



# KAPATIRAN

M A G A Z I N E

# LEADER SHIP

march 2004



*A Brotherhood Perspective*

# **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 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**

# editor's note

## All about leaders.....

This issue our focus is on **leaders** ... the formation of our leaders in the BCBP ... a guide to the selection of national leaders in the upcoming elections ... examples of BCBP leaders and how they tackle their responsibilities .... and transitions and movements among leaders throughout the BCBP country during the past year. Our national BCBP president Manolet Siojo discusses how the community best practices help keep the BCBP culture alive. Regular columnist Ronnie Cabalero points out four important building blocks for spiritual leadership, while Annie shares her thoughts on parental leadership.

We are very pleased to bring you a special feature on Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales who talks about good governance, integrity and corruption in the marketplace, and other factors that distinguish Christian leaders from other leaders. Good moral character as a desired characteristic in a leader is the topic for our Back to Basics article.

Then we have one life and several business sharings to inspire you. We see encouraging growth in the regions in focus: Central Luzon, Cebu, Negros, and Mindanao East regions. Hats off to these RCDs - this is the first time that all the regions we asked responded with their writeups!

It has been one year now since the Kapatiran was re-launched, and, sorry to say, we are still struggling to keep alive. Subscriptions have not been coming in and we are looking for ways to continue publication. Accepting advertisements is being considered; let us know if you would like to advertise please. And to keep the Kapatiran alive we need 2,500 more subscriptions ASAP PLS!!!

So..... in case this will be the last issue (there will be a ManCom review and evaluation in April whether to continue the Kapatiran or not), we thank those of you who have supported us. On behalf of the staff we have really done our best to give you a quality publication that meets the needs of the BCBP community. And we have enjoyed doing it! For it is in His Name that we cheerfully and joyfully serve! All praise and glory is His!

*Nancy R. Catan, Editor-in-Chief*

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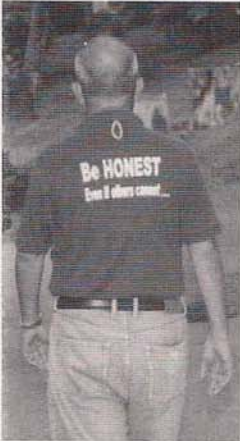
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## **KAPATIRAN** MAGAZINE

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# LEADER

## FOCUS



*Roy Calleja,  
National Service  
Coordinator for  
Formation*

## Forming the BCBP Leader

**T**hree weeks ago, I was preparing for a meeting with the representative of a seller of a certain piece of property located along Molino Road, Dasmarinas, Cavite. Since I am a real estate developer specializing in low cost and medium cost residential subdivisions, I was interested in the property because I considered it prime for this segment of the residential housing market.

However, there was a legal issue on the property. The information given to me dealt with a Supreme Court decision nullifying the reconstitution of the Original Transfer of Certificate Title (TCT) on the property by a Regional Trial Court (RTC) in Cavite. The Supreme Court decision concluded that the reconstituted title on the property was fake. What caught my attention was that the information made mention that this RTC in Cavite had even ordered the Registrar of Deeds to reconstitute the title with the threat of penal sanctions. Why? Because the Registrar of Deeds refused to reconstitute the title knowing it was fake.

I told myself that this person must have had strong Christian values and principles for refusing an order by a judge. I imagined that he possessed courage and strength to defy the order and that his strength came from somewhere inside, from the core of his very being. Then I realized that this person, a BCBP brother, Alex Villanueva, from the Alabang

Chapter of the Brotherhood, had died (he was shot in his home by unknown gunmen - ed.) because he stood his ground against reconstituting this fake title. I told myself that he stood for what the formation of a BCBP member should be - strength from within, inner-directed, interiorly reliable and dependable.

I thought of other brothers, members of the BCBP and leaders in their own fields:

- Boysie Rosales of Alabang who as Police Director of Cavite said "no" to a P35million bribe from drug lords.
- Rusty Guerrero of Camanava who led one of the marine battalions as battalion commander during the attack on Camp Abubakar. He prayed for the safety of his men and even for their enemies during the attack. Results? Very few casualties.
- Luis Ferrer, my chapter head in Q.C., who when he was working for the Court of Tax Appeals made a decision to forego a scholarship in taxation abroad. One of his reasons among others was that he had made a commitment to serve in the BCBP chapter.
- Andy Fornier of BCBP Makati, the lawyer who initiated the filing of the disqualification of presidential candidate FPJ on the grounds of his not

being a natural born Filipino citizen. He is criticized in the press but I always refer to him as a courageous and principled brother.

When I think of these people, I see in them my image of a formed BCBP member who is a leader in his family, workplace and community; one who has strength from within, is inner-directed, interiorly reliable and dependable; leaders who even if they are alone and in the dark would shine because of their beliefs. Additionally, I see a BCBP member as:

- One whose foundation and security in life is God's love.
- One who sees himself from God's point of view, a sinner needing redemption, and because of this growing knowledge of himself in the BCBP, realizes an increasing need to surrender himself to the redemptive work of Jesus Christ knowing that Jesus loves him and accepts him unconditionally as he is.

us to be. I believe that God gives us the supernatural gift called Grace to enable us to respond in faithfulness and commitment. We read in Mark 4:25, "to those who have, more will be given; from those who have not, what little they have will be taken away".

As I pray and ask the Lord for this kind of faithfulness, commitment and grace to grow, I realize that the main difference in being a BCBP member and a leader is the time spent, the years needed to grow in faithfulness and commitment. This is the Test of Time. Likewise, I also realize that together with this Test of Time comes the struggle and battles to be fought and won. Some of these battles include:

- Being faithful to the BCBP Way of Life, attending activities even if I don't feel like attending;
- Continuing to want to grow and learn new things about the Lord even if I have been in the renewal for 20 years;

***"... my image of a formed BCBP member is one who is a leader in his family, workplace and community; one who has strength from within, is inner-directed, interiorly reliable and dependable..."***

- One who follows and is committed to the BCBP Way of Life, who delights in growing in the knowledge of Jesus Christ, His values and principles, likes and dislikes, who is single-minded in love and obedience to the Father in heaven. Because of this, he is continually being transformed and becoming more and more Christlike.
- One who is full of gratitude to the Lord and grows in union with the Holy Trinity.
- Being faithful despite the trials and sufferings of faithfulness, of being misunderstood and overlooked even when I do good;
- Continuing to grow in knowing and obeying Jesus' will for me even if His will is far from what I want.

This process of formation may take time to achieve, in Alex' case a lifetime. It requires years of faithfulness and commitment — commitment to the desire building up inside to grow in knowledge of God and self, to grow into the person that God wants

I remember during my first year in the Brotherhood we were taught that all BCBP members are in reality leaders. Now I understand that leadership is not so much the position we occupy in the Brotherhood, it is what we do in the BCBP to bring Christ to others even without a leadership position. Most especially, it is what we do outside of the BCBP to bring Christ to others, it is what we do to witness for Him, to bear fruit and glorify Him that makes us a leader. **K**

# LEADERSHIP *in ACTION*

*As part of BCBP leaders' formation, leaders have "practicum" or on-the-job training (OJT). We asked BCBP leaders how they tackled their assignments, with the expectation that their comments will be helpful to others who may be tasked with significant responsibilities. - Ed*



**Nelson Dauz, RCD  
Metro Cebu**

## How Metro Cebu Launched the "Be Honest" Campaign

**t**he successful launching of the "Be Honest" campaign (see *Kapatiran*, December 2003 issue) proves that the saying "Two heads are better than one" is true. It was the combined minds and ideas of the five Metro Cebu PSDs (Program and Service Directors) that produced so many ways on how to launch and sustain the campaign.

As their leader, it was my duty to sell first the idea to them. I believe they must first believe in what they are doing. I emphasized that this awareness campaign to "Be Honest" is not only for the few dishonest people to become honest but more so, it is for the many honest people like us to be reminded to remain honest.

A question was asked, "How do you measure the success of your advocacy program?" Our immediate reply was, "We don't care, we don't mind." We will never be able to know how many dishonest people will become honest, nor how many honest people will remain honest because of our campaign. We believe that we can accomplish more if we are not so concerned with the end result. This is God's work. We are only His servants. He desires not so much our success, but more so for us to be faithful. We must do our best and God will do the rest! And we give Him all praise and glory for this challenge that He gives us.



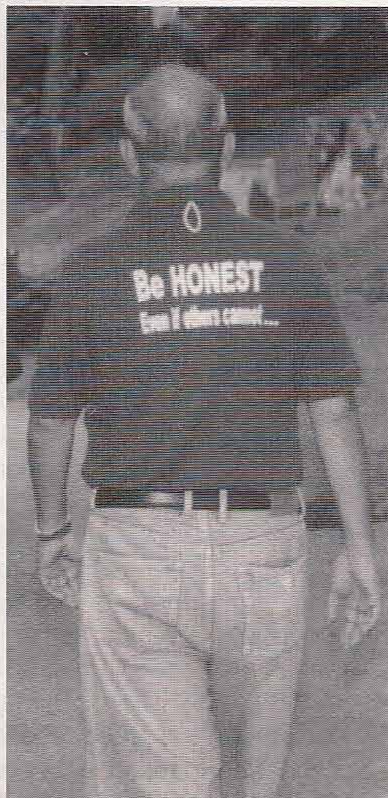
How did we do it? We divided our energies into three phases and identified do-able steps in each phase. Phase I and II have been completed; Phase III is continuing.

**Phase I - Pre-launching (a week before)**

1. We built up interest in the campaign by asking the support of media, particularly ABS-CBN radio and the Freeman, a local newspaper. The radio station composed and played a "Be Honest" song of Billy Joel as background. This was followed by a live interview with the RCD and chapter heads.
2. We paid a courtesy call to four government offices, namely the Governor's office, Ombudsman, Regional Trial Court, and Prosecutors offices, to ask their support in posting the "Be Honest" posters in their offices.
3. We also visited three big elementary schools and talked with the principals and some of the teachers about the campaign.
4. We visited the PNP Regional Director and briefed him on the campaign.
5. ABS-CBN and GMA TV stations took some footages of our courtesy calls for showing on the Community News programs.

**Phase II - Formal Launching**

1. We held a Sectoral Breakfast for the launching. Around 800 attended.
2. Members were encouraged to wear the "Be Honest" T-shirts.
3. VP/PSD Bobby Lavina explained the rationale of the campaign during the Breakfast.
4. The "Be Honest" banners were blessed by the priest.
5. BCBP members put stickers in their cars.
6. There was a motorcade through downtown Cebu, Mandaue,



Mactan that ended by placing streamers in pre-selected areas.

7. "Be Honest" posters were distributed through the local newspapers as inserts.
8. Total posters distributed: Long Bond 8000 pcs; coated (big) posters 100 pcs; car stickers 1000; streamers 9 pcs.

**Phase III - Sustaining Activities**

Outside BCBP

1. We will continue to distribute posters through local newspapers, Kerygma and other magazines.
2. We are tapping the help of other government agencies in the awareness campaign, like the DECS, Bureau of Customs, BIR, Cebu Chamber of Commerce, and some charismatic communities.
3. Bigger "Be Honest" signages and billboards are being prominently put up in airports, at the wharf, road crossings, bus terminals and other strategic places.
4. We continue asking private companies to participate by sponsoring the cost of posters, stickers and signages.
5. We are requesting the local newspaper to feature small and big acts of honesty in their "Be Honest" column.

Inside BCBP

1. BCBP must sustain this campaign with each member getting involved by starting this campaign in his workplace. We must build up one another by sharing our experiences, both victories and harassments, in our assemblies and action group meetings.
2. A "Be Honest" banner will be visibly placed during all BCBP activities, especially the breakfast and at assemblies.
3. "Be Honest" posters and stickers will be readily available at the secretariat.
4. We encourage all members to wear the "Be Honest" T-shirt on Saturdays. 

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

# LEADERSHIP in ACTION

## “GOD ALLOWS US TO BE POOR FOR A TIME TO MAKE US RICH FOREVER”

*A Tribute to Boy Magalona, Bacolod-  
North Chapter Head (2000-2003)*



**Art Legarde, Former RCD Negros**

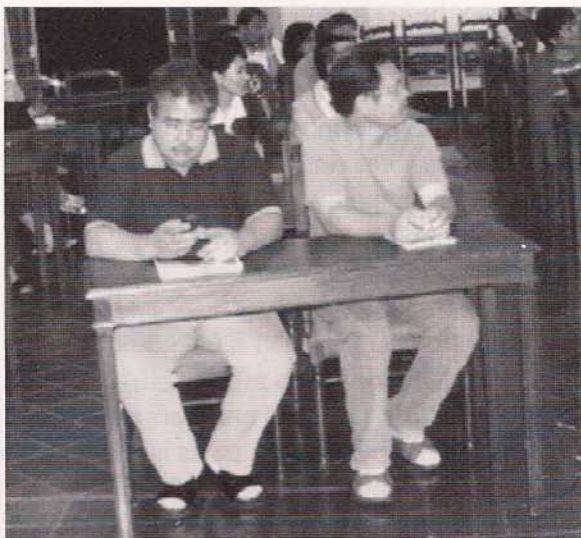
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*Caring for one another in community is one of the Core Values of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals. In this sharing by Art Legarde, former Regional Council Director for Visayas West, we see how greatly one BCBP leader cared for his BCBP family as well as his own family.*

**F**or the past 2½ years, I have been blessed with the wonderful opportunity of caring for Papa Boy. At first, we would meet every other month. Then last January of this year (2003), we ended-up meeting monthly. We both called our meeting “coffee time”. Because of this, I have had the opportunity to touch-base with his life and kind of spirituality.

Praying to God for a particular passage in Scripture that would best describe the person of Papa Boy, there was only one that kept coming into my heart: John 10:11, “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”

The reason for the passage is this: last January, 2003, I mentioned to Papa Boy that there is a need to launch a “Jesus Revolution” in the BCBP; to make sure that every member comes to know the living Christ, that he commits or re-commits his life to Him as Savior and Lord. Since then, this became a burning passion in his heart. About a 1½ years ago, I was blessed with the opportunity to lead Papa Boy to a prayer of re-commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ. I have prayed with him many times, but never had I sensed in his prayer such depth, sincerity and genuineness. He knew that the only way to the Father is through our Lord, and that only through an intimate relationship with Christ can we possess the gift of eternal life. And as Chapter Head, to lead others to Christ meant that He must be seen in him first.



*Bomag (left) attending the Annual National Leaders Retreat in Tagaytay, November 2002.*

After responding with a “YES” to the “Jesus Revolution,” I followed it up by saying that this is going to be costly on his part as Chapter Head. Three things are necessary, I told him: 1st, it has to start with you; and without any hesitation, he said yes. 2nd, you have to surrender every nook and corner of your life to Jesus. I thought he would hesitate to answer, but he did not. He even gave me a free hand to check on his spiritual growth from time to time, a sign of true humility. And 3rd, you have to be willing to lay down your life; and to this he responded with the same “YES”.

When Papa Boy passed away, everything began to make sense. He said he was willing to lay down his life for Jesus. I then realized that the commitment he made was not a hollow declaration but his way of life.

We know only too well how much he has given of himself to take care of the needs of Mama Teret and their 6 children. It was always all for them and nothing for himself. For instance, for some time, they did not have any househelp; and so, single-handedly, Papa Boy did most of the house chores. One time he shared with me that he would cook all the meals for the day 1st thing in the morning, so that the family could just help themselves throughout the day. And by choice, he never allowed Mama Teret to help-out because she was susceptible to asthma attacks. He was also the family driver, shuttling back and forth his children who all had different school schedules. He sacrificed because he dreamed to see their children graduate and go to the U.S.A. after graduation.

As if this was not enough, Papa Boy also gave so much of himself as Chapter Head, out of his love for God and for his members. I saw him work so hard to make his vision for the community a reality. It was his desire that all come to know and mature in Christ so that all may possess the gift of eternal life. He worked for peace, unity and harmony among members. He practiced patience and humility on many instances, modeling forgiveness and reconciliation. Yes, I saw Papa Boy give-up so much of himself as he served God and community. He was not perfect; he had many lapses, but never because he “slept on the job”. He could have easily used his family situation as an excuse to “lie-low” in service; but he never did. Sometimes we use a “little rain” as an excuse, but Papa Boy loved and served his God, and his community, in spite of the “storm”.

Yes, Papa Boy was indeed a good shepherd who lay down his life for both his family and his BCBP community. That was his mission, and he accomplished it with high honors. But did it end with his death? I don’t think so. I sincerely believe all of us have been moved to take the extra mile in loving others as he did, to be patient and forgiving as he was, to extend a hand of peace as he was a peacemaker, to desire eternity with God as he desired, to share Christ with others with the same passion as he had, and finally, to love God, family and community despite one’s storms in life as he did. Indeed, if we will not be moved to likewise lay down our lives for God and others, then we would have put to waste something very precious which Papa Boy gave-up his life for.

***Sometimes we use a “little rain” as an excuse, but Papa Boy loved and served his God, and community, in spite of the “storm”.***

This Bible verse sums it all up: “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it.” (Mark 8:34-35). Indeed, God makes us poor for a time to make us rich forever!

*\*At the time of his death on July 14, 2003, Papa Boy was the Chapter Head of Bacolod-North and Bro. Art was his RCD. K*

# LEADERSHIP in ACTION

An Interview with  
Dofel Banares,  
former chapter head  
BCBP Legazpi



## Leading and Organizing for the National Anniversary

**KAPATIRAN:** How did you go about it ... all the planning and organizing?

**Banares:** As early as several years ago, we began observing how the national anniversaries were run to gain insights because we believed that one day the Lord would gather His flock in our city for this event. Before we started organizing, we conducted a workshop on our needs and expectations. Yes, some doubted we were ready to host the anniversary; yes, there were various apprehensions and problems, but we identified them then came up with tentative solutions. Committees were formed with the members of the governance team chairing each committee. I encouraged everyone to actively serve in the committee of their choice.

**K:** What difficulties and situations confronted you and how did you handle them?

**B:** There were many different ideas on how to go about the hosting. Some members objected to my accepting the assignment without consulting them as they believed that we were incapable of hosting such a big affair. A few feared that the preparations would interrupt the regular chapter activities. I explained to the

community that I had accepted the challenge because I believed that God was going to work great things with us in this event and use this as a means of unifying and strengthening our relationships within the chapter and our outreaches. Also, the event would bring BCBP to the forefront of the marketplace and promote the local economy as well.

**K:** What do you feel was a particularly significant factor in the successful hosting of BCBP's 23rd national anniversary?

**B:** We held a novena of masses in two venues and agreed to say the prayer to the Holy Spirit daily at 12:00 noon wherever we happened to be. Faith and hard work made the rest possible. With the full cooperation and support of our brothers and sisters of Legazpi, Sorsogon,

Naga and other South Luzon chapters plus the trust and encouragement of our national leaders, we could not fail. We can just say, "*Dios mabalos saindo gabos!*"

**K:** Do you have any advice to help other BCBP members/leaders become successful in their projects and events planning?

**D:** Focus your service on the Lord and pray always. Identify Satan as your enemy and confront him with God's armor for he will try to divide your chapter, magnify your problems, make you feel incapable, bombard you with fears and anxieties, test your patience and distract you so you will lose focus. But our God is always victorious over him! Brothers and sisters, get involved and work as a community. Faith in God is not proven by beginning the race but by enduring to the finish. Know that Christ is with us, no obstacle is too big, no weakness too daunting. We only have to take the first step and God will support us the rest of the way. In this project I gave Him my time, my strength and my faith which is actually everything I have. What I didn't have, my brothers and sisters in Legazpi, Sorsogon and Naga filled up. Praise God! ✠

Stephen Clark in his book *Patterns of Christian Community* states that, "A *body of Christians must be primarily concerned with its spiritual life, its faith, its obedience, its worship of the Lord, the commitment and love of its members for one another and for the whole body, and the eagerness of its members to serve all men and to bring them the life of Christ. Yet no body can grow soundly without a pattern of life that is appropriate to its nature as a Christian community.*"



## COMMUNITY BEST PRACTICES: KEEPING THE BCBP CULTURE ALIVE

**S**tephen Clark's statement I believe is very relevant to our life in the BCBP Community. As we grow in number and geographical locations we find it more difficult to keep our patterns of community life the same. Because of fast growth and insufficient information (and at times misinformation) we discover that action group meetings, prayer assemblies, BCLPs, teachings and even our unique men's breakfast are conducted differently in many of our chapters and outreaches - and sometimes not conducted at all.

As a training and OD consultant I see that our community needs to evolve and respond to changes in our social, political, and economic landscapes. I realize however that we also need to keep and safeguard certain practices that have proven effective in strengthening our life as an evangelistic community. These practices (call it tradition) have kept us focused and faithful to the BCBP vision and mission.


Since last year our National Service Coordinators for Mission, Formation, Programs and Services, and Treasury have been going around to your regions giving the BCBP Community Best Practices Workshop to your Chapter and Outreach Heads and Directors precisely to explain our best practices and realign chapter and outreach activities to just one "BCBP way of doing things." Many of our brothers who attended were brought to the realization that they had to unlearn and relearn many things. In the process I witnessed the humility, openness and boldness of your leaders to do whatever it takes to support the best practices that reflect a single BCBP pattern of life.

### Brotherhood Way of Life



**Manolet M.  
Siojo**

I know in my heart that the Lord truly wants me in the BCBP. He has called me to serve Him in this community that has grown over the last 24 years. This could not have been possible if our past leaders changed our practices whenever they felt like it. They respected and appreciated the keeping of certain "non-negotiables" in our community life. I know now that whatever chapter or outreach I visit the pattern of community life will be or should be the same. It can be the men's breakfast, the action group meeting, the prayer assembly, the teachings, the "Be Honest" advocacy, or even the way the songs are played. I know all of these will be done the same way. That makes me feel that I really belong to one community.

Brothers and sisters, the Lord has called us to be active in this community, His BCBP. I am sure that we all want to see the BCBP grow and march on to where the Lord wants us. Let us cling on to our practices, and pattern of life that makes it possible for us to love and serve each other even more so that we can do God's work in the marketplace. As it is written in Acts 2:42, "*They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers.*" 



**Bobby Laviña**



# **OUR CHOICE, OUR**

# **RESPONSIBILITY**

**National & Local Elections  
May 10, 2004**

**t**he first Friday of January is normally reserved by our chapters for celebrating a thanksgiving mass. In some chapters this is also the time for installing a new chapter head and governance team. How interesting that thanksgiving and reorganization are linked together. How appropriate.

We say thanks for the many things that are going right in our lives especially the improvement in our relationship with the Lord. We express gratitude that there is progress in our chapters and for the spread of the Gospel in the marketplace. We may have comments on the previous or the incoming governance but we all look forward with hope.

This year, 2004, we are faced with a bigger reorganization—national and local government elections. It is a time to choose as well as a time to be thankful.

## ***But how do we choose?***

When we choose, we must be critical of the candidates. By critical, however, we do not mean the all too familiar nay-saying and fault-finding. Very often, we too easily make decisions by finding out what is wrong with a person so that, by default, we choose the alternative. To criticize means to assess the merits and demerits fairly and make an appropriate judgement. We must find out more about them and their platforms then look at these with a keen critical edge.

Critical also means significant, decisive and essential as in "Critical Care" which refers to the help given to a patient at a potential turning point when the change can be abrupt and decisive. We believe we are at a critical point in our country's history—a point when we could make a remarkable recovery or slide deeper into the abyss. The critical

decisions come when we have to choose on May 10, 2004 as we list the people we want to lead our government.

In order to assist the BCBP family in making choices, the BCBP MANCOM has listed four general criteria. We recommend these to our sisters and brothers with a strong reminder to evaluate the choices in conscience and in prayer. We are a community of faith and we turn to God for inspiration and guidance.

As we said earlier, a changing of the guard is also a time for reflecting on what we should be thankful for. It is a time to show gratitude for blessings received as well as for the strengthening challenges we have been privileged to experience.

### ***How do we do this? How do we show thanks?***

We can be thankful by doing our bit. This means taking up our responsibility and helping our leaders.

In the political arena, it means paying correct taxes that provide our government with funds to complete its projects. It means going to the polls on May 10 and casting a well discerned vote. It could also mean becoming more involved in getting our voices heard by government leaders through our advocacy initiatives—as in the Honesty Campaign.

***In the realm of business,*** we can help our leaders by doing our work honestly and conscientiously. We certainly should conduct our businesses in an ethical and honest manner and get involved in improving the lives of our employees. Our commitment card lists a few more things we should do.

***In community,*** we should help our leaders by making ourselves available for service. There are so many options for service for the person who wants it: assisting in the breakfast, BCLP or Chapter assemblies, joining the music ministry or interceding for our members' concerns.

***In our families,*** we as parent-leaders should work towards building a household of

faith. We can help other parents by sharing knowledge and experiences. In the case of husband and wife, it could be through a sensitive and caring sharing of the other's burden and responsibility. In the case of a son or a daughter, it would be the loving care for an elderly parent.

Of course, in all of these cases, we can best help our leaders by praying for them. Pray that they will be like the king in Psalm 101—living a faultless, virtuous and honest life. Include all our leaders in all facets of society in your supplications during your daily quiet time with the Lord.

In the end, leadership may rest on the officials but the nation is made up of the citizenry as well. The state of our country is equally dependent on what we do, as individuals and as a community. We will have to do our part to build up this nation of ours. We, as Christian businessmen and professionals, must go back to our vision and make that the goal of our lives. We envision a full life in Christ for businessmen and professionals and so we must do what we can to develop a society, a country where each individual is able to live a life the way the Lord wanted it to be. Our goal, as a community of faith, is to build a New Jerusalem: a family, a community, a city, a country where everyone is a servant leader; a country where love, caring and sharing are the norms and selfishness is the exception.



**"...we can best help our leaders by praying for them... and praying for them."**

*May the Lord continue to guide you and grant you fortitude as you serve Him by bringing Christ to the marketplace.*

## **CRITERIA FOR CHOOSING OUR NATIONAL LEADERS**

### **1. SERVANT LEADERSHIP**

Is this person's love of country and love of the Filipino people going to come before personal interest? Will this person be willing to protect the interests of the Filipino people at the cost of his/her personal benefit or reputation? Trust requires that we can depend on this person not to act opportunistically (hindi mapaglamang). All of these, of course, can be analyzed and seen in the present and past actions of the person rather than in the promises that are being made.

### **2. MORAL UPRIGHTNESS**

Is this person's life a virtuous example to others? Does this person enjoy a good reputation and the esteem of others? Is this person trustworthy? Can we rely on this person to give us the whole truth? Has this person been honest in all instances?

### **3. COMPETENCE/GOOD JUDGEMENT**

People are unlikely to listen to or follow someone whose abilities are wanting or undependable. We need to believe that the person has the skills needed to perform tasks as he/she promises. Competence is not measured by mere educational attainment or intelligence. Rather, we ask: Is the person able to recognize problems, look at alternative solutions, weigh the choices then choose what is best for the country? Does the person use both his/her head and his/her heart in making decisions? Is the person able to choose the right people to be part of his/her team and can the person work with this team as well as with the other branches of government? Is the person able to continuously learn? Does the person have the ability to follow through and get things done?

### **4. ENERGY**

Does the person have the energy and stamina to perform the many functions of the position sought or is the person sickly and lethargic? In the past, has the person been able to keep long hours or does he/she have to take frequent rest periods away from work? What kind of work habits has the person exhibited in previous responsibility positions?



**BROTHERHOOD OF CHRISTIAN BUSINESSMEN AND PROFESSIONALS**





Nancy R. Catan

# Creating Ripples

## Integral Evangelization: the BCBP Way of Life

**I** am reading a little book entitled *Ripples of Joy*. Its title comes from the fact that one little stone cast into a body of water creates a multitude of ripples that circle outward to infinity. Walking down the street, I smile and people smile back. If I frown or look angry, people look away or avoid me. Ripples of joy and enthusiasm spread quickly as do ripples of anger or fear or doubt.

It is much the same with our faith and the way we share our faith with others. If we are enthusiastic and positive about Christ and our everyday lives show that we live our faith, then those around us will also be enthusiastic and positive about the Christian way of life. If we enjoy being BCBP members, then it will be easier for us to invite others to join the BCBP.

Both Popes Paul VI and John Paul II have pointed out that evangelization, the sharing of our faith with others, needs to be holistic in approach so as to bring about a genuine transformation of individuals and society. This is the "new evangelization" or "integral evangelization" that each one of us as Christians is called to actively practice.

Integral evangelization is simply defined as the proclaiming of the Gospel in Word and Sacrament and Life to bring about one's personal conversion impelling one to active involvement in the total process of human development. Evangelization is in fact the totality of the grace and vocation proper to the


Church and to each one of us as part of the Body of Christ.

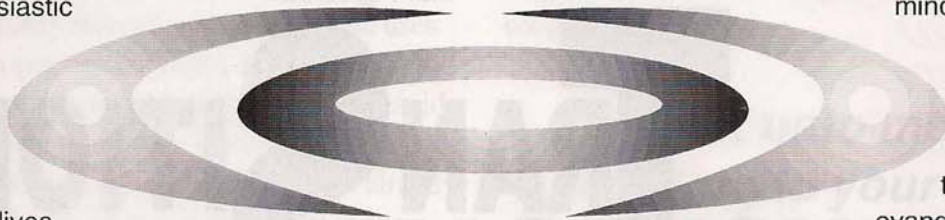
*Evangelii Nuntiandi (EN)*, issued by Pope Paul VI, emphasizes that evangelization is never complete unless it takes into account the unceasing integration of the Gospel and man's concrete life, both personal and social. *EN* outlines three aspects in this process: evangelizing presence, building a community of dialogue, and authentic efforts to better the development of man and his society. It re-

minds Christians of the continuing need to be evangelized

themselves, placing the witness of life as the first and fundamental step in the process. Building communities and bettering society cannot be achieved without the positive and dynamic witness of life shown by the evangelizer.

In the Brotherhood we are fortunate to have each other's evangelizing presence to nourish and strengthen us. We may not realize it but oftentimes it is in the little things that we do (greeting friends and newcomers at the Breakfast, clapping and dancing during the praising songs, etc.) that we influence others to friendship and joy. We share a great responsibility with this Witness of Life - to realize it, accept it, and take responsibility for how our lives touch others.

We are the stones of Life that the Holy Spirit casts into the waters of society. What kind of ripples do we create? 



**In the re-launch issue of the Kapatiran in June last year, we featured the new set of national leaders. As a followup, we bring you now several transitions that have taken place since then.**

On the national level, Ed Lising who used to be the NSC, National Service Coordinator, for Special Projects has now been assigned as the NSC for International Mission. It must be recalled that one significant thrust adapted by the national leadership during the National Strategic Planning Retreat 2 (NSPR-2) was for the BCBP to embark on foreign outreach mission. In response, the Mancom has created this new office under the baton of Bro. Ed Lising. To date, we now have BCBP activities in California USA. In fact, there are 2 (two) soon-to-be BCBP California Chapters (please see Kapatiran December 2003 issue). These units are basically composed of BCBP members who have found their new home in that country. There are also movements undertaken in one Asian country as well as another in Europe. God willing, these areas may soon be added to our ever-growing roster of chapters and outreaches. We look forward to using "BCBP World" to replace BCBP Country, the term we are using today.



**Ed Lising**



**Mayong Rodriguez**



**Mar Figueroa**

# TRANSITIONS

The Brotherhood has increased from 13 regional councils last year to its present 15. Metro Manila has grown into **Metro Manila North** with Bobby Atendido as the RCD, Regional Council Director, and **Metro Manila South** headed by RCD Rene Cortes. What used to be North Luzon Region is now divided into three: **Northwest Luzon Region** now headed by Ted Fernandez replacing Teddy Siapno who finished his long RCD term late last year. **NorthEast Luzon** in the Tuguegarao and Nueva Viscaya areas is headed by Didi Perez. **Central Luzon Region**, headed by Art dela Cruz, includes the provinces of Bulacan, Pampanga, Tarlac, Zambales, Bataan and Nueva Ecija.

South Luzon is now composed of two regions. **Southern Tagalog** with the provinces of Laguna, Cavite, Quezon, Batangas and Mindoro

is now headed by Angel Sabas after his stint as chapter head of BCBP Calamba. The rest of Southern Luzon composed of Bicol and Palawan as another region, retains Max Joaquin as RCD.

The Visayas also has had its share of regional changes. **Cebu** is a full region in itself with Nelson Dauz as RCD. The East Visayas region, formerly headed by Larry Veloso has now grown into **North East Leyte and Samar** Region headed by Mar Figueroa after accomplishing his term as chapter head of BCBP Tacloban; **South West Leyte** with Mayong Rodriguez as RCD after finishing his term as chapter head of BCBP Ormoc. Gau Arancillo has completed his term as RCD of **Panay Region** and is now replaced by Jimmy Ascalon, former chapter head of BCBP Iloilo. Ray Garcia, also a former chapter head of BCBP Bacolod replaced Art Legarde at the helm



**Ted Fernandez**



**Angel Sabas**



**Ray Garcia**



**Bobby Borromeo**

of **Negros** Regional Council. The Cebuano-speaking Dumaguete in Negros together with the Tagbilaran group in the province of Bohol are now combined as one region, **Tagbilaran-Dumaguete** headed by Peter Dejaresco, former chapter head of BCBP Tagbilaran.

Mindanao generally remains intact except for Bobby Borromeo, former chapter head of BCBP Iligan, replacing Casi Nadela as RCD for **Mindanao West**. **Mindanao East** remains under Oskee Olib.

Up north, BCBP Baguio has a new chapter head in the person of Benny Masiclat vice Lani Tampinco. BCBP Dagupan is now headed by Ed Poserio replacing Ted Fernandez who is now the RCD of Northwest Luzon. Oca Ganaban took over the cudgels from Didi Perez as chapter head of BCBP Tuguegarao.

Metro Manila saw some changes in chapter governance led by BCBP Quezon City's Luis Ferrer as chapter head replacing Art dela Cruz. BCBP Greenhills has a new chapter head in the person of Roy Puno vice Roy Siojo. BCBP Las Piñas has installed Jun Obra as chapter head replacing Lito Pardo.

Marce Lantican is now the chapter head of BCBP Calamba while BCBP Biñan-San Pedro which recently became a full chapter has Mel Rebutica as chapter head. Ed Aragon now heads BCBP Legazpi replacing Dofel Bañares.

Among the newer chapter heads in the Visayas are Willy Puno vice Rolly Villa for Cebu North. Cebu South has Ed Banaag replacing Ely Trinidad, Jess Atoc for Nelson Dauz in Mactan and Butch Pilapil for Ted Oliva in Mandaue.

In BCBP Tacloban Willy Varona took over from Mar Figueroa, and Mini Dilao for Mayong Rodriguez in BCBP Ormoc. Albert Sanvictores has replaced Marjo Magallano in BCBP Tagbilaran North. Bobby Legaspi is the chapter head of BCBP Bacolod North and Leonel Horvidalla for Silay, recently installed as a full chapter. Oscar Andrada has replaced Rene del Rosario as chapter head of BCBP Roxas City.

In Mindanao we have Jong Tiro serving as the chapter head of BCBP Cagayan de Oro East and erstwhile Rolando "Dr. J" Villaraza, chapter head of BCBP Cagayan de Oro, who is replaced by Pepot Fortich while he is on leave. Rudy Desoloc replaced Oskee Olib as chapter head of BCBP Butuan. - Sammy M. Ulanday

## TOO MUCH SCIENCE

*Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson went on a camping trip. After a good meal and a bottle of wine, they lay down for the night and went to sleep. Some hours later, Holmes awoke and nudged his faithful friend. "Watson, look up and tell me what you see."*

*Watson replied, "I see millions and millions of stars."*

*"And what does that tell you?" Holmes asked.*

*Watson pondered for a minute. "Astronomically, it tells me that there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, I observe that Saturn is in Leo. Horologically, I deduce that the time is about a quarter past 3. Theologically, I can see that God is all-powerful and that we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, I suspect that we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. Why, what does it tell you?"*

*Holmes was silent for a minute, then spoke: "Someone has stolen our tent."*

## TOO MUCH VANITY

A middle-aged woman had a heart attack and was taken to the hospital, where she had a near-death experience. Seeing God, she asked, "Is my time up?"

"No," He replied. "You have another 40 years to live."

Upon recovery, the woman decided to stay in the hospital and have a facelift, liposuction and a tummy tuck. She even bleached her hair blond again, figuring that, as she had so many years left, she may as well make the most of them.

After her release from the hospital, she was crossing the street on her way home when she was hit and killed by an ambulance. When she arrived in front of God, she complained: "I thought you said I had another 40 years! Why didn't you pull me out of the path of the ambulance?"

God replied: "I didn't recognize you."



## Advocacy: The Epiphany of the BROTHERHOOD

*Roy Calleja, National Service Coordinator for Formation*

**A**s a child I always loved the Feast of the 3 Kings because it was a time of giving gifts, the type I wanted. In my parents' home, Christmas was always a time to receive what I would call "need gifts" like brand new clothes, shoes, etc. The Feast of the 3



Kings was reserved for "want gifts" like chocolates, toys and the like; this made it very exciting and worth waiting for.

I entered the BCBP as a nominal Catholic. It was there I learned a new word to describe this Feast — Epiphany, meaning the revelation of Jesus as the anointed one, the Christ, to the world represented by the Wise Men or Magi. Epiphany also refers to the Baptism of Jesus, the beginning of His public life.

As a new member in the BCBP in 1986, I often heard older members talk about the BCBP's lack of involvement as an institution in advocacies outside of the direct evangelization that is practiced by the BCLP. People talked about the need to be involved in "good" politics, educating the voters, caring for the environment, the fight against graft and corruption, help for the poor, the needy, widows and orphans. Among many reasons back then

for this noninvolvement was that these activities might distract the BCBP from its core mission of bringing Jesus to the workplace (business environment).

For me, I saw the BCBP as a young organization needing to strengthen itself

first before undertaking other activities. Like a young man, the BCBP members were like the disciples of Jesus Christ living and following the Lord, learning and observing. Yes, some chapters in the BCBP undertook activities like helping Smokey Mountain residents, visiting the Home for the Aged, lending a helping hand in disaster areas, etc. However these were more civic action activities, not meant to change the lives of the beneficiaries but to create awareness among BCBP members of society's different forms of poverty. Moreover, even if a lot of individual BCBP members were involved in other controversial activities like the drive against the Casino in Cagayan de Oro, these were always done not as an organization but by individual BCBP members as the BCBP Leadership always felt that the Brotherhood as an organization should not be involved because it might divide the membership.

I felt that sooner or later the Lord would push the BCBP to get involved because of the following reasons:

1. The marketplace does not only involve the business environment but also everything outside of the "simbahan" or the church. We cannot remove the business environment from the others; they are interconnected.
2. The Lord's command to love one another refers to all, not only businessmen and professionals. We are all part of the bigger Body of Christ.
3. The church teaches us to have a preferential option for the poor.
4. She also teaches us that our conversion should lead us to be actively involved in human development and liberation. This is Integral Evangelization.
5. We are not called to be Traditional Christians who prioritize only relationship with God nor are we called to be Secular Christians who prioritize care for others. We are called to be Integrated Christians who are to grow in our relationship with God and bear fruit in response to His love through care for the world and care for others.

In 1999 the leaders of the BCBP came together to pray and discover God's will for the Brotherhood for the next 5 years. This was the National Strategic Planning Retreat II, NSPR II. The results of the Retreat revealed that the Lord wanted the BCBP to be more involved, not only in direct evangelization activities (BCLPs, etc.), but also in advocacies, social action for the poor, and in family life programs with the aim to integrate them into the BCBP. I think the Lord was telling the BCBP "It's now time for you guys to get involved! The TIME FOR THE BCBP'S EPIPHANY HAS COME!" Through our own lives and more especially as



a community, the Lord said that we need to bring Jesus Christ and reveal Him to the bigger marketplace.

This year is the 5th year after NSPR II. As I reflect, I also think about the numerous concerns and problems of the BCBP in the area of Formation and Mission and I am tempted to ask the Lord, "Is it really time for the BCBP to get involved in these activities in spite of its numerous growth problems in the last 5 years?" Then I remember a story I read somewhere about a Kingdom.

*A small village composed of several families was being continuously attacked by bandits. They decided to band together and invite other families to join them to live together and enjoy the protection due to strength in numbers. They grew in number and were able to protect themselves against the bandits. Some of them recommended to help other families living alone and other weak villages in their country but the leaders always said that their priority was to grow and be strong.*

*The village grew and became a strong kingdom with the thick, high walled fortifications around it for protection. During these years there were still voices talking about the need to help others but they were not listened to. The people in the kingdom thought only of their welfare and became very comfortable inside their walls.*

*After several years of growth, the attacks of the enemy also grew in strength and ferocity. In one savage attack the walls of the kingdom fell and the enemy penetrated inside. Panicked, the people fled to the last remaining fortified place, the church. Together with their king, they prayed to God asking Him why He had allowed the impregnable walls to fall. Exasperated, God answered them, "I*

*allowed the walls to fall not for the enemy to come into the kingdom but for you to go out. For heavens sake, please attack the enemy and help the other villages."* ❧

*Left & opposite pages - File photos of NSPR II.*

## Back to Basics



Nancy R. Catan

*The second in a 4-part series of teaching weekends on Moral Theology was held on January 10-11 with Fr. Pat Giordano, S.J. leading us through a most enlightening and interesting discussion on the Fundamentals of Moral Theology and what being "moral" means to us Christians today. So many subjects, so many concepts ... This article is merely a brief introduction to a few of the topics discussed. We encourage you to read Part II, "Christ, Our Way", in the new **Catechism for Filipino Catholics** (CBCP, ECCCE, Word and Life Publications, C1997), especially pages 187-239 for a clear and easy-to-read-and-understand explanation of the challenge of living in life-giving love as disciples of Christ.*

**m**oral theology is all about becoming fully human. For Christians "moral living" is unmistakably "following Christ". This is more than just obeying the legalistic teachings of the Church that were prominent in its first 400 or so years, from the Council of Trent to Vatican II. Christianity today is living the way of Jesus Christ. Fullness of life here on earth incorporates everything we do, all the innumerable actions, events and problems of our lives, into a way of life wherein we walk with Jesus and live as his disciples. Simply put, whoever follows Christ becomes more fully human. We walk with Jesus who is "the Way, the Truth, and the Life".

Our goal is eternal happiness through Jesus, fullness of life in Him (John 10:10). This is a journey, a process of gradually growing into what is good and true. On this journey we need God's grace through the Holy Spirit to help us for it is through the Holy Spirit that we can come into the true meaning of LOVE.

Fr. Pat explained that while God's New Law is embodied in the Holy Spirit, this New Law of Love is not an empty shell but is formed by and grounded in Old Testament Law, discipline, development, maturity, the Magisterium of the Church and the Beatitudes. Growing into this Love, then, involves a process of formation of our moral character and conscience.

# Living as DISCIPLES of CHRIST

## What is Good Moral Character?

When we speak of character, we refer to our moral identity - the totality of choices, actions and the extent of how we actualize our potential for doing good. And since we live together with others, our moral character is to a great extent influenced by our relationship with others as well as by the choices we make. These choices either build up or damage our moral character. One's moral character is also conditioned by knowledge, freedom and emotions and may, at times, be referred to as 'having moral strength'.

If we are of good moral character, we are fully human, a loving and lovable person, a virtuous and morally mature person. But this state does not suddenly exist, it is dynamically developed through our actions, the little and big things we do and is interrelated with the choices we make and the people around us. When God created us, He implanted in our hearts the seeds of virtue - the desire to be and do good, the desire for truth, the instinct for preservation of life, sexual union and rearing of offspring, and the desire for community or to live in society. These seeds of virtue are developed during our lives into good moral character through a three-stage process of moral education.

### 1st stage: Discipline

Many times we only view discipline in its negative aspects. Fr. Pat stressed that the real purpose of discipline is to develop excellence of action and to guard against excesses and sin. Discipline builds and transforms our weaknesses into strengths. In the book of Sirach, we learn that discipline is actually a call to be faithful (Sirach 18:30-19:1), faithful to the seeds of virtue and the natural dispositions that God has planted in our hearts.

In the Old Testament we see that discipline is mostly external in nature. Then as the history of Salvation continues in the New Testament, Jesus teaches us that discipline must be interiorized for us to grow in God's eyes. The Commandments must become part

of our nature so that we remain obedient during the process of purification from sin. And it is the Holy Spirit who disposes us to accept this discipline as part of God's desire for order.

### 2nd stage: Personal Progress and Development of Virtue

This stage in our life is comparable to young adulthood. As we become more mature in our faith, we begin to take responsibility and assume initiative for discipline of self and our own moral growth toward God. We move from the external aspects of discipline to the heart level. Virtues are formed and our capacity and desire for action intensifies. This is characterized by the Sermon on the Mount where we learn about various aspects of dealing with other people, how to develop good relationships, what to do when these relationships turn sour, and how to strengthen ourselves in prayer and dependence on God. From God's teachings in the Bible, we eagerly turn to the illuminative way of the mystics and saints for further enlightenment as we

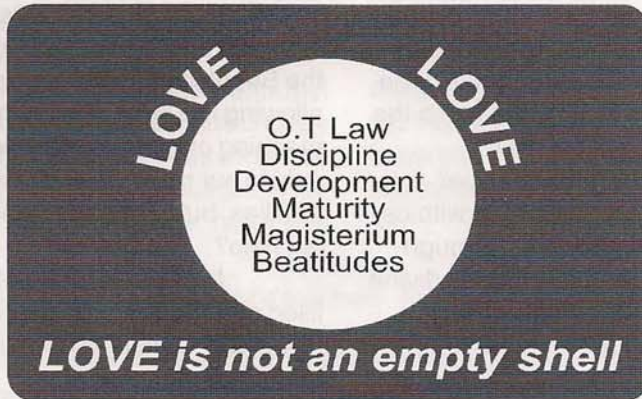
struggle through this stage of our life's journey.

At this point, the Holy Spirit becomes very active in our life as we look to Him for help, and accept His discipline and direction.

### 3rd stage: Maturity of Age and Freedom

As we mature in age, and if we have successfully progressed through stages 1 and 2, we become more fully human and rejoice in doing everything in love and with love. Through the exercise of discipline, we have been able to attain mastery of self so that we are more in tune with the Divine.

As we move toward perfection of relationships, we realize that this perfection means we give ourselves to others ..... in love, through service, with our time, our talent and our resources. The confidence in ourselves and in God that we experience in this stage of formation of our moral identity frees us from the bonds of uncertainty →



and concerns of the world to allow us to reach out to do good, to let the seeds of virtue in our hearts grow and bear fruit in our relationships and society.

Developing moral character is, therefore, a lifelong process of growth and growing in love, of becoming more fully human even as we become more like Christ.

### **Having a “Connaturalized” Heart**

This is a new term used by Fr. Pat to describe the “heart” converted to the Lord and to the love of what is good and true (Romans 12:2). This kind of close relationship between man and the true good is rooted in and develops through the virtuous attitudes of the individual himself. This is the meaning of Jesus’ saying: “He who does what is true comes to the light” (Jn 3:21).

The moral life begins and ends in gift, commencing with the outpouring of grace into our hearts, which enables us to do good in the first place. But, Fr. Pat continued, it is also the gift of God’s Spirit, the New Law, who completes what our goodness could never achieve. God seeks perfect friendship with us, but only God can make this possible through the work of the Gifts of the Spirit. This is divine friendship, the Spirit fully alive in us, God’s grace delightfully at play. Our lives are to be a dwelling for God, our hearts a center for God’s friendship. If we have such openness to God, we shall know love, joy, and peace.

Fr. Pat sees connaturality as the perfection of the image of God in man, an ideal


of Christian life. He believes it is the fruit of a continuous conversion and growth in the moral and spiritual life. The epitome of connaturality is thus attained when a Christian echoes and embodies in his/her life what St. Paul said: “*It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.*” In the words of Karl Rahner when the Word of God becomes internalized in us as one among us, we then become “little words of God.” God speaks to us. God speaks in and through us.

### **The Challenge**

Fr. Pat ended this part of the discussion with these challenging questions: What is the character of the BCBP? Are we members growing into what is good and true?

How about the formation of our moral identity as BCBP members and as a Christian organization? To what extent have we internalized the Magisterium of the Church and the Beatitudes in our hearts and lives? Are we allowing the Holy Spirit to move us to action, to reaching out and establishing relationships not only in our respective marketplaces, in our families, but also among those who most need our help?

Is our love an empty shell, a partially-filled shell, or is our love brimming over with the fullness of Christ and the fullness of our humanness?

And the big challenge: Do we have a “connaturalized” heart? Can we say that we are “little words of God”? Are we living the way of Jesus Christ? 

## **Activating Your Action Group**

### **Walking With Jesus**

**T**his Lenten season bring your group together to reflect on the Lenten readings in a new way. Select a Lenten story from the bible either from the Passion or other Lenten scriptures that involves

people. Write down the names or character description of each person in the story on small pieces of paper, put them in a basket and have each member select one.

Ask your members to reflect on his/her chosen character and try to put themselves in that person’s shoes.

How did he/she feel? What do you think he/she thought? Why did that person act as he/she did? If you had been there during that event, instead of that person, how would you have acted, felt and thought?

Then as you read the story from the bible, have each one share his/her insights on the characters as they appear in the story. If time permits, find out how the story or happening would have ended if your members had been there, instead of the original cast of characters. Pose the question: what do you think God is telling us tonight?

This is a good way to take a fresh look at familiar bible stories and become intimate with bible characters. This activity can also help the group get to know each other better.





**The Son of Man indeed goes, as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed. It would be better for that man if he had never been born. - Matthew 26:24**

## 1 minute meditation



Larry de Larrazabal

# Jesus Warns Judas ... and us

This passage is enough to scare the daylight out of anyone, unfortunately, man doesn't seem to scare easily. Jesus gave Judas this warning, who was about to betray him. This very same warning is also given to all who intend to betray Jesus. Everytime one commits a serious transgression, he betrays Jesus. Sinners should be fully aware of the dangers and weigh carefully the consequences. If death should come while one is in the state of mortal sin, the most horrible punishment awaits the perpetrator. It would have been better had he not been born.

This warning should be taken seriously! What is the alternative? Take heed and change while there is time. The death of Judas should be a warning to all those who betray Jesus (Mt 27:5). It would have been better for Judas, or for that

matter, anyone who dares to betray Jesus with a serious transgression, if he had not been born at all.

For those whose medical prognosis is terminal, they should go over and review their past, and make peace with God. They are the lucky ones for they still know the time, but what about those who are young and healthy, whose death is unexpected, and have no time to repent? This passage should be a warning to all those who betray Jesus. There is another passage that should keep us on our toes, "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come!" (Mt 13:33). If you are scared of this admonition, thank your lucky stars for the warning which gives you the opportunity to change and make amends.

### Prayer

*Dear Jesus, I have not been your faithful follower. The lures of the world have enticed me in the past to break away from you. Thanks to your grace, I have left this sinful life behind me, but temptations are everywhere and I fear the consequences when I am at my weakest point. With you I am strong and know I can withstand all temptations. Amen.*

### From My BCBP Notebook

Mario Figueroa, RCD Tacloban-Samar



## An Orderly Life leads to Unity of Life

**"But if you seek the Lord your God, you will find Him if you look for Him with all of your heart and with all of your soul.." Deut. 4:29**

I see this verse as a cornerstone of the BCBP life. To me, the key to a life in the Lord is simple - it is merely living an orderly life - a life that is constantly being examined, weighed, renewed and balanced in the areas of relationships, health, finances, work, and spiritual growth.

Am I living my life as a constant whole or as a compartmentalized process with segments of family, work, sports, civic obligations, church obligations, social duties, etc.? This is the question that confronts all of us at one time or another. Each of these segments intrudes into our time and attention and demands a different set of rules. If we are not careful, we can be successful in one area but lose out in the other areas. What then must we do?

One way is live life with God at its center. By doing this, all areas and facets of our life are placed in the overall context of our relationship with God, and instead of competing for time and attention, they complement each other.

God challenges us to take our family duties seriously: to give quality time to family members and to seek ways to make their lives more pleasant. Our work is an offering to Him so we are encouraged to do our tasks with professional competence, observing all virtues, and in teamwork and coordination with others. We learn to share our time, leisure, sports, hobbies, ideals and service with those around us, including the poor and the marginalized.

With God as source of inspiration, we soon find that our life is whole, unified and focused, pleasant, rewarding, morally uplifting and filled with joy and happiness.

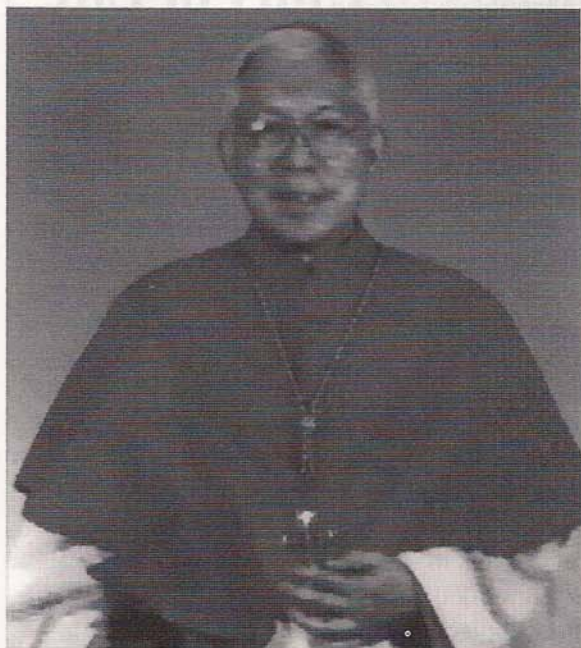
Discovering...



Alex Tan

*As the focus of this column is on Catholic issues and this issue of the Kapatiran is on leadership, we feel it most appropriate to reprint in its entirety an article/column by Amelia Ylagan (Business World, Feb. 2, 2004) on the new leader of the Diocese of Manila, Archbishop Gaudencio B. Rosales. In it we catch a glimpse of the leadership style and thought of our new Catholic leader as well as a succinct commentary on the state of integrity and corruption in the marketplace. Reprinted with permission.*

# GOOD GOVERNANCE, according to Archbishop Rosales



**A**rchbishop Gaudencio B. Rosales, newly appointed archbishop of Manila, was the keynote speaker at the first general membership and inaugural meeting of the Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines (FINEX) this month.

It was the first time for many in the curious crowd to see him. What is he like, what does he think, how does he speak? Succeeding the fiery and feisty Cardinal Sin, is he fiery and feisty too? Would he entertain his listeners with unpriestly, risque jokes to spice up his message? Which of the presidentiables will he endorse? Up on the dais, Archbishop Rosales only smiled benignly; he was unobtrusively quiet, very patiently waiting his turn to take the rostrum as the others on the presidential table were engrossed in the frenetic activity of the turnover of officers for the new year.

He was seemingly alone in the crowd, as if sitting in a darkened alcove, watching the party haloed in glaring lights in an adjoining room. Perhaps he was internalizing the magnitude of the responsibility thrust on him by his new role as spiritual leader for the largest Catholic diocese in the Philippines, financially also the richest and most materialistic. "Manila is a city of great contrasts, not merely of contradictions," he said. "There you have the rich and the very poor, the learned and those who barely know they have rights, the powerful and the very weak, the deceivers and the deceived."

For the first time, and on this occasion, he was asked to speak on corporate governance. There was markedly no pomp and ceremony for his presence, but the noisy crowd receded into respectful silence as the charisma of the Archbishop pervaded the hall. The juxtaposition of this man of the cloth vis-a-vis the group of rich moneymakers, business executives and government officials forebode of the uncomfortable message that had to be spoken. Though he spoke in a low, even cadence, unembellished with fancy rhetoric and theatrics, Archbishop Rosales's words so deeply chastised.

corrupt!" And for this reason, he exhorted businessmen and all to desist from glamorizing transparency as a virtue, for it is not.

Everyone was quiet, each one deep in his personal introspection. Really, can transparently being bad ever be good? It is like the line a "bad boy" suitor would give to the gullible macho-loving stupid girl doomed for endless crying time. "You know what I am, take me for what I am, I love you naman," he says to her.

Seemed to have worked for one "bad boy" whom we Filipinos elected into office in the 1998 elections! No questions were even asked about the string of mistresses until the plunder case two years after.

"The better term to accompany the word honesty is integrity," the Archbishop said. "The honest person is a whole person. Whole here means 'not broken, not fragmented.' The forthright individual is sound in his relationship with himself, with others and with God. No, he is not perfect, but he is true. He will not harm or endanger himself, his health, nor will he disgrace his values; neither will he oppose what is good for others. Imperfect as he is, he can be trusted."

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## ***"First among the list of virtues for those in service or governance is HONESTY. "***

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"First among the list of virtues for those in service or governance is honesty. But the virtue of honesty has been emasculated lately by the use of the word transparency. It is in one sense correct to use transparency for the virtue, because transparency can mean obviously clear, honest in the sense of one 'presented without deceit.' But it can also mean that some people are transparent, suggesting something as so obviously or so clearly corrupt."

Archbishop Rosales seemed to seethe in deep anger as he whispered loudly, "There are people in the community who are transparently

Perhaps Archbishop Rosales pertained to mental honesty over and above physical compliance with rules and regulations. Here, we have a self-rating system for good governance where close to a hundred per cent of participating (listed) companies rated themselves transparent and practicing good governance, when it simply meant they had complied with all that the Securities and Exchange Commission had specified in the Code of Corporate Governance.

In Singapore, the Corporate Transparency Index (CTI) displayed only a passing rate of 22% for performance in 2002, meaning that their level of 

satisfaction with themselves for the practice of true corporate governance still leaves much to be desired.

Out of 285 companies, only 64 passed the stringent evaluation. Although 98% passed the content portion of the test, the qualitative portion, like honesty of management information and other disclosures beyond what are required, explanatory details of cash flows and of future plans dragged scores down.

For a country that already enjoys a good reputation for honesty and integrity, this only demonstrates the Singaporeans' humility to accept their imperfection, and reinforces their strong self-discipline and honesty, what Archbishop Rosales defines as a "wholeness" or integrity. This is in sad contrast to most other countries in Asia where the good corporate governance buzzwords are mouthed, but practice is still the old corrupt way. A young accountant was asked at a social gathering, "So, does your company still maintain two books of account?" "No, Ma'am. Three. One is the real one, kept confidential to all but the owner, two is for the Bureau of Internal Revenue, to keep taxes down, and the third is for the owner's wife, so she will not demand too much money."

A more tragic story was related by Archbishop Rosales. A fifth grader was elected class treasurer, in charge of a PHP350 collection. When the class teacher asked for the money to cover some class expenses, the boy could not produce it because he spent it in the mall. When the boy's father heard about his son's predicament, he did not scold the boy. He said, "Never mind, son, it is alright for you to have spent the class money because it is also your money." So young to be taught that it's all right to spend other people's money! And not to feel guilty about it, too!

As an aside, Archbishop Rosales made a wry joke, "He is being trained to

be a dishonest politician."

"A recent study of the World Bank-IMF on the Republic of the Philippines budget indicates that at least 40% of the annual RP budget goes to losses due to graft and corruption. And here the loss of money value is not simply due to the change in its equivalent in terms of service, object or goods, but in loss of the value of virtue on the part of those who handle and transact the use of money." The crowd gasped. But, let him who is without sin cast the first stone!

Archbishop Rosales defined good governance as "serving the good of the pre-dominant mass" and employing "morally licit means to attain it." He warned that this compound requirement is not easy because "there will be certain occasions and temptations offered to the

**Archbishop Rosales  
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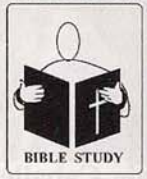
leader to enrich himself like the immorally privileged few." But being unjust to the majority is being unjust to the whole.

That is wisdom both public and private governance can benefit from. And this comes from a "provinciano" from Batangas, as Archbishop Rosales calls himself.

He has had no formal training in business management. But his natural wisdom, the same that has instinctively drawn him to passionate involvement in environmental issues, bases his principles on the preservation of peace and order for all people.

For, indeed, when people steal or take too much for themselves, are they not infringing on the rights of others, and destroying the balance set up by laws and nature?

Archbishop Rosales gave his admonitions: only a strong leader can deliver good governance. Reputation is not permanent and popularity is just as fleeting. Strength is built from self-discipline. Character is hewn from conscientious control of the self. →



# Money, money, money!!!!

It is sometimes thought that the Lord Jesus was more interested in spiritual things rather than worldly things like money and possessions. But did you know that ...

- 16 out of 38 of Christ's parables deal with money...
- more is said in the New Testament about money than Heaven and hell combined...
- 5 times more is said about money than prayer...
- there are only 500 plus verses on both prayer and faith but over 2,000 verses dealing with money and possessions...

Here are some scripture passages to guide us in having the proper attitude toward money and possessions.

Psalms 24:1	Deut. 8:11-17
1 Tim. 6:10	1 Peter 4:10
Matt. 25:14-30	Luke 6:38
Phil. 4:19	Hebrews 13:5-6
Luke 12:22-31	Malachi 3:10
Prov. 3: 9,10	Psalms 37:3
Prov. 22:1	Sirach 5:1-3

### *For reflection and sharing:*

1. The way you spend your money reflects your goals, priorities, relationships and even the use of your time. In other words, your checkbook and your credit card are mirrors of your life story. If God audited your checkbook and credit card account today, would He approve of the way you disburse His money?

2. How can we help each other in our Action Group be more responsible in the use of our resources and in our commitment to tithe?

***Christian or not, integrity and honesty are the only viable bottom line for peace and harmony in the world.***

"The person of discipline is one who has power over his sufferings and failures. He has power over his pleasure and he is able to decide even against an attractive, but fleeting comfort...he is in full control of himself."

The final exhortation from Archbishop Rosales was on the need for everyone's contribution, no matter how small, to the development of the community and the country.

It only takes a few good men to do nothing for evil to thrive in this world. We cannot complain about graft and corruption if we allow it by living with the ease and comfort it provides for us.

In an interview upon his installation as Archbishop of Manila, he defined his single biggest concern as the failure of Christian men and women to believe that they can transform the world.

"Social problems fester and wounds deepen because people see themselves as dispassionate observers, helpless and apathetic, unable and unwilling to rail against injustice and oppression. That ours is a country mired in poverty is an indictment of the Christian faith and its values of giving service and compassion."

In that context, we laymen start to understand the new Archbishop of Manila's enigmatic motto, "*Si mortuum fuerit, fructum affert*", meaning, "***If it dies, it bears fruit.***" We must die a little to ourselves and to the tempting luxuries of power in the world to truly focus on contributing to the common good.

Christian or not, integrity and honesty are the only viable bottom line for peace and harmony in the world.

## Lower Your Nets



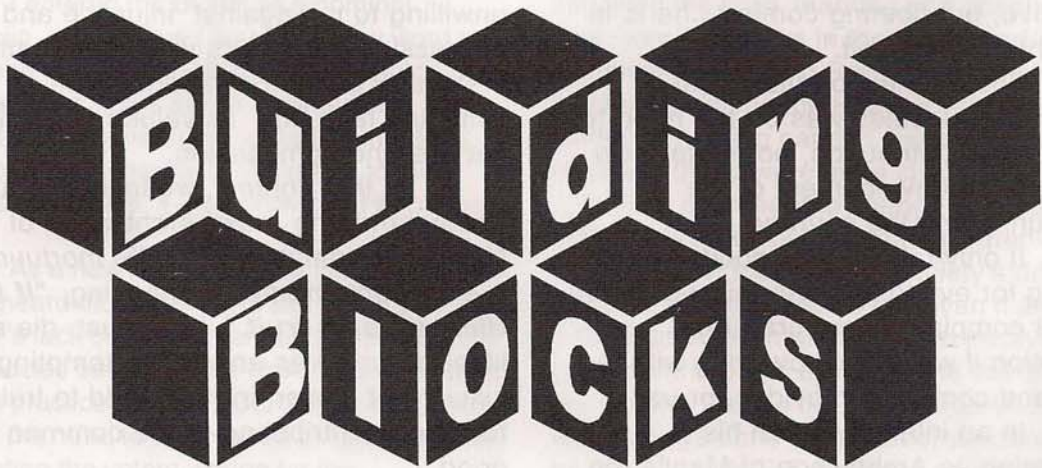
Ronnie Caballero

**A**s our country groans under the exercise of choosing our political leaders for the next three or six years, it would be worthwhile looking at our own BCBP leaders. Spiritual leadership as we know it in the BCBP is experienced within the context of Christian community. It works within the spheres of close relationships, deep spirituality and availability. It certainly is not a popularity contest like our upcoming national elections appear to be. BCBP leadership is about servanthood.

I have been around long enough in the BCBP to have witnessed several times the selection of BCBP leaders. In all those occasions, the chosen leaders all had apprehensions and doubts even though they may have spent months preparing and anticipating such a call to service. This call to be a 'living sacrifice' has been met by others by squirming off the top of the altar, likely overwhelmed by the call.

If one is faced by a similar situation, it would be worthwhile to reflect on 1 Samuel 16:1-13, where Samuel, the

## ***Heart, Devotion, Surrender & Spiritual Maturity:***



## **of Spiritual Leadership**

prophet, was tasked by the Lord to bring about the selection of Israel's next king from among the sons of Jesse. Numerous qualifications come to mind but what the Lord says to Samuel speaks volumes about God's chosen leaders.

*He also had Jesse and his sons cleanse themselves and invited them to the sacrifice. As they came, he looked at Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is here before him."*

***But the LORD said to Samuel:  
"Do not judge from his appearance or from his lofty stature, because I have rejected him. Not as man sees does God see, because he sees the appearance but the LORD looks into the heart."***

The story continues about how the sons of Jesse are called forward and rejected, revealing only this one aspect which He uses for the proper selection of Israel's king — the heart. Many Christian writers consider David as the closest to God in terms of prayer and fellowship. As a shepherd boy he was already spending hours of prayer and songs to the Lord while in the pasture. His crowning glory from the Lord comes from God himself describing David as "a man after God's own heart". Youth and inexperience did not matter to the Lord. What mattered was this man whose spirituality and closeness, openness and sincerity to the Lord pleased Him immensely. Even though sin entered David's later life, it was still his constant communication with God that brought him home to repentance.

This excerpt from a Bible reflection best describes the kind of heart needed by a Christian leader:

***Because your heart is with God, because your heart loves to serve him, because***

***your heart trusts God to do what is best for your life, and because your heart wants to be obedient to his ways, God will raise you up. God is giving you something important to do.***

Similarly, this kind of heart will lock in that spiritual maturity needed for leadership. This will just be a matter of cause and effect: "a man after God's own heart" in close fellowship with Him will prosper and grow in wisdom. He will treasure the Lord's presence and Word and will wait on Him for his leading.

As a matter of effect again, the same type of devoted relationship will ultimately result in surrender, a key factor in Christian leadership. Nowhere, in the secular world will you find a model of leadership that requires surrender. The best definition would probably be closest to the Blessed Virgin's reply to the Angel Gabriel at the Annunciation, put into song by Don Moen:

***Be it unto me  
According to your Word  
According to your  
promises  
I will stand secure.  
Pour upon my heart  
The truth that sets  
me free  
According to your  
Word, O Lord  
Be it unto me.***

When we surrender to the Lord, we are accompanied by truth, security, His Word, His promises and peace. Now, with all that, what else can a leader ask for? **K**

**SHALOM** is a difficult word to translate. This is because it embodies so much more than any one word in the English language can contain. It is harmony, and wholeness, and justice, and peace, all rolled into one. In essence perhaps: God's plan for His people.

For two days in January, I went to the CeFam in Ateneo to explore SHALOM by attending the Christian Parenting for Peace and Justice retreat. I was struck by the Wisdom that guided the formulation of the modules. Fr. Tanseco introduced each session, then presenting couples or families discussed the topic experientially with concrete life examples, after which we had time for reflection and sharing. I was repeatedly moved by the generally loving and accepting exchanges between family members and among the participants.

# Towards SHALOM

## A Look at Christian Parenting for Peace and Justice

*Cheers and God bless! As we raise our children towards Jesus, we parents must be models and witnesses. The young who are entrusted to us are so precious - so much is expected from us to whom much is entrusted! Did I say that Christian Parenting for Peace and Justice can be life-changing?*

In the end, I recognized two very momentous things had happened for me. First was validation: in the narratives of the presenting families, I recognized countless parallels between the beliefs, guidelines and practices they had and the ones we had in our own family. The second significant thing was inspiration. As I listened, I was pointed toward areas in which we could grow more, as a family, according to God's design. Within these examples and anecdotes, I discovered many avenues for improvement.

The first day's sessions were dedicated to "Reaching In", emphasizing the indwelling of God in each person directing us to behold each family member in all uniqueness and giftedness. I realized that in our hustle and bustle days, conversations between family members tend to be mostly transactional, focusing on functions more than persons. "Did you sign my permission slip?" "Who will fetch the boys tomorrow?" "I need my allowance." "Go to sleep now." Making the effort to see each other in the light of personal uniqueness from time to time is like giving a hug: it creates a deeply meaningful exchange of affirmation.

We were led to discover what gender-based stereotypes and role expectations are present in our own families: how these are expressed, how these may embody oppressive or discriminative biases, how these may hamper the full development of personal potentials. Both men and women are made victims in an environment of prejudices and typecasting based on gender. The guiding principle

**Licensed  
to Parent**



**Annie Salvador**



is that all persons are equal in dignity before God's eyes. *"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."* Galatians 3:28.

And then there was the session on how to deal creatively with conflict in non-violent ways, emphasizing that authority, as given to parents and elders, is service first and foremost. Family members, children especially, flourish in an affirming, accepting and cooperative environment, where they can feel safe, no matter what. In seeking creative resolutions of conflict, the genuine seeker will recognize that violence - physical, verbal, emotional, psychological - has no place in a loving home.

It goes without saying that we as parents all love our children. The "why's" abound. It is, however, in the area of the "how's" that we often falter. I know how easy it is to forget that as I train and discipline my children, respect remains an imperative. Personal limitations, life pressures, individual upbringing, circumstantial restrictions - these are all factors that may detract from peace in the family. As parents and leaders in our families we need to be aware and vigilant of both stimuli and options for responding, so that we can foster non-violence in all aspects of family life.

The second day focused on "Reaching Out" through Stewardship, Simplicity and Sharing. We are all the Lord's stewards, and it became clear to us that no one should have too much nor too little. This challenges each family to a life of simplicity, with an alert awareness of how forces like consumerism, media, colonial mentality and globalization tempt us. We are called to examine our own buying habits, consumption of resources and general lifestyle to find many ways of simplifying.

Sharing, the third principle in this alternative lifestyle, calls us to action in response to Jesus' invitation to a life of sharing (Matthew 14:13-21) through sharing not only among ourselves within the family, but also - and especially - with the poor, the powerless and the victims of injustice.

We discussed human diversity, Christian nationalism, and the family as participants in the development of a God-centered society. During the reflections I realized that I am sincerely glad I am a



Filipino, for to love God means to love one's country as well. Now with my family I will examine our social and political role, especially in the "how's" of loving our neighbors and on to the works of justice. The avenues are plenty, but the point is one: to put our faith, individually and as a family, into action.

I look back to the words I have written and find them a very pale representation of the weekend's experience. Validated and inspired, I find myself strengthened by the fact that God loves me just as I am, while loving me too much to leave me just as I am. As I raise my children towards Jesus, I must be model and witness. The young who are entrusted to me are so precious - so much is expected from me, because much is entrusted! I recognize therefore that I need all the help I can get, and the CPPJ weekend seems God-sent. Applied to head, heart and hand, Christian parenting in peace and justice can be life-changing. Dare I say it: world-changing!

Fr. Tanseco shared this story: "There were two brothers who inherited equal shares of land, and each had an equal share of its harvest. The elder brother however thought, 'This is unfair. I live alone, while my brother has a wife and many children. He should have more.' Thus, each night, he took some grain from his barn and put it into his brother's barn. Meanwhile, the younger brother thought, 'This is unfair. I have a wife and many children who take care of me, while my brother has no one. He should have more.' And so, each night, he took some grain from his barn and put it into his brother's barn. Until one night, along the strip of land that lay between their barns, they met. And embraced."

Such is SHALOM. And let it begin with me. 

# Getting My Priorities Straight Resulted in My Being Demoted

Lito Pardo, BCBP Las Piñas



From a checkered background of Marxist-Leninist groups and street rallies and, having to hide from arrest during Martial Law, I made a turn-about and entered the growing bureaucracy by joining the Metro Manila Commission when Mrs. Marcos was Governor. I planned to reform the system from within.

My initial years with the MMC were very challenging and fulfilling. However, a few years later, I noticed that the MMC was becoming increasingly politicized and that the vision for a metropolitan government exemplified by technocracy had slowly metamorphosed into a bloated bureaucracy.

So after having finished a project there, I resigned and accepted a long-standing offer from the Dept. of Finance to handle foreign-assisted projects of the Bureau of Local Government Finance. I began again my 14-hours-a-day, 6-days-a-week work schedule, a frequent source of marital quarrels and misunderstandings.

All through the years before joining the BCBP, my career and my relationship with my boss at work were of paramount importance. I would work for several days and nights without going home just to complete a job. But as I grew in the

renewal after the BCLP, I realized how displaced my priorities were and set about straightening them out. I finally told my boss that I could not work overtime because of family and Brotherhood activities. This created intrigues and caused a rift with my boss. I was stripped of my perks as Director and was relegated to the background doing routine activities.

At first I was full of anxiety, but I sought the Lord and He led me to Psalm 102, then to Psalm 116, and I persevered in my job despite the torture of having no substantial and meaningful work.

Then my prayers began to be answered. From nowhere I was called by the ADB to write a country paper on urban finance for the Philippines. This assignment brought material remuneration and professional acknowledgement for my work, and bolstered up my confidence level that was so low.

Not long after came a short-term consultancy work for the World Bank to look into the urban and environmental program for Cavite and Laguna that totally fit into God's plan, because at that time, we had just established a BCBP outreach in Lipa City. There was real joy in my heart when I accepted the job, as I could sense God's hand at work.

Subsequently other consultancy offers came from multilateral and bilateral organizations, providing the much needed morale and financial boosts I and my family needed.

I am no longer keen on promotion for promotion's sake for I know that the Lord wants me to bloom where He has planted me. My priorities have put God and family and service in the community in the forefront. And He has taken care of my workload and my professional career so nicely. Indeed we can never outdo the Lord in His generosity. **K**

*Lito and his wife Ludy joined the Brotherhood in 1990 just as Lito was agonizing over a major moral decision involving the temptation to become an instant "commissioner". Lito testifies that in all things the timing of the Lord is perfect and the Lord saved him from this sinful situation. Recently Lito just completed a stint as Chapter Head of Las Piñas.*

# Changing My Workplace Began With Me

*Boyet Cabonce, BCBP Alabang*




**t**he measure of success in my professional life was the frequency of promotions that I got and the corresponding salary increases. And I was willing to achieve this at all cost - not only working hard, excelling and exceeding goals, but also engaging in rumors, gossip and gamesmanship to put down perceived rivals for a promotion. It was exciting at first but then it became an addiction. I exerted so much pressure on myself that it affected my health, my working relationships, and worse, my family relationships.

After being exposed to the BCBP culture and Way of Life, I questioned myself if this was all worth it, just to get another promotion. Little by little I began to change my attitude and allow the Lord to guide my career. I became more cooperative and not as protective of my own turf.

When problems arose, I worked for solutions instead of looking for somebody to blame. I learned to avoid rumors and instead, praise those who had done a good job and to help those who had failed to meet expectations.

The results from my transformation and changed attitude are fantastic! My relationships in the workplace have tremendously improved; a lot of trust has developed with co-workers. I have gained many friends and this synergy has made me more productive. Relationships within my family have greatly improved. And I even received an unexpected promotion!

All this has opened new doors for me to further practice Christianity in my workplace. During meetings or work discussions, I do my own “mini-sharing”, telling associates my own experiences with the Lord, especially when discussions become heated or courses of action being considered are too harsh or “unchristian.” Prayers are now said before meetings. I make time when associates come to me with their relationship problems and to seek guidance.

What I get and learn from the BCBP community, I am now able to share with others in my own workplace. Changing my workplace into a better one really all began with me. 

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*Boyet relates, “My wife and I graduated from BCLP 25, Alabang Chapter in 1995. To me, the biggest impact that the Brotherhood has made is in my workplace.” They have three children and serve as Action Group Leaders. Boyet is presently Supply Chain Director handling purchasing in a cosmetics firm.*

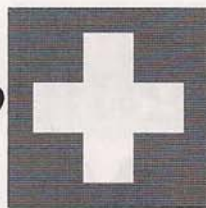
# Switzerland, Here I Come

*Freddie P. Pe Benito,  
BCBP Alabang*

**a**t the start of the term of President Fidel V. Ramos, I was appointed as Director in two government-owned and controlled corporations.

One of the companies I was appointed to was a finance company. In one of our board meetings, two representatives of a finance company based in Hongkong with headquarters in Switzerland presented some business investment proposals with a guaranteed Return On Investment (ROI) scheme. All the board members, especially our chairman, were all for it because while the presentation was “so-so”, the incentives to the board members were very enticing.

From the beginning I was not comfortable with the proposals that I felt were being “railroaded”, but I was the only one casting a dissenting vote. I requested for a more comprehensive company profile, then their latest audited financial statements and then other documents... This continued for three board meetings; I was very unpopular in the board even incurring the anger of the chairman whenever I raised an issue on the investment proposal.




A week before our next regular board meeting, our chairman called me to a lunch with the two Hongkong representatives. I was told that if I would

finally agree to the investment proposals, I would be one of three board members who would go to Hongkong for the signing of the agreement, to be followed by a two-week vacation/tour in Switzerland, all expenses paid, plus generous shopping money, plus our choice of “escort” for the duration of our stay there.

Throughout all this, I really prayed very hard to God to guide me to make the right decision and to give me strength to fight the enticement of the glitter of gold and of this world. I believe that because of my involvement in the Brotherhood, the seeds of doing business rightly that were planted in me, found fertile soil.

The day of the board meeting arrived. A motion to approve the investment proposals was made but before we could vote on it, our chairperson was handed a letter from the Palace in Pasig. After reading it, he asked the two financial representatives to join him in another room. When he returned, he was alone. He told us that if ever we would do some investing, it should be done in our country to stimulate business and provide jobs for our countrymen ... which was what I was proposing all along. And my shining moment came when the chairman put on record that it was because of my “inputs” that the investment proposals were delayed and derailed.

I have not seen Switzerland yet, maybe this year, maybe next year, maybe never. But one thing I am sure of, where the Lord leads me, there I, His servant, will be. Through the BCBP and my God I found strength to do what the Brotherhood is all about - bring Christ into the marketplace. Praise God! 

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*Freddie and his wife Lorna are graduates of BCLP 10, Alabang Chapter, and currently serve as part of the chapter's mission team. He is employed as a director of United Coconut Chemicals, Inc.*



# *The Friend of the Bridegroom*

*Spiritual Direction and the Encounter with Christ*

By Thomas H. Green, S.J.

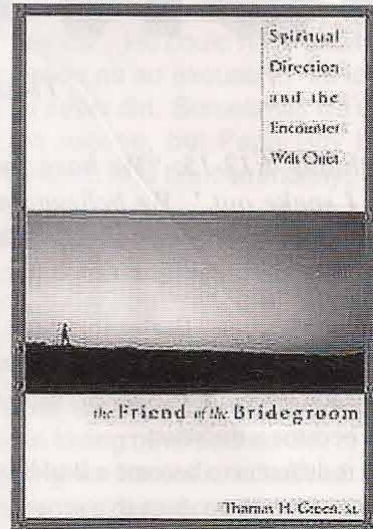
Many of us in the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals express the desire to have a spiritual director. But we don't know what to expect or how to go about getting a "good" spiritual director.

For those of us seeking a deeper relationship with God - the beginner on the spiritual journey, the mid-lifer, the seasoned seeker or the spiritual director - this is the book for us. Fr. Green, basing his insights and wisdom on his 35 years as a spiritual director, explains that the goal of spiritual direction is to facilitate contemplation to the point where the Lord becomes real to us and we let ourselves be completely real with the Lord. This is the turning point in a genuine spiritual life. Spiritual direction, he says, enables one to objectify, conceptualize, and understand one's own living of the life of faith, hope and love, to discern how to best respond to God ... where prayer and action meet.

We learn that spiritual direction is a charism, an art, not a science. He considers six criteria as requisites for a good spiritual director (whether a lay person or a religious): compatibility, shared vision, confidentiality, being a good listener, having objectivity, and 'being ahead of me in the journey'. Fr. Green also believes that we may need different guides along the way until we reach that point wherein Jesus himself becomes our real spiritual director.

This book gets its title from the fact that the bridegroom's friend "stands by and listens" and "is glad when he hears the bridegroom's voice." This should be the stance of a good spiritual director.

This book is important in the sense that we can understand from it how God forms us



and leads us to maturity. More readable than some of Fr. Green's other books, *The Friend of the Bridegroom* contains much practical wisdom and advice for both the seeker and the director that help the reader penetrate his/her soul's desire for God. - Reviewed by Nancy R. Catan (*Published by St. Paul's Philippines, c2000*)

## **Other helpful books on this topic:**

*Group Spiritual Direction: Community for Discernment.* By Rose Mary Dougherty, S.S.N.D. A clear discussion of the discernment and spiritual direction process especially for small groups, like the BCBP action group. Contains practical advice on how to seek God's wisdom in a small group setting. (St. Paul's Philippines, c1997)

*Handbook for Spiritual Directors.* By Julie M. Douglas. Presents thoughts from St. Teresa of Avila and St. John of the Cross on spiritual direction. Most of the book recounts cases of actual situations (anger at God, doubts, dryness, unanswered prayer, presence of God, etc.) and suggestions for spiritual direction in these instances. (St. Paul's India, c1998)

# A Buddhist CONVERTED

*Than Htun, BCBP Davao*

*2 Corinthians 4:13-15: "We have the spirit of faith of which the Scripture says, 'Because I believed, I spoke out.' We believe and so we speak, knowing that he who raised up the Lord Jesus will raise us up along with Jesus and place both us and you in his presence".*

I was born in (Myanmar) Burma to devout Buddhist parents. Sally, my wife, was born to a Protestant father and Catholic mother. She was baptized a Catholic; I became a Buddhist.

It is different to become a Buddhist in Burma, for one has to go through a series of rituals. In the Monastery, my hair was shaved and my colorful clothes were replaced with a simple, yellow-colored monk dress. Meals were allowed only until before noon. The abbot and the advisor monk taught us about the Buddhist bible, Buddhist teaching, meditation and how to say the rosary in the Buddhist way. After my one week stay in the Monastery, I was pronounced a Buddhist. As a good Buddhist family, we meditated at least 15 minutes a day and had to abide by the Buddhist commandments, which are very similar to the Ten Commandments of the Catholic Church.

Our respective schools strengthened our different faiths. Sally's formal education in religion consisted of catechism classes during summer vacations. I finished my basic education in a special Buddhist school and yet, unknowingly, the Lord began to manifest Himself in my early life. During that time, my private English tutor who was a Christian convert used to let me pray before the lesson and told stories about Jesus. Perhaps God's plan started when I was young. It makes me realize now that despite all these strong Buddhist practices, the seeds of my Christian faith were being planted in me.



Sally and I grew up in a struggled life. We both went through hardships early in life, making us survivors and competitors and, for that matter, very proud. Sally grew up with a lot of insecurities for having suffered from comparison with her sister who was a "darling". She does not recall a single moment that they went to church as a family together.

Sally and I met in school. Finally, we got married joyfully after successfully completing our studies. We both landed high-paying jobs in a multinational company. We were very proud that we were self-made and successful. Later, we realized we were wrong for we are nothing without God.

God's manifestation continued in our lives. However, we never made any effort to know Him more at this time. It was 1983. I was still Buddhist while Sally and our children were Catholic. During the group prayer time at our house blessing in Ladislawa Village, the Santo Niño showed a miraculous sign with a whistle. The chapel lady said Santo Nino shows signs to some houses as a sign of blessings. That was the first time I knew of the Infant Jesus.

I was still a Buddhist but for no particular reason I continued to go to the Santo Niño chapel in Bajada with my mother-in-law. Every time I saw Mama Mary in the chapel, I would get this strange but peaceful feeling. It became my habit to make wishes, offer flowers and donate some money to the lady caretaker. When Sally underwent an operation for thyroid cancer in Hawaii, I could not be with her, but I prayed desperately to Mama Mary, afraid of how to go on if something happened to Sally. My unexplained faith in Mama Mary led me to her. I was to read later in Hebrews 11:1: "Faith is confident assurance concerning what we hope for, and conviction about things we do not see". To my surprise, Mama Mary appeared in my dream. She smiled at me, raised her right hand and said: "My son, don't worry". True to Mama Mary's promise, Sally survived two successful operations in 1983 and in 1985.

When Sally left Hawaii in 1986 as a full-pledged Ph.D., she was a different person - more confident, stronger in character and surer of herself. She still had her insecurities but they were tucked deep inside. Beginning in 1986, Sally and I would often have many quarrels, like *aso't pusa*. Such serious family crisis went on for years. In the midst of one crisis, Mama Mary appeared in my dream with holy appearance and a serene smile and told me to put up her grotto in our house. We did — after 5 years. It did not help our problem. We thought that this crisis was due to our competition in jobs, differences in culture and religion. Maybe we had used our gift of education wrongly. We know now that the true reason was that our life was not God-centered at that time. At that time no human effort, including consultations with a psychologist, had any effect on our crisis.

In 1991, I had bad luck in my job. Though I was still a Buddhist, in my desperation, I asked Mama Mary to intercede in my behalf and all problems were solved. Then, I wanted to get out

and go into my own business. I prayed for money from Mama Mary. In a dream, St. Joseph appeared and asked me to choose between money and long life reminding me of Hebrews 13:5: "Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have because God has said, "Never will I forsake you".

*"A few years later, Mama Mary again appeared in a dream and told me to convert to Christianity. Obediently, I did so without knowing what Christianity was all about."*



A few years later, Mama Mary again appeared in a dream and told me to convert to Christianity. Obediently, I did so without knowing what Christianity was all about. Then through the untiring efforts of our beloved Ninongs and Ninangs as instruments of God, we became BCBP members. And so it was that after an endless search, we finally felt the warm embrace of a loving Father in our new community. Our consciousness was filled with his words: "It is I, I, who wipe out, for my own sake, your offenses; your sins I remember no more" (Isaiah, Chapter 43, Verse 25). Spiritually and socially we grew (and are still growing) in this community of disciples of Jesus, the BCBP. Only at this time did Sally and I overcome our family troubles. We were healed.

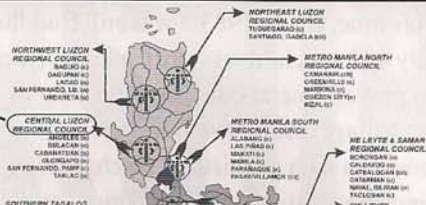
As life goes on, we anticipate that there will be trials, for conversion is a lifetime process. Mama Mary, Jesus and God will always be with Sally and me to give us strength, protection and blessings. We know He is our refuge, strength and salvation.

# Central Luzon Region

## REGIONAL FOCUS



**Art C. Dela Cruz,**  
Regional Council Director, Central Luzon



growth of membership and the sluggish opening of new outreaches. Actually there is only one full chapter in the region while the rest are just outreaches. Individual spiritual growth and maturity

## The Rice Bowl of the Philippines now harvests BCBP members

More commonly known as the Rice Bowl of the Philippines, this region straddles the central portion of the island of Luzon. It consists of six provinces and seven cities that occupy 18,230 square kilometers of mostly plains and valleys. It is part of what is called the Core Region, along with the National Capital Region and part of the Southern Tagalog and is predicted to become an industrial heartland in the Asia Pacific region.

Such a center for international trade and commerce supported by international free seaports and airports presents a challenge for the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals. It is here in the cities of Angeles, Cabanatuan, Olongapo, San Fernando and Tarlac as well as in the business centers in Marilao and Guiguinto in Bulacan where the BCBP has brought its evangelization efforts. In the pipeline is another outreach soon to be established in Balanga, Bataan, within this year.

The region is very much in need of workers in God's vineyard as evidenced by the slow

is a main concern; it is imperative that a deeper formation and spiritual growth be developed. Sadly, this branch of the BCBP family seems to have been taken for granted in the past in terms of proper and effective leaders' training in the region. It is good that this shortcoming has now been realized by our BCBP leadership and the situation is now being addressed.

Being in the center of economic zones and international hub of business, we envision the region not only to produce materials and goods that are globally competitive but also to establish and expand the area as a firm foothold of evangelization. We foresee a concrete transformation in the manner by which business is conducted. If before these places were noted as sin places and havens for "dog-eat-dog" business practices, this time we'd like them to be known as business centers for Christ.

More evangelization, more training, more BCBP members bringing Christ into their marketplaces ... this is the challenge in Central Luzon.

### SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA

- January 1995 saw BCBP Greenhills chapter sending a mission team to San Fernando, Pampanga, it being a strategic base for future outreaches like Subic, Olongapo and Angeles City. The team was headed by Ret. Gen Bro. Danny Lazo together with Badong Laguda and Roy Puno. The team met with Archbishop Paciano B. Aniceto of the Archdiocese of Pampanga who readily gave his blessings for the BCBP to enter his diocese.
- The 1st breakfast was held on March 18 and every other Saturday thereafter, at the Celebration Restaurant along the Olongapo-Gapan Road. By June 17 weekly breakfasts were being held.
- BCLP 1 commenced on July 1st with 22 graduates joining the fledgling outreach.
- By 2000, the outreach was installed as a full chapter.
- Present Governance team is headed by Soy and Olet Dayrit.



## TARLAC

- BCBP Makati formally opened the Tarlac outreach on September 7, 2001, with an inaugural breakfast at Max's Restaurant in Luisita Complex, San Miguel, Tarlac.
- BCLP 1 followed in August that year graduating 20. BCLP 2 yielded 16 graduates in July 2002, and BCLP 3 in September 2003 added 19 new members to the outreach.
- Makati's mission team head from 2001 - 2003, Larry Arceo says, "Truly God works in mysterious ways. We had almost given up our outreach in Tarlac from frustration (dropouts, etc) only to realize that God really wanted us to persevere, to share more, and to love more regardless. The reward in the end is pure joy."
- The Makati governance has appointed Caloy and Tess Co as Tarlac Outreach Coordinator for the year 2004, and Mel and Perla Santiago as Tarlac Outreach head.
- Targeted activities for 2004 include BCLP 4 in September, and a Business Evangelization program for Luisita Industrial Park tenants.
- Beginning May 2004, there will be an extended breakfast every 1st and 3rd Saturdays in Panaqui, Tarlac.

## ANGELES

- The Angeles City outreach was opened by BCBP Quezon City chapter on May 26, 2001 with its first joint breakfast meeting at the Garden Dine Restaurant along Balibago St., Angeles City.
- The outreach held its 1st BCLP in September of 2002 with 24 graduates forming the core of the outreach. BCLP 2 followed in September of 2003 with the BCLP 1 members serving as assistant discussion group leaders. 28 graduated from the course.
- Breakfast meetings are held every Saturday at Km 86 Restaurant Food Plaza in Balibago with an average attendance of 40, including a 12-person mission team from Quezon City. There are at least two 1st-timers every breakfast.
- The Angeles City outreach presently has 7 action groups.
- Teachings are given twice a month after the breakfast.
- All these activities are under the direction of the QC mission director Emil Morales and outreach head Art Layug with Nonoy dela Peña heading the service team. However, a governance team from Angeles is presently in training as future servant leaders of the Outreach.

## OLONGAPO

- The Outreach was started in October 2000 by the Quezon City Chapter with its 1st breakfast on November 18.
- 21 graduated from BCLP 1 in June 2001; 19 completed BCLP 2 in August 2002. In 2003 BCLP 3 added 31 members to the outreach.
- The outreach has 5 action groups with an average of 9 to 10 members per group. The weekly breakfast has a regular attendance of about 40 people.
- Activities planned for 2004 include AGL training, music ministry training, BCLP 4 by March, a BCMR, and a BCBR.
- The outreach is eyeing Balanga, Bataan, as its potential outreach so that Olongopo can be elevated to be a chapter-in-training.
- Another plan is to open up a corporate BCLP inside the SBMA.



*San Fernando, Pampanga Chapter Governance Team 2nd Anniversary picture.*



**Nelson Dauz, RCD  
Metro Cebu**

## Cebu spells 'Community' as "S-Y-N-E-R-G-Y"

When I was appointed Regional Council Director for the Cebu region in January of 2003, under my responsibility were nine (9) chapters and outreaches, six of which are located in Metro Cebu. Total active members are around 1,300, mostly residing in Metro Cebu. The three outreaches of Bogu, Bantayan and Balamban (we call them the 3 "B"s) are relatively new.

What came to my mind when I assumed this position was "Synergy" - the principle that states "the whole is greater than the sum of its parts". I believed that the different chapters could accomplish more together than they would be able to do separately.

With the launching of the "Be Honest" Advocacy, I had a God-given opportunity to put synergy into action. All five Metro Cebu PSDs (Programs and Services Directors) met to plan on how to launch and sustain the campaign. It worked. The launching was a big success.

More "synergistic" activities followed after that: sectoral breakfasts, assemblies, teachings, sportfests, national thanksgiving, regional retreats. Truly any burden becomes lighter when shared. Come to think of it, 'community' is about sharing our talents and activities for God's greater glory. And that's "SYNERGY" personified, isn't it!



*Metro Cebu servant leaders paid a courtesy call on Cardinal Vidal on his birthday & briefed him about BCBP activities. Joining them is Sadi Saguisag, NSC for Mission.*

## Central Luzon Region

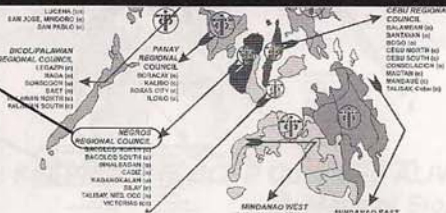
### CABANATUAN

- BCBP Greenhills formally opened the BCBP's evangelization of Cabanatuan City with a BCBP breakfast on April 13, 2002, at the La Parila Hotel. 31 persons from the city attended including Bishop Sofio Balce. 29 BCBP Greenhills members also attended. By June breakfast meetings were held every Saturday.
- July saw the beginning of BCLP 1 under course director Danny Lazo with only 4 participants. However by Commitment Night in September, seventeen completed the course.
- In February 2003, BCLP 2 graduated 28 as full members of the BCBP. This brings the total membership of the outreach to 44 persons.
- BCLP 3 is presently ongoing.

# Negros Region

## REGIONAL FOCUS

Ray Garcia, RCD  
Negros



## 2004: We hit the ground running...

- The 1st whole-day Regional Council and Action Group meeting was held on the 1st weekend after New Year, a “fresh start” for the new team. It was the 1st for newly-appointed Regional Council Director Ray Garcia, and Chapter Heads Bobbie Legaspi (Bacolod-North) and Leonel Horvidalla (Silay), and Victorias Outreach Head Eric Ballares. Providing the experience were Bacolod-South Chapter Head Jimmy Montalvo, and Outreach Heads Jing Zaldariaga (Cadiz), Albert Garcia (Kabankalan), and Ogie Ascalon (Bacolod South-Outreach).
- Over 400 members attended the region-wide, whole-day recollection on the “Law of the Lid”; it was co-sponsored by the 3 BCBP communities in Bacolod on the 2nd weekend of January.
- On January 24, BCBP Bacolod celebrated its 16th anniversary. This was followed by a luncheon meeting of ManCom members with the governance team of the Silay

chapter-in-training. In the afternoon, it was off to Silay City for their Chapter Installation, with Manolet Siojo, national BCBP president leading the installation rites.

- On the last weekend of January, the Negros Occidental Region hosted the joint Negros-Panay “Community Best Practices Workshop”. 52 participants came from Bacolod-North, Bacolod-South, Silay, Iloilo, Roxas and Kalibo; and outreaches: Cadiz, Kabankalan, Bacolod-South Outreach, Victorias, Boracay and Iloilo City. The national team was led by Manolet Siojo (2nd visit to Bacolod within a week), vice-president Bobby Laviña, NSC for mission Sadi Saguisag, and NSC for formation Roy Calleja.
- 8 breakfasts are currently held in the region: Bacolod North, Bacolod South, Binalbagan, Cadiz, Kabankalan, Silay, Talisay and Victorias.
- And the year 2004 promises even more activities, stronger commitment, and more members being added to the Negros Occidental Region.

## SILAY

- BCBP Silay began in September 1993 as the Business Evangelization Program (BEP) of the Bacolod Chapter for the City Government of Silay. This was followed by Christian Life Programs, still under the BEP.
- In December 1999, BEP Silay was formally installed as a BCBP Outreach and Nato Ofamen appointed as outreach head, succeeding Nicky Ledesma who had led the community during its BEP years 1995-1999.
- With its elevation to Chapter-in-Training status, Silay opened its 1st outreach in Talisay City with a Men’s Breakfast in April 2002.



- On January 24, 2004, after more than 10 years, BCBP Silay finally became a full chapter with Leonel Horvidalla installed as chapter head. 185 brothers and sisters from Silay, Bacolod North and South, Kabankalan, Binalbagan, Victorias and Dumaguete witnessed this milestone in BCBP Silay’s development.

## REGIONAL FOCUS



# Mindanao East Region



**Oskee Olib**  
Regional Council Director,  
Mindanao East

## The Mission Continues



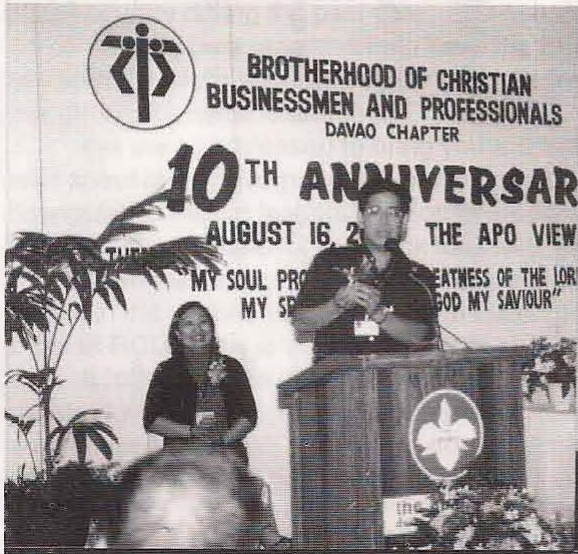
- In 1993, the BCBP was brought to Davao City by BCBP Cagayan de Oro.
- In 1996, Davao opened its own outreach in Tagum City, 50 kms north of Davao (going to Agusan). Appointed outreach head couple were Ben and Lydia Bunagan.
- For the next several years Davao had growing pains, conducting 2 BCLPs a year, with another two in Tagum as well. Tony Garcia, Davao outreach head, organized leadership training programs to keep pace with their expansion plans.
- Early in 1998 Davao planned for another outreach in Gen. Santos City. However after initial forays and finding that the Archdiocese of GenSan was not very enthusiastic, plans were put on hold.
- BCBP Davao was chartered as a chapter in August 1998 with more than 400 members and guests in attendance, including the Cagayan de Oro and Cebu mission teams.
- Two years later, in April 2000, Davao's mission director Wally Tapia and his wife Tinet spearheaded the formation of the Digos Outreach, a new city in Davao del Sur, located 50 km south of Davao city proper. Retired judge Rudy and his wife, Baby Escovilla were designated outreach head.
- 2001 was a banner year for Davao. The BCBP's 21st National Anniversary was held in Davao with more than 1000 members flocking to that city from all over the Philippines. It was the capping achievement of BCBP Davao's 8 productive years under the leadership of Tony and Betty Garcia.
- On January 2002 Emil and Vivian Sison took the helm of Davao's leadership as chapter head.
- From March 2002 to October 2003, Davao and its outreach Digos conducted 4 BCLPs in Gen. Santos, bringing in a total membership of more than 100, with 70% still being active. Kit and Bon Ocampo head the GenSan Outreach.
- On the other side of Davao, the Tagum Outreach has successfully conducted two BCLPS in its own new outreach in Panabo City. Panabo now has 30 active members and is preparing for BCLP 3.
- With its outreaches steadily preparing for chapterhood, Davao looks forward to marketplace evangelization with BEP programs in the city of Davao. - *Momong Robillo, Davao Mission Head*

*Davao's parade of outreaches, Tagum, Digos, GenSan and Panabo.(Top)*

## DAVAO

With their anniversary theme - *My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior* (Luke 1:46-47) - BCBP Davao celebrated its 10th anniversary last August 16, 2003. The day began with a breakfast fellowship joined by Davao's outreaches of Tagum City, Digos City,

Panabo and General Santos. Oskee Olib, Regional Council Director for Mindanao East Region, and members of their parent chapter Cagayan de Oro City came to help the chapter rejoice in its 10th year. - *Gus and Fe Dacudao, PSD Davao*



*National President Manolet Siojo and wife Carla (left) as sharers, Davao ladies (top) shaking it up, Gensan sings (below) - all in celebration of Davao's 10th anniversary*

## GENERAL SANTOS

- March 2002 saw members of the BCBP Davao mission team go to Gen. Santos City to organize breakfast fellowship meetings. Initial venue was the Cookie Factory. BCBP members from Davao, Cagayan de Oro, Tagum and Digos cities attended the first breakfast. The first couple to share was Davao's chapter head couple Tony and Betty Garcia.
- BCLP 1 was launched on April 6, 2002, with 28 members graduating and forming the core group of the new community.
- BCLP 2 followed barely three months later on August 31 yielding 29 graduates.
- Under the mission direction of Momong Robillo of Davao, BCLP 3 added 27 members in May of 2003. BCLP 4, directed by Macy Directo, Mission Head of Digos, harvested 24 members in September of the same year 2003.

- After several moves in venue due to space constraints and security considerations, the new home for the outreach's breakfast meetings and other activities is the East Asia Royal Hotel.
- Presently GenSan Outreach has been endorsed to the care of Digos Outreach with two BCLPs planned for 2004.
- The outreach has around 90 members, divided into 5 action groups. Breakfast schedules are every 1st and 3rd Saturdays. - *Joe and Inday Falcon*



# BROTHERHOOD BREAKFAST VENUES

CHAPTER/OUTREACH	VENUES	DAY	1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH	NOTE
<b><u>METRO MANILA NORTH</u></b>							
METRO-WIDE	<b>MAKATI SPORTS CLUB</b>	WED			J		
CAMANAVA	Chowking Rest. Morning Breeze, EDSA, Kaloocan	SAT	S	M	J	M	
GREENHILLS	Club Filipino	THU	S	M	J	M	
QUEZON CITY	Max's Rest, Scout Tuazon	SAT	S	M	J	M	
	Stepsaperp	SAT	-	-	S	-	
RIZAL	Manila East Golf Club, Taytay, Rizal	SAT	M	S	M	J	
MARIKINA	McDonalds Sumulong H'way	SAT	J	M	J	M	
<b><u>METRO MANILA SOUTH</u></b>							
ALABANG	Ayala Alabang Country Club	SAT	M	S	M	J	
LAS PIÑAS	KFC Alabang - Zapote Rd	SAT	J	M	-	M	
MAKATI	Max' Restaurant, Glorietta 3	WED	J	S	M	M	
MANILA	Orchidarium & Butterfly Pavilion, Rizal Park	FRI	J	S	M	M	
PARANAQUE	Max's Restaurant, Sucat	SAT	M	J	M	S	
PASAY/VILLAMOR	Villamor Golf Club Greenside Dining	SAT	J	M	S	M	
<b><u>NORTHWEST LUZON</u></b>							
BAGUIO	Prime Hotel	SAT	-	J	M	S	
DAGUPAN	Regency Hotel, De Venecia H'way	SAT	J	S	M	M	
LAOAG	Palazzo del Laoag	SAT	-	J	-	J	
SAN FNDU-LU	Sea & Sky	SAT	J	J	-	-	
<b><u>NORTHEAST LUZON</u></b>							
TUGUEGARAO	Hotel Roma	SAT	M	J	M	S	
SANTIAGO ISABELA	Greenview Hotel	SAT	J	-	J	-	
<b><u>CENTRAL LUZON</u></b>							
ANGELES	KM 86 Food Rest, Sta. Maria Vill, Balibago	SAT	J	J	J	J	
BULACAN	Max's Restaurant, Guiginto, Bulacan	SAT	J	J	J	J	
CABANATUAN	Royce Motors Canteen, Maharlika H'way	SAT	J	J	J	J	
OLONGAPO	Ann Raquel Restaurant, Magsaysay Blvd.	SAT	J	J	J	J	
SAN FNDU-PAMP.	Villa Conchita Resort, Olongapo Gapan	SAT	J	J	J	J	
TARLAC	Nay's House, Romulo St., Tarlac	SAT	-	J	-	J	
<b><u>SOUTHERN TAGALOG</u></b>							
BATANGAS CITY	Alpha Hotel	SAT	-	J	-	-	
BIÑAN-SAN PEDRO	Max's Restaurant	SAT	J	M	S	M	
CALAMBA	Riverview Resort & Conference Center	SAT	J	M	S	M	
*CALAPAN	Parish Hall Calapan Cathedral	SAT	-	J	-	J	DCA
*CAVITE CITY	Pat's Restaurant	SAT	-	-	J	-	DCA
DAET	Villamila Hotel	SAT	-	J	-	J	
*IMUS	Rojonet Aquinaldo H-way, Imus Intrsectn	SAT	J	-	J	-	DCA
LIPA	Sawali Restaurant, Sabang, Lipa City	SAT	M	S	M	J	
LUCENA	Halina Hotel & Restaurant	SAT	M	J	M	J	
ROSARIO	Servato's House Restaurant	SAT	-	J	-	-	
*SAN PABLO	Coco Palace, Nat'l Highway	SAT	J	-	J	-	
<b><u>BICOL-PALAWAN</u></b>							
LEGAZPI	Hotel La Trinidad, Legazpi City	SAT	-	J	-	S	
NAGA	Champagne Garden Mayon Ave.cor. Apo Dr	SAT	J	-	J	-	
PALAWAN NORTH	Legend Hotel	SAT	S	-	J	-	
PALAWAN SOUTH	Barcelo-Asturias Hotel	SAT	-	M	-	J	
SORSOGON	Jollibee Sorsogon	SAT	J	-	-	J	
<b><u>CEBU REGION</u></b>							
BALAMBAN	Balamban National High School	SAT	-	J	-	M	
BANTAYAN	Bantayan Southern Inst. Social Hall	SUN	J	-	J	-	
BOGO	Marcella	SAT	J	-	J	-	
CEBU NORTH	City Sports Club, Ayala	SAT	J	M	S	M	
CEBU SOUTH	Sacred Heart Center, D. Jakosalem	SAT	J	S	S	M	
CONSOLACION	San Narciso Church	SAT	J	-	J	-	
MACTAN	Majestic Restaurant	SAT	M	J	M	S	
MANDAUE	Mc Donald's, JY Square, Lahug, Cebu City	SAT	M	J	S	J	
TALISAY	Chowking Talisay	SAT	-	M	-	J	

LEGEND: M - Men's; L - Ladies; J - Joint; S - Simultaneous  
 DCA - Data Changes Maybe Applicable. Please call BCBP National Office for update.

# BROTHERHOOD BREAKFAST VENUES

CHAPTER/OUTREACH	VENUES	DAY	1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH	NOTE
<b><u>TAG/DUMAGUETE</u></b>							
BAIS	Bros Haven	SAT	-	M	-	J	
DUMAGUETE	Bethel Guest House/DepEd City Div. Conf Hall	SAT	J	M	-	-	
	PHHCI-PRCC	SAT	-	-	S	-	
SIQUIJOR	Garden Orchid, Larena	SAT	J	-	M	-	
TAGBILARAN NORTH	JJ Seaford Village	SAT	-	J	S	M	
TAGBILARAN SOUTH	Bohol Tropics	SAT	-	J	S	M	
TUBIGON	PPC Hall	SUN	-	J	-	J	
<b><u>NE LEYTE &amp; SAMAR</u></b>							
BILIRAN	Country Inn Hotel	SUN	J	-	J	-	
BORONGAN	Esadel	SAT	-	J	-	J	
CALBAYOG	Bread Mix	SUN	J	-	S	-	DCA
*CATBALOGAN	Maqueda Bay Hotel & Restaurant	SAT	J	-	J	-	DCA
CATARMAN	DCC Annex	SUN	-	J	-	J	
TACLOBAN	Agus Restaurant, Real St., Tacloban	SAT	S	-	M	J	
<b><u>SOUTHWEST LEYTE</u></b>							
BAYBAY	Angelicum School	SUN	-	S	-	J	
*MAASIN	Ampil Function Room	SUN	J	-	S	-	
ORMOC	Pongos Hotel	SAT	-	J	S	J	
SOGOD	Parish Center	SAT	J	-	-	-	
HILONGOS	-	SAT	J	-	J	-	
PALOMPON	Palompon Institute of Technology	SAT	J	-	M	-	
<b><u>NEGROS REGION</u></b>							
BACOLOD NORTH	Hotel Alhambra	SAT	M	M	M	-	
	Jollibee - La Salle	SAT	-	-	L	-	
	Casa Noble	SAT	-	-	-	J	
BACOLOD SOUTH	Bacolod Exec Inn	SAT	M	M	M	-	
	Mc Donalds - Lacson	SAT	-	L	-	-	
	Casa Noble	SAT	-	-	-	J	
*CADIZ	RL Pensione House	SAT	J	-	J	-	DCA
*KABANGKALAN	Snack Plaza	SUN	M	-	M	-	DCA
*SILAY	JOF Diner	SAT	-	M	-	-	DCA
	JOF Diner	SUN	-	L	-	-	DCA
	Heftia Restaurant	QTR	J	-	-	-	DCA
*VICTORIAS	Marjon's Restaurant	SUN	-	J	-	J	DCA
<b><u>PANAY REGION</u></b>							
ILOILO	Amigo Terraces Hotel	SAT	J	M	S	M	
*KALIBO	Mary's Refreshment	SAT	-	J	-	J	DCA
ROXAS	Pizza Junction, Rizal St.	SAT	-	M	-	M	
	CAP Auditorium	SAT	J	-	J	-	
	President's Inn	SAT	-	L	-	L	
<b><u>MINDANAO EAST</u></b>							
*BUTUAN	Luisiana Convention Center	SAT	-	J	-	J	DCA
CDO EAST	Mindy's Restaurant	SAT	M	M	J	M	
	VIP Hotel	SAT	-	-	-	L	
CDO WEST	Vip Hotel	SAT	M	S	J	M	
*DAVAO	Apo View Hotel	SAT	M	S	M	J	DCA
*DIGOS	CAP Building	SAT	-	J	-	J	DCA
*GINGOOG	New Lanes Rest. along National H-way	SAT	-	J	-	J	DCA
MALAYBALAY	House Malibu	SAT	J	-	S	-	
*SURIGAO	Gateway Hotel	SAT	J	-	J	-	DCA
*TAGUM	CAP Bldg. Tagum City	SAT	-	J	-	J	DCA
VALENCIA	Taipan Restaurant	SAT	-	J	-	S	
<b><u>MINDANAO WEST</u></b>							
*DIPOLOG	Top Plaza Hotel	SAT	-	S	J	M	DCA
ILIGAN	Al Fresco Resort & Restaurant	SAT	M	J	M	S	
*OROQUETA	Lumantas Garden	SAT	-	J	-	J	DCA
OZAMIZ	Royal Garden Hotel	SAT	M	-	J	-	
*PAGADIAN	That's Diner Restaurant	SAT	-	J	-	J	DCA
*ZAMBOANGA	Lutos Rest. Astoria Hotel	SAT	J	-	J	-	DCA

LEGEND: M - Men's; L - Ladies; J - Joint; S - Simultaneous

DCA - Data Changes Maybe Applicable. Please call BCBP National Office for update.

# 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**