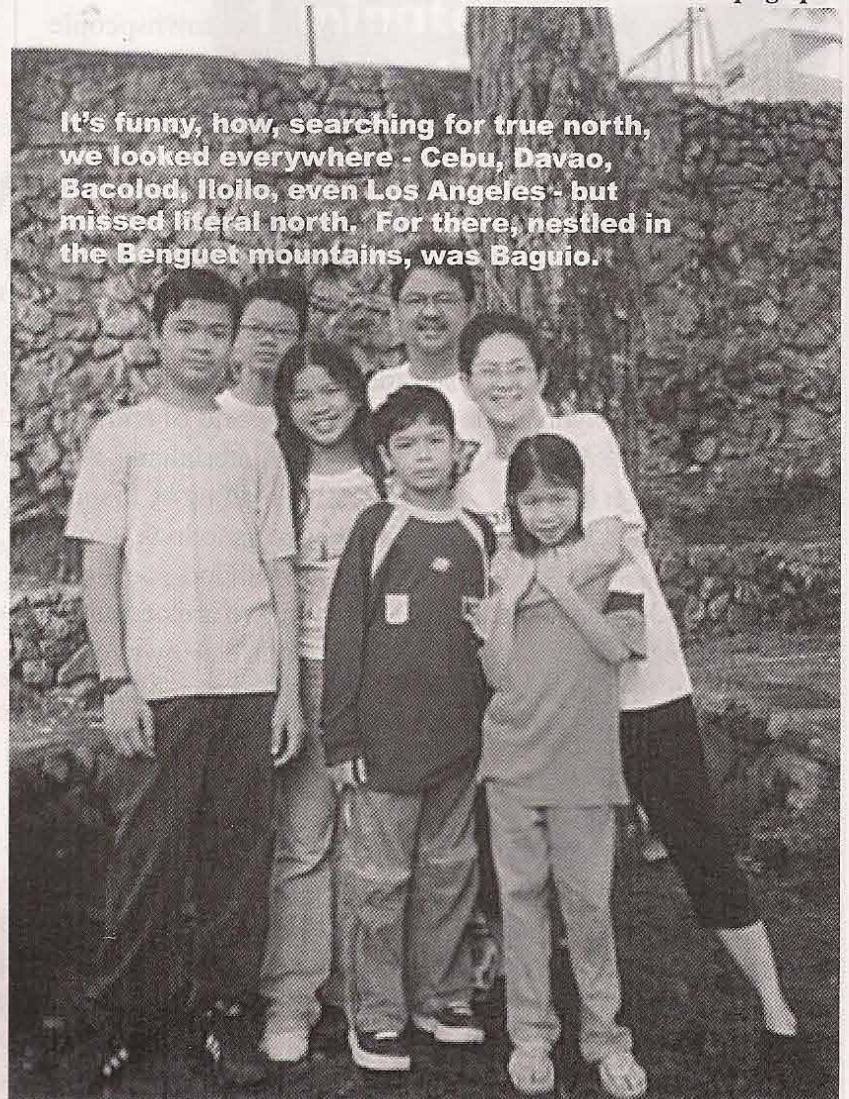
The practical demands of moving to Baguio shrank once the decision was made. We had a place there already, ready to be called home. Once we really started looking, we found a school which, all things considered, was even better than those our children were leaving. From Baguio, Manila was far-enough-yet-near-enough for us to manage business

concerns, touch base with relatives and friends, even swing around to, just in case we needed a quick dose of bright lights and the high life.

There are downsides, yes. We need a deep well, for water deliveries are expensive.

But to dig one will cost us an arm and a leg, just about. If long-term, long-distance business management proves difficult, we will be faced with regular, long commutes to the plant in Bulacan (and even school for me, as I have a full semester to go for my professional diploma!). Much as simplifying is such a desirable, attractive option for life, we realize the changes required will be difficult to set-up, especially in the be-

*next page pls.*



**It's funny, how, searching for true north, we looked everywhere - Cebu, Davao, Bacolod, Iloilo, even Los Angeles - but missed literal north. For there, nestled in the Benguet mountains, was Baguio.**





## BookReview

# JOSHUA

## A Parable for Today

By Joseph F. Girzone

**S**uppose a youngish man moves into your neighborhood. Nobody knows anything about him; he doesn't seem to have any family. He dresses plainly, lives simply, has a small vegetable garden, and takes in wood-working and wood carving jobs to support himself. He is friendly but reserved. Then as you come to know him and talk with him, you discover hidden depths of wisdom in what he says.

This is Joshua. And this highly readable book by retired priest Fr. Girzone depicts how a typical community might react to Joshua's presence in their midst. He carves a statue of Moses for the local synagogue that appeals to many and at the same time, causes some conservatives to talk against him. As Joshua tries to unite the community,

some of the local church leaders feel threatened by his ideas about God and God's love, while the townspeople grow to love him and accept him into their hearts.

Fr. Girzone roots his tale of the modern-day Jesus solidly in scripture. He shows us that having a relationship with Jesus is a true exercise in God's love and is what is much needed in today's world of consumerism and materialism. A reflective reading of Joshua challenges us to look at our own view of God, our faith and where we are on our journey in life. However, if you just want to read a good story, full of interesting characters and exciting events, then Joshua is also the book to read. -Nancy R. Catan

*(Published by Scribner Paperback Fiction, Simon & Schuster, Inc., NY. C1983, 1987. Available at leading bookstores.)*

## LICENSED..

ginning. We have too many habits to shed!

And to further complicate our transition, our children's resistance, although waning, is real. They are bound to see many things to complain about before they recognize the first thing to be glad about. In fairness, we really are uprooting them, and they will surely - and sorely - miss their friends, their familiar places, heck, their old lives! But, as we explained to them, we trust that we are guided by Wisdom, and they, in turn, must trust us. We are moving - covering a distance - towards what we believe to be better lives.

In moving to Baguio, we are leaving behind heat and dust and smog, exchanging those for fresh pine-scented air amid astounding views. We are selling out on long commutes and Chinese tutorials, buying more time to spend together with each other. We are giving up urban distractions and cold strangers, claiming more focus for beholding. We are turning away from indiscriminate modernization and the rush for stimulation, embracing - while we have the time - our children's growing up years.

And life is short. I don't want to spend it sweating in traffic.

*Annie writes from their new home in Baguio: "Just a word about the "cries to kisses" head that I wrote under before. I'm all for continuing with a parenting section, but my family life has sort of outgrown the title. May I suggest "licensed to parent" instead? " So with her five kids, several dogs and her crazy-at-times household, Annie will hereafter share with us her travails and triumphs as a parent.*





# A Journey to JOY

The call into a relationship with God is a call to joy. No matter what happens around us - wars, famine, suffering, SARS, death of loved ones, deteriorating health, rebellious children - these things happened in Biblical times too, just as we experience them today. But God calls us to an abiding JOY. Read about how noisily joyful God's people were in the Bible.

**Ezra 6:14-22**

**Nehemiah 8:8-12**

**2 Samuel 6:13-15**

Now take a journey into JOY with the following scripture verses that are just a sampling of the many reasons we have to be joyful. As you read, stop often to praise and thank the Source of all joy. And make a list of all the reasons you find to celebrate God. We suggest that you do this activity in your action group and spread the JOY!

**Ps. 5:12-13**

**Ps. 16:5-11**

**Ps. 27:4-6**

**Ps. 28:6-7**

**Is. 35:1-10**

**Is. 61:10**

**Is. 65:17-19**

**John. 15:9-11**

**Ps. 30:12-13**

**Ps. 33:1-22**

**Ps. 126:1-6**

**1 Peter 1:3-9**

**John. 16:19-24**

**Phil. 4:4-9**

**James 1:2-4**

**Rev. 5:9-14**

## Following JESUS is not easy

### 1 minute meditation



Larry de Larrazabal

*“Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.” Matthew 5:11, 12*

Courage is demanded of anyone who seeks to follow Jesus. The Lord's demands are most often difficult to accept because they go against the grain of the society we live in. True Christianity binds us to a way of life that is incorruptible in the midst of corruption, a life of strict adherence to the values and concepts Jesus gave his life for. Are you ready to accept these designs for you?

For those of us who love Jesus and wish to be counted among his faithful followers, we should not recoil at the thought of publicly

voicing out our faith and beliefs. Many undercover Christians fear being left out of the stream of society, or of being ridiculed, insulted or unaccepted.

No one ever said that following Jesus is easy; in truth it is not. If you fear being among those who will be mocked and ridiculed, remember, you can be in good company. Jesus was also mocked, ridiculed, and finally made sport of when they nailed him to the cross. But there is resurrection and there is immense joy in following Jesus.

#### Prayer

*Dear Jesus, I know there is need to avoid the wide road, but the narrow one you wish me to follow is difficult. I am influenced by the environment I live in. The life you want me to live is not comfortable, so I accept the morès and values of the world rather than the strictly adhere to yours. While I don't entirely conform with this way of life, I am afraid of being ostracized and socially unaccepted. I realize this is wrong, but I lack the courage to be counted among those who choose to be insulted because of you. Help me, O Lord, and give me the grace to fight the current and stand up for you. Amen.*



# SOUTH LUZON

## The Three-Legged Region

*By Max Joaquin - Regional Council Director for South Luzon*



**E**ncompassing the Southern Tagalog urban centers, the Bicol Peninsula's rural communities and the Island Province of Palawan, the South Luzon BCBP region provides both a fertile expanse for evangelization and a mammoth challenge for its sponsors.

South Luzon may be divided into three so-called sectors. The Calamba, Cavite and Binan/San Pedro (in training) and Lucena (in training) chapters comprise the Southern Tagalog sector. Calamba has Daet for its outreach, Cavite - Imus and Binan/San Pedro -Lipa.

The Bicol sector revolves around the Legaspi chapter with Naga and Sorsogon as its outreaches. Palawan Island forms the third sector with two robust chapters - Puerto Princesa North and Puerto Princesa South.

Within two to three years, these three sectors shall hopefully become three separate and distinct BCBP regions. With its potential of having six chapters, Southern Tagalog seems ripe for conversion into a region in the very near future. An "Islands" region is also envisioned for the Islands of Palawan, Mindoro, Marinduque and Romblon. Palawan's twin Puerto Princesa chapters hold BCLPs twice a year with each averaging about 50

participants. Because of their unique situation of being sea-locked in the high seas, they shall embark on business evangelization in government offices within the island.

As Regional Director for Southern Luzon, the biggest challenge that I face is caring for its leaders. This requires frequent visits and interactions with the leaders of the various chapters in the region. Although these trips to far-flung chapters cost the BCBP National Office considerable expense, they bring not only the presence but more so the assurance to the local leaders of the concern and care of the BCBP national leadership.

Another challenge posed to me as an RCD is the development of local leaders. With the limited time allowed during my visits, I have learned to rely more on the Holy Spirit's wisdom and grace in forming leaders in these widely dispersed chapters. And indeed, the Holy Spirit has arranged my schedules and the training programs necessary for forming the leaders for the region's continued growth.

South Luzon will hopefully transform into three separate BCBP regions in the near future and with the Lord's grace, each shall stretch forth and form three-legs of their own. I have realized that this is the Lord's miracle of multiplication. Praise God!



## **CALAMBA:**

# Achieving The End For Which We Are Sent

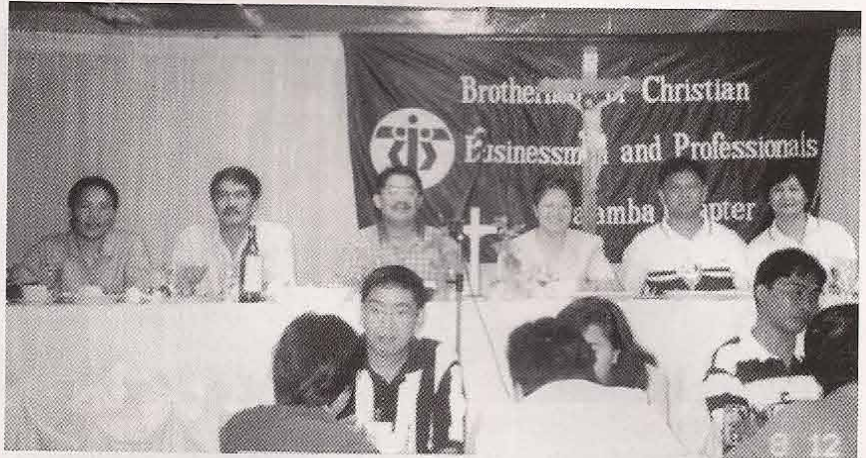
**1.** In 1996 the Alabang Mission Team introduced the BCBP Men's Breakfast in Calamba, at Max's Restaurant.

**2.** 6 months after, BCLP 1 was held at the Don Bosco Seminary at Canlubang, with Danny Perez as the Course Leader. The course yielded 34 committed men and women, forming the Calamba Outreach under the stewardship of Jess and Estee Capiz.

**3.** On July 2000, Calamba became a Chapter-in-Training and shortly thereafter in 2001 became a full-fledged chapter under the guidance of Angel Sabas.

**4.** To date, BCBP Calamba has 114 active members, 47 (82%) of which are couples, and 21 (18%) are singles.

**5.** The chapter has just concluded BCMR 4 and is gearing up for BCLP 8 in July.



**6.** In February 2000 Alabang initiated once more a BCBP breakfast, this time in the San Pedro-Binan area.

**7.** Eventually this became an Outreach of BCBP Calamba with Mel and Del Rebutica appointed Outreach Heads.

**8.** This year, this baby of BCBP Calamba graduated to Chapter-in-Training status.

**9.** In January 2002, the Calamba mission team threaded the 320-kilometer stretch to Daet, Camarines Norte, to hold the first Men's Breakfast there.

**10.** Daet BCLP 1 reaped an initial harvest of 15 members.

**11.** Currently Legazpi is holding BCLP 2 in Daet with a total of 39 participants.

**1.** On April 8, 1995, the Las Pinas Chapter of the BCBP opened the first Breakfast meeting in Lipa City at the Club Lipeno.

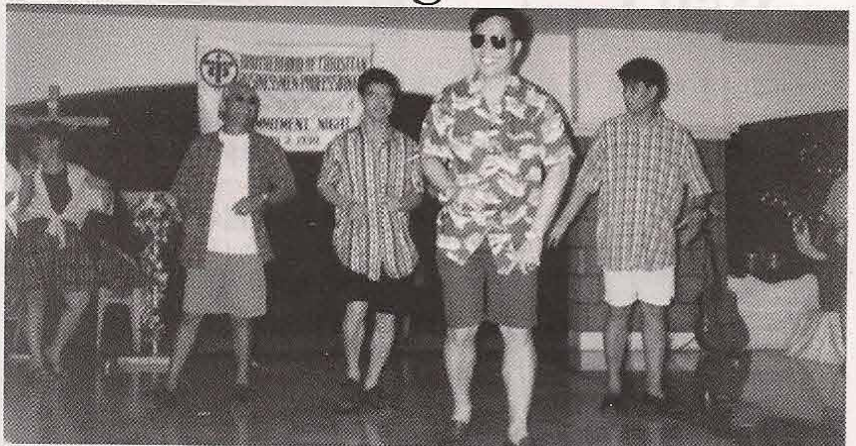
**2.** BCLP 1 began that September with Lito Pardo of BCBP Las Piñas as Course Leader.

**3.** BCLP 2 followed with Mel Rebutica, then of BCBP Calamba as Course Leader.

**4.** The first local governance team saw Nanding and Alice Perce as Outreach Head Couple.

**5.** In the summer of 1999, Life Director Onis and Fe Pena initiated the first Summer Camp for their BCBP kids. The weekend camping was such a success that it has become a yearly affair, much anticipated by both children and parents.

**6.** After 8 BCLPs, Lipa had a total of 125 graduates; presently the active members number 43.



**7.** The Outreach this year has been busy in community affairs. They participated in the Love Mass and Concert at the Lipa Cathedral Feb. 14, held their 1st BCMR March 28-29, and had 22 members attend the National Anniversary in Legazpi.

**8.** Brotherhood Christian Life Program 9 will begin in August.

**9.** Since January of 2003, the Lipa Outreach has a new mother chapter - the San Pedro-Biñan Chapter.

## **LIPA:** Growing in Love



# BIÑAN-SN. PEDRO: Building Our Spiritual Home



**1.** The Men's Breakfast was started by the Alabang Mission team on February 5, 2000 with Doy Nunag as its 1st sharer with an audience of 51 attendees.

**2.** Since then, the Outreach has grown and flourished with 2 Men's breakfasts, a joint breakfast, a ladies' breakfast, a First Friday Mass and a Chapter Assembly every month.

**3.** Binan-San Pedro became an Outreach of the Calamba Chapter on September 29, 2001 and on its 3rd anniversary was installed as Chapter-in-Training on February 8, 2003.

**4.** From 2000 until end of 2002, three BCLPs and two BCMRs were held with remarkable harvests. BCLP 4 is scheduled in June of this year.

**5.** 80 members and guests of the chapter trooped to the 23rd BCBP National Anniversary in Legazpi, Albay, where selected members rendered a medley of Filipino songs to the accompaniment of the 'Angklung', a musical bamboo instrument of Indonesian origin.

**6.** Under the leadership of Mel and Del Rebutica as chapter head, the chapter-to-be has a total membership of 143, with 9 action groups under 3 units.

**7.** They took over the mothering responsibility of the Lipa Outreach from Las Pinas, and they are in the process of revitalizing Lipa.

**8.** The Chapter-in-training is planning to set up another breakfast venue in their area later this year.

## CAVITE: A Chapter At Last That Will Last

**1.** 11 years ago in 1991 BCBP Makati sent a Mission Team to Cavite, to Sangley Point and Fort San Felipe to introduce the BCBP to the



military services in those areas, at the request of former Military Vicar Bishop Pelayo and Msgr. "Boots" Sapatos. Jun and Nancy Catan from BCBP Makati headed the team.

**2.** Once the first BCLP was completed with officers and their wives attending, the outreach met every Saturday afternoon for formation activities.

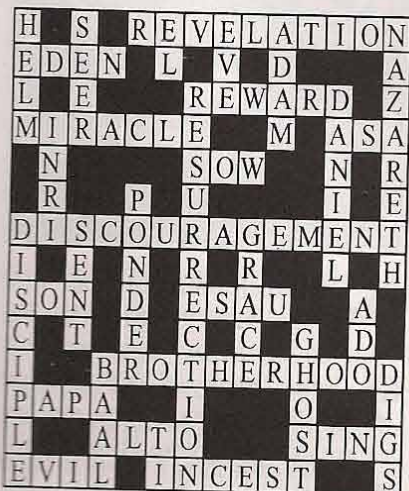
**3.** Through the years, 12 Christian Life Programs (BCLP) were conducted, around 120 joint breakfasts were held, 10 recollections guided the members spiritually, and 1 BCMR was conducted by the outreach.

**4.** All in all, the outreach had 270 members who, because of their military assignments, came and went every now and then ... but they always came back to the BCBP.

**5.** On October 22, 2002, the 11-year old outreach became a Chapter at last.

**6.** The Chapter has 130 active members from the military services and from the city of Cavite and neighboring towns.

**7.** Chapter Head Bel Belostrino and his darling wife Mercy are now leading the chapter to new heights. Watch for what happens next!!





**1.** BCBP was introduced in Legazpi on June 10, 1994 by BCBP Makati Mission Team headed by Jess Manalo.

**2.** First breakfast meeting was held on July 2, 1994 with Andy Fornier as sharer.

**3.** First BCLP was held beginning September 10, 1994, with 26 participants.

**4.** In 1998 after 3 years as outreach and one year as chapter-in-training, Legazpi became a full BCBP chapter with Maning Lorenzo appointed as its first chapter head.

**5.** Dofel Banares succeeded him as chapter head in 2000.

**6.** So far 10 BCLPs have been conducted covering the cities of Legazpi and Tabaco and municipalities of Tiwi, Daraga and other nearby towns.

**7.** A highlight of BCBP Legazpi's existence was celebrating its 9th year by hosting the 23rd National Anniversary. The joyous celebration was a fitting way to renew their commitment to serve the Lord with Joy in our Hearts, and a fitting response to God's many blessings received by the BCBP Legazpi over the years.

**8.** In March 1999 Legazpi sent a mission team to Sorsogon to establish a BCBP foothold there.

**1.** The BCBP came to Lucena City more than six years ago when Rizal Chapter held the first men's breakfast on October 24, 1996.

**2.** With Pete Medina heading the Rizal Mission Team, the first BCLP conducted beginning February 1997 netted 18 core members of the newly designated Outreach.

**3.** BCMR 1 was held jointly with Rizal Chapter at the Caleruega Retreat House, Nasugbo, Batangas, in September 1997.

**4.** After 8 BCLPs harvesting 146 members, the Outreach was upgraded into a Chapter-In-Training on January 28, 2002, by President Louie Morales. Rante Pamfilo became the new chapter head in training.

## **LEGAZPI:** In Mt. Mayon's Shadow



**9.** The first merienda meeting was conducted with Rolly and Adi Aberion of BCBP Makati as sharers.

**10.** After 4 BCLPs and more than 100 graduates, Sorsogon is poised to become a chapter-in-training.

**11.** This coming July 6, 2003, will see the beginning of BCLP 5.

**12.** The City of Naga held its first BCBP breakfast in March 2001 with 75 first timers attending including Archbishop Leonardo Legazpi. Louie and Lily Morales were the sharers.

**13.** Presently the outreach has about 100 full members and 400 breakfasters.

**14.** BCLP 3 begins May 18, 2003.

**15.** A small group of Legazpi brothers gives **Life in the Spirit Seminars** to various offices and agencies in their effort to bring Christ into the marketplace.

**16.** More than 600 office workers and employees have participated in these programs over the past 5 years.

## **LUCENA:** In His Time... Working Towards Chapterhood





# The Brotherhood Breakfast Venues

## METRO MANILA NORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL

- CAMANAVA** Sat (M) Brownie's Rest. Mc Arthur H'way, Malabon  
Sat (1st) (L) Brownie's Rest. Mc Arthur H'way, Malabon  
Fri (3rd) (J) Brownie's Rest. Mc Arthur H'way, Malabon
- GREENHILLS** Thurs (M) Club Filipino  
Thurs (1st) (L) Club Filipino  
Thurs (3rd) Club Filipino
- MANILA** Fri. (M) Orchidarium & Butterfly Pavilion, Rizal Park, Manila  
Fri. (2nd) (L) Orchidarium & Butterfly Pavilion, Rizal Park  
Fri (1st) (J) Orchidarium & Butterfly Pavilion, Rizal Park  
Sat (2nd & 4th) (M) Nothing New Cafe, Riverbank, Marikina  
Sat (1st and 3rd) (J) Nothing New Cafe, Riverbank, Marikina
- MARIKINA** Sat (M) Bennigan's Grill & Tavern, Tomas Morato, QC  
Sat (1st) (L) Bennigan's Grill & Tavern, Tomas Morato,  
Sat (3rd) (J) Bennigan's Grill & Tavern, Tomas Morato,  
Sat (1st & 3rd) (M) Manila East Golf Club, Taytay, Rizal  
Sat (2nd) Simul: Manila East Golf Club, Taytay, Rizal  
Sat (4th) (J) Manila East Golf Club, Taytay, Rizal

## METRO MANILA SOUTH REGIONAL COUNCIL

- ALABANG** Sat (1st&3rd) (M) Ayala Alabang Country Club  
Sat (2nd) (L) Ayala Alabang Country Club  
Sat (4th) (J) Ayala Alabang Country Club
- LAS PIÑAS** Sat (2nd,3rd,4th)(M) BurgerKing Philam Village Alabang  
Sat (1st) (J) Italia Country Club, BF Resort Village  
Las Piñas  
Sat (3rd) (L) BurgerKing Philam Village Alabang Zapote Rd.
- MAKATI** Wed (M) Makati Sports Club  
Wed (2nd) (L) Makati Sports Club  
Wed (1st) (J) Makati Sports Club
- PARAÑAQUE** Sat (1st,3rd,4th) (M) Max's Restaurant, Sucat  
Sat (4th) (L) Max's Restaurant, Sucat  
Sat (2nd) (J) Max's Restaurant, Sucat
- PASAY/MILLAMOR** Sat (M) Villamor Golf Club Greenside Dinning  
Sat (3rd) (L) Villamor Golf Club Samguita  
Sat (1st) (J) Villamor Golf Club

## NORTHWEST LUZON REGIONAL COUNCIL

- BAGUIO** Sat (1st,3rd) (M) Max's Restaurant  
Sat (4th) (L) Forest Inn  
Sat (2nd) (J) Max's Restaurant
- DAGUPAN** Sat (M) Regency Hotel, De Venecia H'way,  
Sat (1st) (J) Regency Hotel, De Venecia H'way,  
Sat (3rd) (L) Regency Hotel, De Venecia H'way,
- LAOAG** Sat (2nd, 4th) (J) Palazzo del Laoag
- SAN FND0-LU** Sat (1st & 3rd) (J) Sea & Sky

## NORTHEAST LUZON REGIONAL COUNCIL

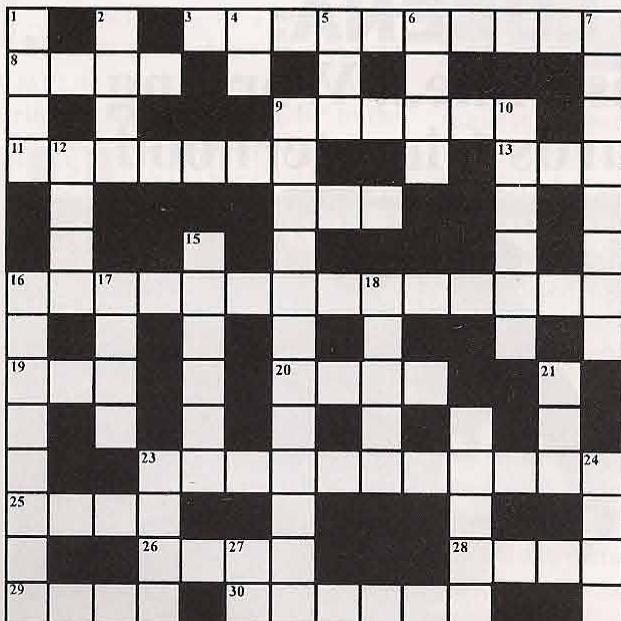
- TUGUEGARAO** Sat (1st, 3rd & 4th) (M) Brickton Mall  
Sat (4th) (L) Pampagueña Restaurant  
Sat (2nd) (J) Brickton Mall
- SANTIAGO ISABELA** Sat: (1st & 3rd) (J) Greenview Hotel

## CENTRAL LUZON REGIONAL COUNCIL

- ANGELES** Sat (M) KM 86 Food Rest, Sta. Maria Vill, Baligabo, Angeles  
Sat (1st) KM 86 Food Rest, Sta. Maria Vill,  
Baligabo, Angeles  
Sat (3rd) (J) KM 86 Food Rest, Sta. Maria Vill,  
Baligabo, Angeles
- BULACAN** Sat (J) The Ark Restaurant
- OLONGAPO** Sat (J) Ann Raquel Restaurant, Magsaysay Blvd.
- SAN FND0-PAMP.** Sat (J) Villa Conchita Resort,  
Olongapo Gapan, Rd., San Fdo Pamp.
- TARLAC** Sat (2nd & 4th) (J) Nay's Diner, Mac Arthur Highway, Tarlac

## SOUTH LUZON REGIONAL COUNCIL

- BATANGAS CITY** Sat (1st) (J) Days Hotel
- BIÑAN-SAN PEDRO** Sat (1st,3rd,4th) (M) Max's Restaurant  
Sat (4th) (L) Max's Restaurant  
Sat (2nd) (J) Max's Restaurant
- CALAMBA** Sat (2nd,3rd,4th) (M) Riverview Resort & Conf. Center  
Sat (3rd) (L) Riverview Resort & Conference Center  
Sat (1st) (J) Riverview Resort & Conference Center
- CALAPAN** Sat (2nd,4th) (J) Parish Hall Calapan Cathedral
- CAVITE CITY** Sat (3rd) (J) Pat's Restaurant
- IMUS** Sat (1st & 3rd) (J) Rojonet Aquinaldo H-way, Imus Intrscn
- LEGAZPI** Sat (4th) (M) Hotel La Trinidad, Legazpi City  
Sat (4th) (L) Hotel La Trinidad, Legazpi City  
Sat (2nd) (J) Hotel I a Trinidad, Legazpi City
- LIPA** Sat (1st & 3rd)(M) Sawali Restaurant, Sabang, Lipa City  
Sat (3rd) (L) Sawali Restaurant, Sabang, Lipa City  
Sat (2nd,4th) (J) Sawali Restaurant, Sabang, Lipa City
- LUCENA** Sat (J) Halina Hotel & Restaurant
- NAGA** Sat (1st,3rd) (J) Champagne Garden Mayon Ave.  
cor. Apo Drive, Naga
- PALAWAN NORTH** Sat (1st & 4th)(M) Legend Hotel  
Sat (1st) (L) Legend Hotel  
Sat (3rd) (J) Legend Hotel
- PALAWAN SOUTH** Sat (2nd) (M) Barcelo-Asturias Hotel  
Sat (2nd) (L) Barcelo-Asturias Hotel  
Sat (4th) (J) Barcelo-Asturias Hotel



## BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### ACROSS

- A Commitment from God to man (Rev. 1:1) (Gal. 1:12)
- The first garden (Gen. 2:8)
- Remuneration
- A supernatural event as in John 11:41-44
- A king of Judah (1 Kings 15:9)
- Plant a seed (Job 4:8)
- Deprivation of one's self-confidence as in Joshua 1:9
- Male child (Prov. 10:1)
- Jacob's twin (Gen. 25:24-26)
- Living together in unity (Ps. 133:1)
- Father (Prov. 23:22)
- The range of the highest male voice (Psalm 92:1)
- Chant or harmonize (Eph. 5:19)
- Wicked (Exodus 32:22)
- These acts are forbidden (Lev. 18:1-18)

### Solution on page 34

### DOWN

- Position of authority or control, as in a boat (James 3:4)
- A prophet (Isa. 1:1)
- Ancient generic title of God
- Mother of the living (Gen. 3:20)
- The first man (Gen. 2:7)
- Town in Galilee (Luke 2:39)
- A rising from the dead (John 11:25)
- He was thrown into the lion's den (Dan. 6:11-28)
- Inscription on the Cross (Mark 15:26)
- To reflect upon (Luke 2:19)
- A follower (John 13:35)
- Dispatch (Luke 10:1)
- Spiritual gift (John 1:17)
- Fuss or excitement over a trivial matter (mark 5:39)
- Spirit, as in early translations of the Bible (Job 14:10)
- A false god during the time of Elijah (1 Kings 18:18-19)
- Excavates (Exo. 22:23)
- 7th note of the musical scale



# The Brotherhood Breakfast Venues

ROSARIO Sat(J) Servato's House Restaurant (2nd)

SAN PABLO Sat(J) Patio Berde Restaurant

SORSOGON Sat(1st & 3rd)(J) Jollibee Sorsogon

## CENTRAL VISAYAS REGIONAL COUNCIL

CEBU NORTH Sat(2nd & 4th)(M) Grand Convention Center  
Sat(1st)(L) Grand Convention Center  
Sat(3rd)Simultaneous: Grand Convention Center

CEBU SOUTH Sat(2nd,3rd,4th)(M) Sacred Heart Center, D. Jakosalem  
Sat(2nd & 4th)(L) Sacred Heart Center, D. Jakosalem  
Sat(1st)(J) Sacred Heart Center, D. Jakosalem St.

MACTAN Sat(2nd & 3rd)(J) Waterfront Mactan Hotel  
Sat(4th)Simultaneous Breakfast: Majestic Restaurant  
Sat(1st & 3rd)(M) Saroza Int'l Hotel

MANDAUE Sat(1st&3rd)(M) Saroza Int'l Hotel  
Sat(3rd)(L) Saroza Int'l Hotel  
Sat(2nd&4th)(J)Saroza Int'l Hotel

BANTAYAN Sat(1st & 3rd)(J) Bantayan Southern Inst. Social Hall

BOGO Sat(1st & 3rd)(J) Rooftop Northern Cebu Colleges

CONSOLACION Sat(2nd & 4th)(J) Fatima Parish Social Hall

TALISAY Sat(2nd & 4th)(J) Don Bosco Seminary Chapel

## TAGBIRAN/DUMAGUETE REGIONAL COUNCIL

DUMAGUETE Sat(2nd)(M) Chow King  
Sat(3rd)Simul: Bethel Guest House  
Sat (1st)(J) Bethel Guest House

TAGBILARAN NORTH Sat(3rd)(M) JJ Seaford Village  
Sat(3rd)(L) JJ Seaford Village  
Sat(2nd)(J) JJ Seaford Village

TAGBILARAN SOUTH Sat(3rd)(M) Hotel Laroza  
Sat(3rd)(L) Hotel Laroza  
Sat(2nd & 4th)(J) Hotel Laroza

TUBIGON Sun(2nd & 4th)(J) PPC Hall

## EAST VISAYAS REGIONAL COUNCIL

BAYBAY Sun(2nd & 4th)(J) Angelicum School

CALBAYOG Sun(1st & 3rd)(J) Bread Mix

CATBALOGAN Sat(1st & 3rd)(J) Maqueda Bay Hotel & Restaurant

MAASIN Sun(3rd)(M) Hunning Tune Restaurant  
Sun(3rd)(L) Hunning Tune Restaurant  
Sun(1st) (J) Hunning Tune Restaurant

ORMOC Sat(3rd)(M) Pongos Hotel  
Sat(3rd)(L) Pongos Hotel  
Sat(2nd & 4th)(J) Pongos Hotel

TACLOBAN Sat(2nd)(M) Agus Restaurant, Real St., Tacloban  
Sat(2nd)(L) Agus Restaurant, Real St., Tacloban  
Sat(4th)(J) Agus Restaurant, Real St., Tacloban

## NEGROS REGIONAL COUNCIL

BACOLOD NORTH Sat(1st,2nd,3rd)(M) Bacolod Exec Inn  
Sat(2nd)(L) McDonalds Lacson  
Sat(4th)(J) Casa Nobles

BACOLOD SOUTH Sat(1st,2nd,3rd)(M) Alhambra Hotel  
Sat(3rd)(L) Jollibee La Salle  
Sat(4th)(J) Casa Nobles Rest

BAIS Sat(2nd)(M) Coco Grill  
Sat(4th)(J) Coco Grill

CADIZ Sat(1st & 3rd)(J) RL Pensionne House

KABANGKALAN Sun(1st & 3rd)(M) Snack Plaza

SILAY Sat(2nd)(M) JOF Diner  
Sun(2nd)(L)JOF Diner  
Quarterly(J) Heftia Restaurant

VICTORIAS Sun(2nd & 4th)(J) Marjon's Restaurant

## PANAY REGIONAL COUNCIL

ILOILO Sat(2nd,3rd,4th)(M) Amigo Terraces Hotel  
Sat(3rd)(L) Amigo Terraces Hotel  
Sat(1st)(J) Amigo Terraces Hotel

KALIBO Sat(J) Mary's Refreshment

ROXAS Sat(2nd & 4th)(M) Pizza Junction, Rizal St.  
Sat(2nd & 4th)(L) Molino Place, Roxas Ave.  
Sat (1st & 3rd)(J) Nesta's Hill Top Rest.

## MINDANAO EAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

BUTUAN Sat(2nd & 4th)(J) Embassy Hotel

CDO EAST Sat(1st,2nd,4th)(M) Mahogany Cafe  
Sat(4th)(L) VIP Hotel  
Sat (3rd)(J) Silver Court Restaurant

CDO WEST Sat(1st,2nd,4th)(M) VIP Hotel  
Sat(2nd)(L) VIP Hotel  
Sat(3rd)(J) VIP Hotel

DAVAO Sat(J)Apo View Hotel

DIGOS Sat(2nd & 4th)(J) CAP Bldg.

GINGOOG Sat(2nd & 4th)(J) New Lanes Rest. along National H-way

MALAYBALAY Sat(2nd & 4th)(J) House Malibu

SURIGAO Sat(1st & 3rd)(J) Gateway Hotel

TAGUM Sat(2nd & 4th)(J) CAP Bldg. Tagum City

VALENCIA Sat(1st & 3rd)(J) Taipan Restaurant

## MINDANAO WEST REGIONAL COUNCIL

DIPOLOG Sat(4th)(M)Top Plaza Hotel  
Sat(2nd) (L)Top Plaza Hotel  
Sat(3rd)(J) Top Plaza Hotel

ILIGAN Sat(3rd)(M) Mandelicious Native Foods  
Sat(3rd)(L) Maria Cristina Hotel  
Sat(2nd & 4th)(J) Maria Cristina Hotel

OROQUETA Sat(1st & 3rd)(J)Lumantas Garden

OZAMIZ Sat(1st & 3rd)(J)Royal Garden Hotel

PAGADIAN Sat(2nd & 4th)(J)That's Diner Restaurant

ZAMBOANGA Sat(1st & 3rd)(J)Lutos Rest. Astoria Hotel



# **BE HONEST**

**Even if others  
are not**

**Even if others  
will not**

**Even if others  
cannot**

**"He who walks honestly walks securely."**

*Proverbs 10:9*

A message from

 The Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals