

BROTHERHOOD OF CHRISTIAN NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1994
BUSINESSMEN AND PROFESSIONALS



Kapatiran

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In This Issue:

*Is Birth Control the Answer?** *The New Catholic Catechism And*
*The BCBP** *Messengers of God** *Gifts Money Can't Buy**
*1993 Financial Report** *Immolating Our Children*



VISION

The vision of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals (BCBP) is that of a full life in Christ for all, particularly business people and professionals.

This full life is expressed through a three tiered, lifelong process:

CONVERSION to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ;

COMMITMENT to the values espoused by Him; and,

COMMISSIONING to spread these values to others, especially in the conduct of business and the professions.

MISSION

To attain its vision of a full life in Christ for all, the BCBP has established a two-fold mission:

- To create and promote together a support environment where business people and professionals can experience Christ in a personal and meaningful way, thereby transforming them into disciples of Christ and agents for justice, equity and sound development; and,

- To create a body of Christian business people and professionals who are so trained and structured for action that their individual as well as collective efforts result in a forward impact in business practices, and through this, enable the economy and society, in general, to be transformed by Gospel Values.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

- POPULATION: Is Birth Control The Answer?** - 5
ANGELS: Messengers of God - 10
An Angel Spoke to Me, The 9 Choirs of Angels - 12
His Magnificent Wings - 40
My Very Own Angel, Angel Menya - 41
GIVING: Should We Save or Give? - 9
Gifts Money Can't Buy - 42
Gifts From the Heart - 43
1993 FINANCIAL REPORT - 33

REGULARS

- EDITORIAL: Immolating Our Children** - 3
BACK TO BASICS: The New Catholic Catechism
And The BCBP - 13
VENUES - 17
IN THE MARKETPLACE: Reengineering - 29
LIGHT MOMENTS - 38
BIBLE SHARING - 39
REFLECTIONS: Watch Out, You May be Next! - 45

INTERVIEWS

- Art & Lally Dela Cruz: CCP's Loss is BCBP's Gain* - 15
Orly Neri: His Evangelistic Heart
Puts His Faith Into Action - 27
Lito and Ludy Pardo: Government Service &
BCBP Mission Work Go Hand in Hand - 30

BROTHERHOOD-WIDE UPDATE**LUZON NEWS**

- 19 - *Dagupan, Tuguegarao, Baguio*
 20 - **NATIONAL NEWS**
 21, 38 - **VISMIN NEWS**
METRO MANILA NEWS:
 21 - *Las Piñas*
 23 - *Makati*
 24 - *Alabang*
 25 - *Quezon City*
 36 - *Parañaque*
 37 - *Greenhills*

NEW SECTIONS

- 7 - **VIEWS AT LARGE: Cairo: Quo Vadis?**
 39 - **KUDOS!**

FEATURES

- 7 - *The Word Called Love; Are You Aware That?*
 11 - *Flames Of Life*
 13 - *A Handbook Of Our Faith*
 16 - *Family Togetherness*
 37 - *We Almost Lost Our 28th Wedding Anniversary*
 38 - *Quiz: Songs of Christmas*
 40 - *We Would Like To Hear From You*
 45 - *Immanuel*
 47 - *Let's Have A Party!*

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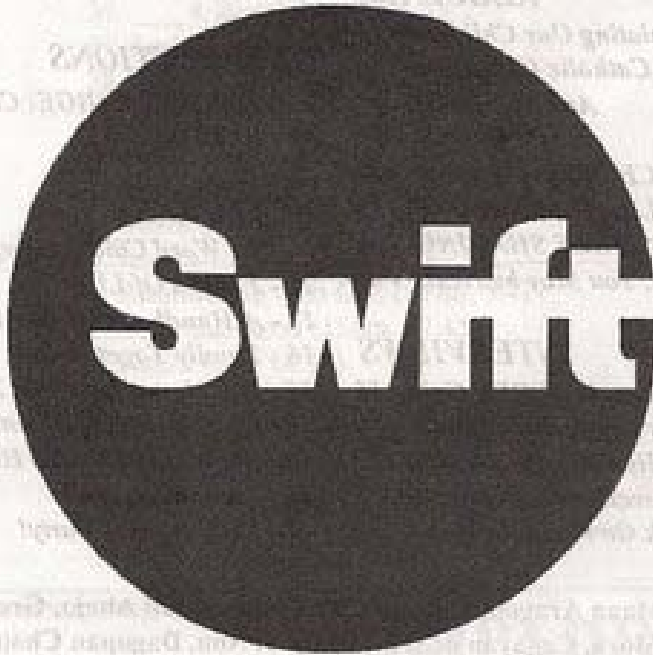
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"He offered sacrifice ... and immolated his sons by fire according to the abominable practice ..."
2 Chron. 28:3

IMMOLATING OUR CHILDREN

WHEN I came across this passage in the Bible the other day, I was horrified at the cruelty of that king who offered his sons -- and others' sons -- as burnt offerings to the idols "on the high places, on hills, and under every leafy tree." In other words, according to the custom of the times, parents sacrificed their children to whatever idols they felt would answer their needs. How appalling! And they did this even knowing that the Lord had purged the nations and peoples who had done this before them.

Sad to say, following the customs of today's "modern" times many fathers and mothers still continue this abominable practice of sacrificing their children to whatever idols lure them with illusions of success, happiness and power.

To what idols do we sacrifice our children? The harsh gods of convenience, economy and whim. The greedy idols of power, prestige and money. The fashionable idols of social acceptance and status. The demanding idols of fame and fortune. The hedonistic idols of luxury living and sex without responsibility. These idols are advertised daily in the media, are considered the norm by many of our peers and, let's face it, are accepted goals for happiness and success in this day and age.

But you object: "We do not, naman, immolate our children!" I say we do. There are many ways of sacrificing our children, some of them obvious, others slip by unnoticed. When we are so caught up in our business activities (or any other activities for that matter) that we eat, sleep, talk

and think business to the exclusion of all else, our families suffer and are neglected, sometimes to the point that our children may feel they do not exist. We have immolated them, burnt them into non-existence, by the searing flames of our neglect. We have deprived them of the unconditional love necessary for their growth, of good parenting and a sound value system. If they survive, they may be stunted for the rest of their lives.

We sacrifice our children through over-indulgence, giving in to their every whim and wish, even allowing them drugs, alcohol, pornography, gambling, occult and other sinful pastimes. This is also neglect on our part as parents, because we are too involved in other things to be concerned about proper discipline and character formation of our children. We immolate our children in the roaring fires of abundance and excesses.

It is not, therefore, enough to shout against abortion, population control and contraceptives. If we care about the future of our family -- and of the future of civilization -- we must first allow the children to come into the world.

Then, what about the children already born? How Christian are we if we continue the practice of olden times of immolating our children -- who are miniature images of God, His gift to us -- to the idols of our desires to obtain the illusions of our dreams?

We must stand firm against the abominable practices of today and work out that we -- parents and children, the whole family -- become the "living sacrifices" God demands of us. He says, "Do not conform yourself to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect." (Romans 12:2)

Nancy R. Catan



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Is
Birth Control
The Answer?

This article by Bong Lodero examines the relationship between population and economic development, birth control and the conspicuous consumption of environmental resources. He points out that recent studies show Malthus in error and the Church's stand on the population issue justified.

BROADCAST and print media have been bombarding all of us with a veritable cauldron of issues and positions on population, that tend to boil and bubble and spatter in all directions depending on who is doing the stirring. The governments of the world, the United Nations, the Church all have their long arms determinedly agitating the volatile mixture.

Are we supposed to just swallow the result? The very least we should do is examine the issues involved and thus be able to form enlightened opinions as opposed to ignorant arguments.

The Malthusian Slant

Any debate on population invariably leads to Malthus, an 18th century prophet of the socio-economic type, who "discovered" that population grows by geometric leaps and bounds (2, 4, 8, 16, 32...), while food production increases by arithmetical progression (2, 4, 6, 8, 10...). His prediction that food production would not keep up with the growing population unless the latter is curtailed is largely swallowed as a gospel truth assumption.

The Malthusian slant in the population debate has passed through three major stages in modern times: in the 1950s it claimed that population explosion had drained off capital that should have

been used for development. In the 1960s, it warned that overpopulation imperiled the world with starvation and exhaustion of non-renewable resources. In the 80s and 90s, population pressures are blamed for environmental degradation.

This brings us to the concept of "sustainable development", defined as development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The question is whether population growth chips away at sustainable development and, if so, whether it is a major obstacle for economic development? The Malthusian answer is yes. But, is it the right answer?

Is Population Growth A Threat To Sustainable Development?

A review of the UN population statistics show a scare projection extrapolated from present rates of childbirth to a point of a calamitous 20.7 billion by the year 2150 A.D., a number which would indeed deplete resources and destroy much of the environment. A more sober inquiry, however, reveals an increase of population from the present 5.47 billion to 10 billion by 2050 A.D., with the figures flattening out at 11.6 billion around 2150 A.D. The assumption here lies in the fact that by the year 2010 there will be a zero growth rate in population.

cont. on p. 6

IS BIRTH CONTROL ... from p. 5

Will this be a threat to sustainable development? No, says the UNFPA director. "If we carefully husband them, world resources are adequate for the sustained development of the planet. The requirements will be to improve conditions for the world's poorest 1.1 billion people, to meet the legitimate aspirations of the 3 billion who are neither rich nor very poor, to cut the environmental cost of development and distribute its benefits more equitably."

Who Is Consuming All The Resources?

Another picture that does not jibe with the Malthusian ideology emerges. Though the population of rich countries has stabilized at only one-fourth of the world's, yet, according to the UN Report On Environment And Development, it is consuming 75% of the world's energy, 70% of commercial fuel, 85% of wood, 72% of steel.

In terms of per capita, the rich countries' consumption exceeds that of the developing countries by more than five times in milk, meat, non-fuel wood, paper, metal, coal and liquid fuel; ten times in transport vehicles, between three and five times in cement, fertilizers and textiles. In terms of degradation of the environment, the industrialized North generates an average of 1.6 tons of waste versus 0.17 tons for the Third World countries. With respect to emission of carbon dioxide, the rate is two-thirds to one-third.

Moreover even the UN Secretary General in his report to the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 recognized that the current life styles and consumption patterns of the affluent middle classes of developed countries, although attractive to all, would not be sustainable for a population of 10 billion.

How About Aid, Trade And Debt?

If population growth is not a major element in consumption of resources and degradation of the environment, neither is it the sole determinant in the dearth of capital investment for development.

Take a look at the UN Development Program report on aid, trade, and debt. Official aid from rich to poor countries totals \$54B, but only 10% of multilateral aid, rather than the 20% recommended by the UN Report, goes to primary health care, basic education and safe drinking water programs in poor countries. It appears that aid

is slanted to protect the interests of the donor countries and has no other reason than to service debt.

Trade favors greatly the rich countries by reason of protection barriers and restrictions that depress exports from developing countries by \$50-\$60B, nearly as much as the aid figure itself. Regulated access to labor markets, higher interest rates, negative capital transfers and unequal competition in international services are marks of inequality in trade between rich and developing countries.

Poor countries in debt are squeezed by the IMF and the World Bank by structural adjustments of debts that are meant to reduce inputs, increase certain exports, to reduce public spending and generally to divert investments from economic development.

"We need economic and social reforms NOT coercive population control."

Is Birth Control The Answer?

Rather than spending time and energy for a population control program, the Catholic Church has consistently called for reforms in the economic and social set up of the world in order to solve the coming global crisis. The Church recognizes the problems arising from an accelerated demographic increase but insists that there has been no massive effect on population growth despite easy access to birth control technology.

The Pope's letter to the UN Secretary General stressed that a true socio-economic transformation is necessary for an effective solution of population problems, that promoting abortion and artificial contraceptives is not the solution.

Previous to this the late Pope Paul VI in his encyclical, *Populorum Progressio*, declared it a duty of solidarity for rich countries to give aid to poor ones and a duty of social justice for the elimination of inequitable trade relations and for the relief of the debt burdens (Par. 56-58).

Population control should not depend on coercive programs that stress efficacy at all costs. Rather we should consider God's plan in the midst of all this controversy. Human lives are at stake here, men and women of today and the children of tomorrow.

We need to do our best to put out the fires that fuel the cauldron of population issues and concentrate instead on strategies of responsible sustainable development that advocate the rights and dignity of men, women and children and uphold the laws of God. #

Bong Lodero

The Word Called LOVE

Love is not an emotion or a feeling but rather a decision to give of oneself to the other person regardless of circumstances or merit. And I believe that this love is only possible through God's grace.

In our life, this is the same love that puts our marriage and family together. It is this love that binds and strengthens our family amidst trials and difficulties. Love helps set our priorities.

I believe the basic foundation of being a Christian is loving others. In the BCBP, love expands as we serve in the spirit of 2 Cor. 9:12-13. If each and everyone of us would be guided by God's perfect love, then I believe we can find what we seek - the peace and joy that are completed in love.

Maan Aragon, Quezon City Chapter

Are You Aware That?

+ The present world population can fit in the Philippines, with 54 sq.m. per person.

+ The world today produces twice its total food requirements.

+ The present energy resources are five times what is being actually consumed.

+ The rate of growth of world population is decreasing drastically: If the present trend in decreasing total fertility rate (TFR) of women holds, man will disappear in the industrialized countries by the year 2250, and from the entire planet by 2400.

From a Council of the Laity Bulletin

Views At Large

Chito V. Non, BCBP Dagupan

CAIRO: QUO VADIS?

THE UNITED NATIONS turns 50 next June and if its first two scores and a decade are cause for joyous celebration, hokay, the cold war has come to a standstill if not ended. Still, major concerns will continue to buffet next year's gala event and beyond. The cold war has turned regional and is now ethnic war. The nuclear impasse remains a testy problem. But the biggie is still human rights disputes, one particularly so because the involved are so helpless. The biggie is the human right of BABIES to live upon and after conception.

It is appalling if not doubly ironical that when the UN convened the 3rd Conference on Population and Development in Cairo, Egypt, Sept. 3-13, it had to be at the very same place where the Holy Family had to flee to seek refuge from Herod, the first baby killer. It was also at a time when we celebrated the birthday of our Lady, the Blessed Mother, the mother of Jesus and of all mankind.

The conference was attended by an international aggrupation of supposedly statesmen and "sayantisks" (one of them, a stunted comedian, admittedly with a medical science background and a green thumb, oops, tongue) to promote the pro-choice option for abortion for well nigh everybody.

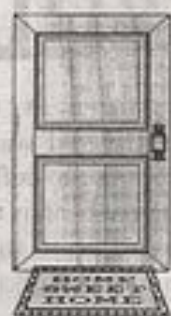
The game plan, initially endorsed by the Americans supposedly led by somebody who must like seeing the gore of the nauseous tragedy but was turned back by a bad back, opted instead for someone better, a diplomat named Tim Wirth. A patient listener, he earned kudos for listening and working for consensus on issues like abortion, which to my mind is not a form of family planning, but rather, a failure of the same.

We have to lament our government's wishy-washy stand on birth control methods, especially on abortion, both in Cairo (what did they really do there?) and at home, in spite of the vigorous objection by the Catholic majority, plus that of our Muslim brothers and despite the imperatives of the Philippine Constitution. Isn't it tragic to see the insincerity of the blah-blah oozing from the Palace by the Pasig, not to mention the incongruity of Philippines 2000 which I understand calls, among others, for moral and spiritual regeneration, changes and empowerment for the better. Abortion -- Moral? Spiritual?

What can we do about this? Go back to the basics: wholesome family life, growing with each other within the family with Jesus Christ as the center of family life, with the Holy Family as our model. We need to minimize -- let me rephrase that -- to completely erase the prospects of that nasty word -- ABORTION.

We welcome Chito V. Non to the KAPATIRAN staff as a regular columnist, beginning this issue. Chito formerly was with the pre-martial law Manila Times as a sports and feature writer. - Editor.

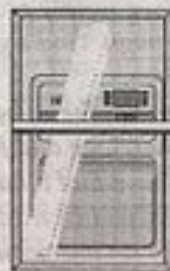
Never before have so many doors been opened by three words.



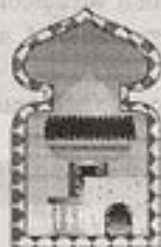
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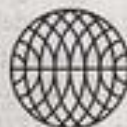
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THERE are two sides to the issue of savings. Scripture tells us that the wise man anticipates future needs, while the foolish man spends and consumes all his resources with no thought for the future (Prov. 21:20). Even ants store up provisions for the coming winter (Prov. 6:6-8).

On the other hand, Jesus commended the poor widow of Mk. 12:41-44 because she gave her last two pennies to God, having no idea where tomorrow's provision would come from, except that it would come from her Lord.

About our plans for the future, our "retirement dream", we must ask ourselves, Whose dream is it? Is it God's dream or our dream? Consider one man's plan for retirement: "I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ..." (Lk. 12:21). His plans make sense by our standards. But in the verses that follow God calls this man a fool.

The distinction between financial responsibility and financial foolishness is this: Saving becomes hoarding when it is exercising our own sovereignty and financial independence so that God doesn't have to come through for us.

James condemned the spirit of selfish stockpiling and indifference to a suffering world that had spread into the early church (Jas. 5:1-5). And in Exodus 16 there is a graphic lesson against hoarding. We must beware of any savings or retirement or insurance plan that becomes a God-substitute.

The joy of giving is at the heart of a walk with God, so don't stop giving sacrificially. Saving can be wise, but it is never a substitute for giving. Some people in Scripture are rebuked for saving too much, but no one is ever rebuked for giving too much.

Generous giving, generous tithing is not just compassionate, it is also responsible. By giving we prepare for our eternal future, because we lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven (Mt. 6:19-24).

If it comes to a question as to whether we should save or give, by all means we should give and put more trust in God's promises in Mt. 6:32-33 and Phil. 4:19. I suggest that you look for ways to save without reducing your giving. Ask yourselves: Can we presently reduce some expenses that would allow us to continue to give generously and save money? Can we liquidate certain assets? Do we need our big home or would a smaller and cheaper one do as well? Do we need to buy a new outfit every month or can we recycle the clothes in our already overfull closets?



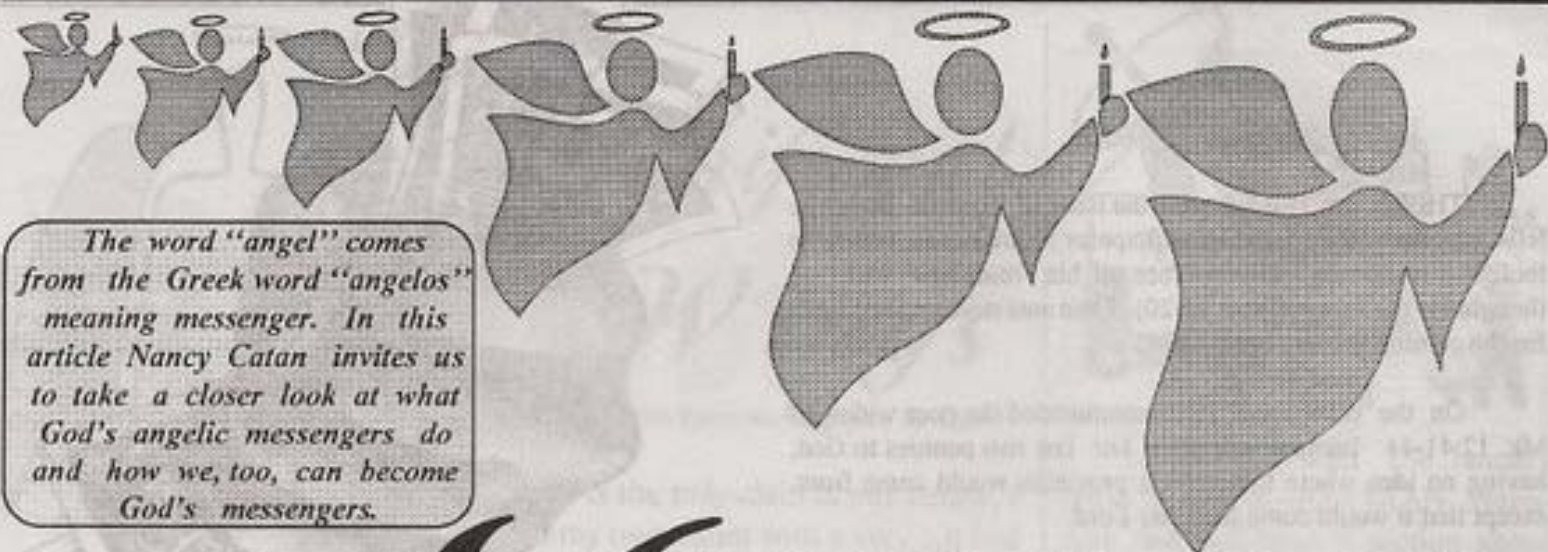
SHOULD WE OR SAVE GIVE?

How do we balance financial responsibility with the scriptural imperative to give sacrificially? This provocative article is food for thought as we prepare our New Year's Resolutions on tithing and giving to the Lord.

The old saying goes, "You can't take it with you." But when Jesus spoke of laying up treasures in heaven he added a corollary. "You can't take it with you, but you can send it on ahead."

Instead of spending our lives backing into eternity and clinging to our earthly treasures, we can turn around, walk forward and lay up our treasures in our eternal home, where we're headed.#

Condensed from an article by Randy Alcorn, Disciple-Journal #65, 1991



The word "angel" comes from the Greek word "angelos" meaning messenger. In this article Nancy Catan invites us to take a closer look at what God's angelic messengers do and how we, too, can become God's messengers.

Messengers

Heavenly and

WITH the beginning of the liturgical year, we savor again the Nativity story and its rich meaning in our lives. We meet again the messengers of God, His angels.

Angels play important roles throughout the nativity narratives of both Matthew and Luke. Angel Gabriel appeared to Mary with the message from God that was destined to not only change her life but also the lives of men thereafter. Angels brought news that the aged Elizabeth would conceive and bear a son.

God's angelic messengers conveyed to Joseph and the wise men messages that changed their lives. Angelic host glorified God with their songs of praise as the birth of the Babe they announced to the shepherds watching their flocks on the hillsides of Bethlehem.

The Old Testament prophets, holy men and women throughout the ages, many saints and indeed, many Christians even in our modern times have experienced the grace of receiving God's

messages through a heavenly messenger. And as in the nativity time, such messages are always life-changing and life-saving.

What Are Angels Supposed To Do?

Old Testament theology includes belief in angels as pure spirits created by God, spiritual beings of heavenly residence, employed by God as the ministers of His will. We read of cherubim at the entrance to the Garden of Eden, of the angels who appeared to Abraham, and of the heavenly ladder of angels in Jacob's vision. The prophets Isaiah, Ezekiel and Daniel were aided by angels as was Tobiah, Tobit's son, in his journey to Media.

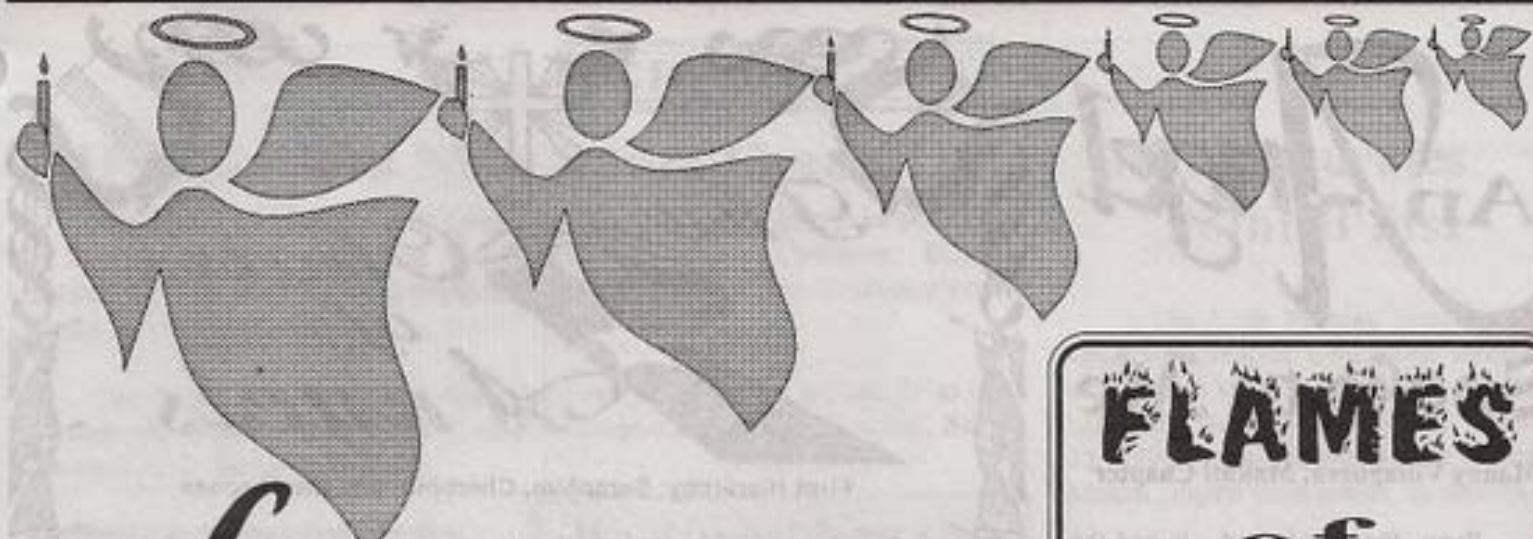
In the New Testament Jesus refers to angels as real and active beings, assisting him in the work of salvation (He 1:14). He tells us that angels see the face of God the Father even while watching over men (Mt 18:10). They share in the joy of God when a sinner returns to Him. It is the angels who will accompany

Jesus during the Second Coming; he will send them forth to gather the faithful and reject the damned (Mt 24:31; 13:41).

Not only do these angelic encounters bring God's word to that person in a very personal and special way, but the angels are given watch over us, to guard us in all our ways and deliver us from harm (Ps 34:8, 91:11). They are a source of comfort and renewed faith. Some writers have even surmised that a profound connection exists between the contemporary crisis of faith and a decline of belief in angels.

We Are United With The Angels In The Liturgy

The book of Revelations describes in detail the angelic hosts' songs of praise and adoration before the throne of God. We echo this perpetual heavenly liturgy in the "Gloria", Preface, and "Sanctus" of the liturgy of the Church. In this way we are united in an intimate chain of praise linking our earthly existence with the angels and saints of the celestial world.



of GOD

Otherwise

Can We See Angels?

We often picture angels as invisible-to-the-naked-eye spiritual beings with light-generating forms, feathery light wings and brilliantly white garments. Small ones sit on our shoulders and whisper in our ears forming our conscience. But angels are not simply ethereal heavenly beings. They often take on more conventional human forms to enable them to better carry out God's heavenly directives in our lives.

I remember one of our BCBP sisters shared that once in the midst of heavy traffic, she and her children prayed for the traffic to clear. Shortly after that they noticed a nice young man directing traffic at the next intersection and then, they saw this same young man again several kilometers away opening up the traffic for them at another intersection. They believe he was God's angel sent in answer to their prayers. That "traffic angel" changed their lives from their being irritated, angry and complaining people to people of praise and joy in their God.

Have You Met An Angel?

We can also be God's angels, not perhaps in the sense of being pure spirits or even holy ones, but we can assist them in their work. Whenever we help those in need, whenever we bring His message to others, whenever we share His Presence in us with another -- we help the angels in their holy mission.

Angels are here to bring us back to God. As renewed Christians our task is witnessing for Jesus in such a way as to bring people back to and closer to God. While angels link us to the heavenly realm, we are God's visible angels here on earth.

This Christmas, and especially during the coming year, let us not just wait for an angelic messenger to appear to us with a life-changing message. Let us joyfully help the angels bring God's life-changing message, His love and caring comfort and His security into the lives of others around us. Let us be angels to others. ✠

Nancy R. Catan

FLAMES

of

EXISTENCE

THE creatures most like God, the angels, show forth best the goodness, the majesty, the glory of God: these are His most perfect images.

The angels are natural beings, they belong in, and, indeed, dominate our world. To pretend they do not exist because we do not see them is like pretending that we never sleep because we have never caught ourselves asleep.

Once created, the angels live forever, depending, as we do, on the steady support of the hand of God but on nothing else. Angels are neither old or young, sick or healthy, men or women, infants or ancients, tall or short, fat or thin; they are the bright flames of life, unflickering, unfading, indestructible, flames that are fed by nothing but God.

From the Summa Theologica
of St. Thomas

An Angel Spoke to Me

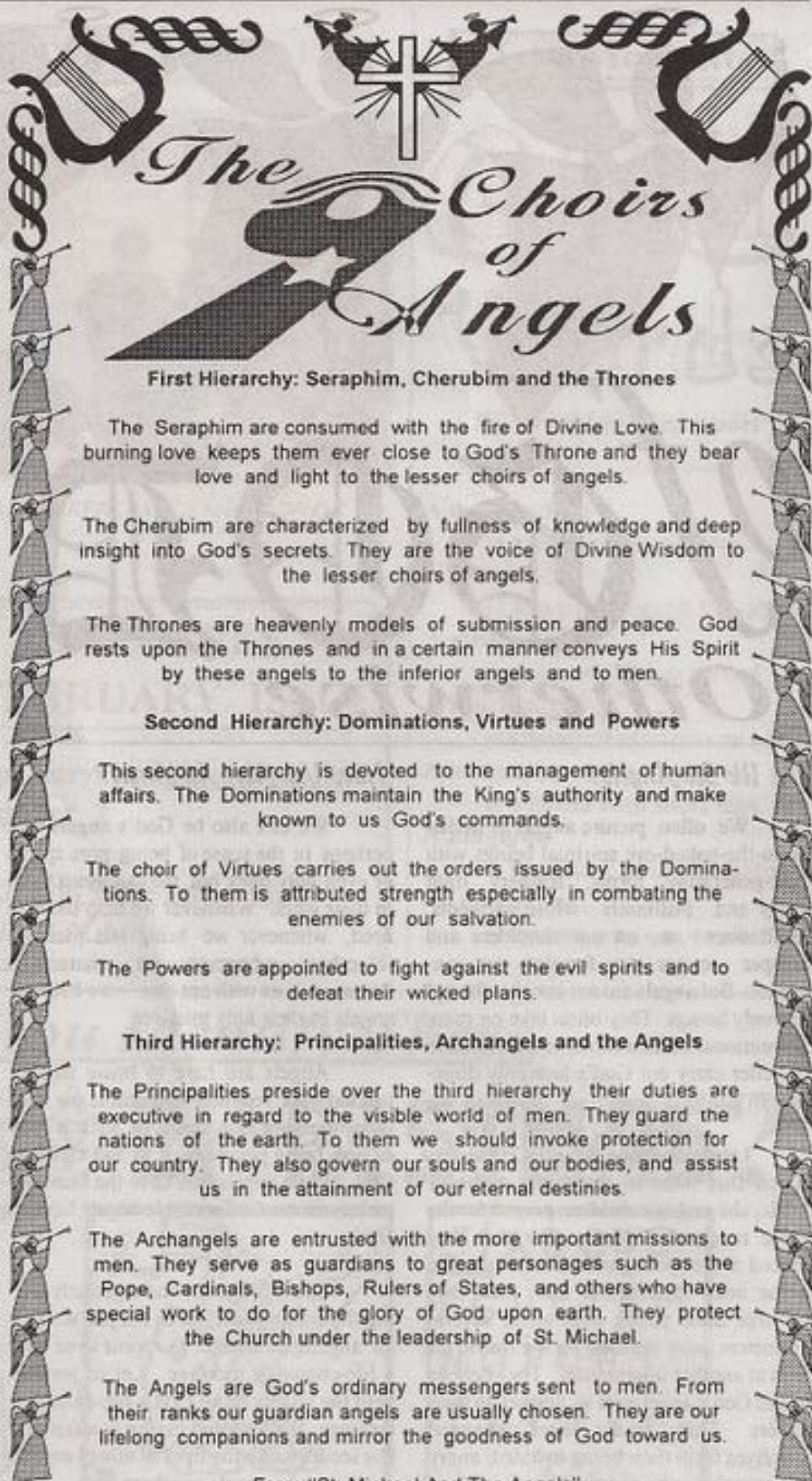
Manny Villanueva, Makati Chapter

Even though I had joined the BCBP through BCLP 12 (Makati), I still had a troubled marriage and family problems -- financially, emotionally and spiritually. I had almost lost my marriage when one night past midnight my daughter, Princess, called me up for a serious father-daughter talk over the phone. We talked for almost an hour that night ...

Suddenly, a strange voice came over the phone. He summarized what my daughter had been telling me (about my faults, etc.) and praised her for such straight talk. Then he advised me to make amends to save our family. And that was all.

For an unbeliever, it was just a crossline ... but to my wife and daughter and to me, too, it was the voice of an angel talking to me in person. Clearly, that angel was carrying out a special mission from God for things began to take a turn for the better after that.

We recommend these two interesting, informative and inspirational books on angels: "St. Michael And The Angels", Compiled from Approved Sources (Tan Books and Publishers, Inc., Illinois, c1983). "My Angel Will Go Before You", Georges Huber (Sinag-Tala Publishers, Inc., Manila, c1983).



The Choirs of Angels

First Hierarchy: Seraphim, Cherubim and the Thrones

The Seraphim are consumed with the fire of Divine Love. This burning love keeps them ever close to God's Throne and they bear love and light to the lesser choirs of angels.

The Cherubim are characterized by fullness of knowledge and deep insight into God's secrets. They are the voice of Divine Wisdom to the lesser choirs of angels.

The Thrones are heavenly models of submission and peace. God rests upon the Thrones and in a certain manner conveys His Spirit by these angels to the inferior angels and to men.

Second Hierarchy: Dominations, Virtues and Powers

This second hierarchy is devoted to the management of human affairs. The Dominations maintain the King's authority and make known to us God's commands.

The choir of Virtues carries out the orders issued by the Dominations. To them is attributed strength especially in combating the enemies of our salvation.

The Powers are appointed to fight against the evil spirits and to defeat their wicked plans.

Third Hierarchy: Principalities, Archangels and the Angels

The Principalities preside over the third hierarchy their duties are executive in regard to the visible world of men. They guard the nations of the earth. To them we should invoke protection for our country. They also govern our souls and our bodies, and assist us in the attainment of our eternal destinies.

The Archangels are entrusted with the more important missions to men. They serve as guardians to great personages such as the Pope, Cardinals, Bishops, Rulers of States, and others who have special work to do for the glory of God upon earth. They protect the Church under the leadership of St. Michael.

The Angels are God's ordinary messengers sent to men. From their ranks our guardian angels are usually chosen. They are our lifelong companions and mirror the goodness of God toward us.

From "St. Michael And The Angels"
(Tan Books and Publishers, Inc., Illinois, c1983)

The New Catholic Catechism And The

NO MORE relevant document to BCBP teachings and culture has come into being since the founding of the Brotherhood than the new Catechism of the Catholic Church. The Christian Life Program modules, culture talks, teachings and practices of the BCBP way of life are all covered by the Catechism.

What interests the BCBP member is how the Church has resolved some special problems that have troubled and divided the world and Christendom. Some of them are:

The Catechism reaffirms the traditional teaching of the primacy of the Pope, despite its acknowledgment of the doctrine Episcopal Collegiality.

The teaching on Purgatory remains part of our faith, while that of the Blessed Virgin Mary, though toned down, remains an integral part of our faith by proclaiming Mary as the Mother of Christ and Mother of the Church.

The confession of sins continues to be a requirement for the forgiveness of sins, though in grave necessity a general absolution without confession is sufficient, provided that within a reasonable period the penitent shall go to confession.

The unity and indissolubility of marriage is upheld. Marriage is still directed to the procreation and education of children. Conjugal fidelity and the fecundity of marriage are stressed in the Catechism. All kinds of artificial contraception are banned at the risk of committing grave sin. Divorce remains morally unjustified. Free union and trial marriage are condemned as grave offenses.

Cults of the body, use of drugs, and other excesses in food, alcohol, tobacco or medicine are abhorred at the risk of grave sin.

BCBP

A HANDBOOK OF OUR FAITH

Right after the publication of the Encyclical "Veritatis Splendor", the Catholic Church released the English edition of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, a systematic presentation of the teachings and practices of the Church for easy understanding of the faithful. It is in four parts.

First, the Profession of Faith summarizes God's mighty work as Father-Creator, as Son-Redeemer, and as Holy Spirit-Sanctifier through a phrase-by-phrase explanation of the Creed.

Second, the Sacraments of Faith explains how God's mighty work is made present in the Liturgy of the Church, especially in the seven sacraments.

Third, the Life of Faith deals with the dignity of man, his responsibility to the human community and his participation in God's salvation through grace and the law. This section contains an enlightening discussion of the Ten Commandments.

Fourth, Christian Prayer expounds on the meaning and importance of prayer in the life of the believer, and concludes with a brief and beautiful exegesis on the Lord's Prayer.

War is denounced if unjust, including accumulation of arms and the sale thereof as affecting the common good of mankind.

Abortion is reaffirmed as an unjust killing of an innocent human being. Suicide and euthanasia have no moral justification.

Under the 7th Commandment, taking of the property of others is not theft if consent can be presumed or if refusal of the owner is contrary to reason and the universal destination of goods. Just contracts must be respected as promises and obligations must be satisfied.

Labor strikes are considered morally legitimate when they cannot be avoided, or at least when it is necessary to obtain a proportionate benefit. Payment of social security contributions and taxes are legitimate.

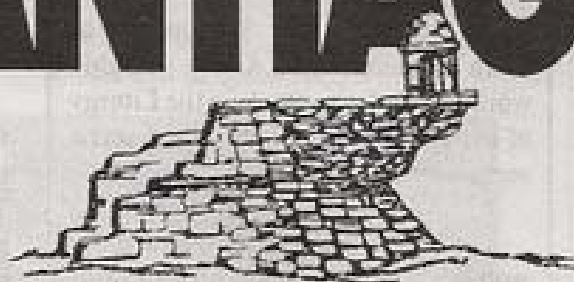
The Catechism emphasizes in all instances that there should be a genuine love and concern toward the poor.

It is the fourth part of the Catechism on "Prayer" that should be required reading of all BCBP members. This section discusses the revelation of prayer, types and traditions of prayer with vocal, meditative and contemplative prayer explained. The section ends with a detailed presentation of the Lord's Prayer as a summary of the whole Gospel.

The Catechism supersedes the Roman Catechism of Pius V that has been in use since the 1565 Council of Trent. Next to the Holy Scriptures, the Catechism should be always at the side of the BCBP member.#

Bong Lodero

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Art and Lally Dela Cruz:

CCP's Loss Is BCBP's Gain

The spirit of activism is part and parcel of Art and Lally's lives. They recount their activist days in the CCP Movement and compare them with their present lives of Christian activism in this interview by Ver Sagun (QC).

HE WAS a candidate for membership in the Communist Party of the Philippines in the early 70s. But in due time, he realized that there are things that cannot be attained with the barrel of a gun.

It all started when his involvement with Student Catholic Action in college was beginning to wane. Even his dream of becoming a priest disappeared.

"I became a rabid political activist in 1970," Art declares. The feelings that he had repressed from his boyhood days in San Marcelino, Zambales, found new meanings in discussion groups and mass actions.

Even the missionary priest who once brought him to Maryhurst Seminary in Baguio became a thing of the past. It was during this time Art became immersed in the company of striking workers in the picket line.

It didn't take long before Art began to question the existence of God as the teachings of Marx, Lenin and Mao Tse Tung gradually got into his system. Worse, he became an agnostic.

It was also through the Movement that Art met the woman who would become his wife. He was giving a teach-in in their headquarters one time when he caught the attention of Lally Sapitula.

A native of a small town in Cagayan, Lally came to Manila after her graduation from high school. She enrolled in one of the schools in the university belt. In her sophomore year, she was caught by the growing militancy on the campus. Later she was in the streets with other activists denouncing the ills of feudalism, capitalism and imperialism.

Art and Lally met in the headquarters of the Movement. His seeming indifference, she admits, mystified her. At a chance meeting in U.P. Diliman during a seminar, Lally learned that Art had just broken up with his girlfriend. She thought it an opportune time to console a comrade so she summoned enough courage and approached him.

Lally relates, "I told him not to brood over his broken relationship since I was there anyway." And the rest, as the cliché goes, is history.

From the Movement's headquarters and safehouses, Art was sent to the countryside to organize the peasants until an incident in his province jolted him and brought him back to the metropolis. While cooling his heels in the city, Art and Lally decided to get married, party style.

"I was then qualified and eligible to be married under the party since I was already a candidate member of the Communist Party of the Philippines," Art avers. They were married sans a

cont. on page 16

CCP'S LOSS ...from p. 15

Bible and crucifix, making their vows to "live together to serve the people above all else" before a .45 caliber revolver and Mao Tse Tung's red book. Instead of wedding rings, the newly-weds were given a bullet.

All these things happened before martial law was declared on September 21, 1972.

1994. Twenty-two years after they left the Movement unscathed, Art and Lally are still in the business of indoctrinating people. But instead of proselytizing and selling the thoughts of Mao, the couple are now evangelizing the marketplace as unit leaders in the Quezon City chapter of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals.

Art, at present, is an executive of the Saldana Group of companies while Lally teaches at La Salle Greenhills.

The two have resolved to serve the Lord and commit themselves to Him,

not only to thank Him for all His blessings, but also for their miraculous separation from the Movement.

One day -- a few weeks before martial law was declared -- Art and Lally had just left their headquarters when it was raided by government troopers. Several of their companions were captured, tortured and detained. Since then until that fateful day of September 21, 1972 came, the two went into hiding. They only resurfaced when the populace had overcome the initial impact of the new dispensation.

Lally now declares, "It was indeed God's miracle that we were both spared from detention. Even during our spiritual death, God protected us and led us to safety all the way."

And yet, despite the realization that the Lord kept them away from danger during their stint in the Movement, it took Art and Lally 14 long years of professional and domestic setbacks -- including an incident in 1978 that nearly took the life of their newly-born child and only son -- to realize God's love for them.

In 1986 Art lost his good-paying job in a commercial bank in Makati. Later he also lost everything that he had invested in, his car and their home appliances. He began borrowing money from friends left and right. Even their children were forced to stop schooling since they couldn't even produce the money for their fare.

Art admits that this experience changed their lives dramatically and drastically. He entertained thoughts of ending his life, he says. Even Lally, who became the breadwinner by force of circumstances, started to feel hopeless.

As they neared the bottom of their despair, a friend invited them to attend a Life in the Spirit Seminar, which they admit, did not create much impact on them as they were too preoccupied with their problems. But this led to the Christian Life Program of the BCBP in 1988 where they learned to involve the Lord in solving their problems. They joined the BCBP under the North Chapter which was later split into the Greenhills and Quezon City chapters.

Art and Lally have resolved to serve the Lord and commit themselves to Him through the Brotherhood. They have also involved their children in Christian formation. Presently their two older children serve as assistants in the children's formation activities of the Ligaya Ng Panginoon (LNP), while their youngest is with the Young Adults of the LNP.

It is God's love that has truly transformed them, according to Art. Trials and oppressions continue to test their faith in the Lord, but they are stronger and better equipped now to ward off the forces of evil.

Art says that he and Lally are still activists. But with a big difference! This time they are activists for Christ.

No doubt about it -- CCP's loss is definitely BCBP's gain!#

Ver C. Sagun

Family Togetherness

THE BEST family celebrations are the ones you can count on every year, whether they be during your town fiesta, at the cemetery on All Saints Day, or during the Christmas holidays. Here are some family activities that can promote togetherness during these memorable occasions.

My Favorite Album. Have each family member write a note describing their favorite memory of this special day. Put them and any pictures you may have in a scrap book and pass it around on that day in a warm sharing of memories.

Thank You Diary. Have members of the family each keep a running journal of all the nice things the other members of

the family do for them during the year. Include photographs, too. Start a new one every year. Great for letting each family member feel important and appreciated, these journals can be shared during birthdays, too, for a special personal tribute to the birthday person.

Get It On Tape. Have one member of the family interview the other members. Decide on the interview question beforehand, for instance, why is today's celebration going to be memorable for you? Tape all the interviews. Next year play them back and enjoy hearing how you all sounded last year! Each year's tapes then become a valuable part of your family's memory library.

Clockwise: What are the husbands doing in the Las Piñas Ladies Breakfast? Left to right, Ludy Pardo, Norma Boquiren, Doc Boquiren, and Lito Pardo; It's "joke time" at Manila Breakfast; Listening to the Lord's message at Dagupan Joint Luncheon.



Men and Women of Jesus Christ; They've Come To Serve the Lord!



MEN'S BREAKFASTS (7:30 a.m.)

Wednesdays

MAKATI: Makati Sports Club, Makati, Metro Manila

Thursdays

GREENHILLS: Club Filipino, Greenhills

Fridays

MANILA: Chateau 1771, Adriatico St., Malate, Mla.

Saturdays

- ALABANG: Ayala Alabang Country Club
- BACOLOD: Roli's Food Service, Bacolod City
- BAGUIO: Palace Hotel, Legarda Road, Baguio
- CAGAYAN DE ORO: Paolo's Ristorante, Cagayan de Oro City
- CAINTA: Brian's, Marcos Hiway beside Jacob's Supermart
- CEBU: Diplomat Hotel, F. Ramos St., Cebu City
- DAVAO: Sunburst Restaurant (1st/3rd Sats.)
- DUMAGUETE: OK Pensione House (1st/3rd Sats.)
- ILIGAN: Pinausukan (2nd, 4th Sats.)
- ILOILO: Amigo Terraces Hotel
- LAS PIÑAS: Italia Club 500, BF Resort, Las Pinas
- LAPULAPU: Cesar's Mansion, Lapulapu Cebu, (2nd/4th Sats.)
- **LEGASPI: Vista Al Mayon (2nd Sat.)
- MAASIN: Tomas Oppus Elem. Sch., Leyte (1st Sat.)
- **NAGA: Grand Imperial Hotel (2nd/4th Sats.)
- PARAÑAQUE: Elorde's Sports Center, Sucat, Parañaque
- PUERTO PRINCESSA: Kamayan Restaurant
- QUEZON CITY: Terrace Grill, 119 Roces Ave. near cor. Morato
- TACLOBAN: Don's Cabin (2nd/4th Sats.)
- TAGBILARAN: Mel's Kainan (2nd/4th Sats.)

** Newly Opened

MEN'S LUNCHEON (12:00 noon)

Saturdays

DAGUPAN: Pinkee's Restaurant

MEN'S MERIENDA (4:00 p.m.)

Saturdays

TUGUEGARAO: Marilyn's Restaurant (2nd, 4th Sats.)

LADIES' BREAKFASTS (7:30 a.m.)

Wednesdays

MAKATI: Makati Sports Club (2nd Wed.)

Saturdays

- ALABANG: Ayala Alabang Country Club (2nd Sat.)
- BACOLOD: Cafe Negrense (2nd Sat.)
- CAGAYAN DE ORO: Paolo's Ristorante (2nd/3rd Sats.)
- CEBU: Fernando's Sunburst (3rd Sat.)
- ILOILO: Amigo Terraces Hotel (last Sat.)
- LAS PIÑAS: Italia Club 500 (3rd Sat.)
- QUEZON CITY: Terrace Grill (2nd Sat.)

LADIES' LUNCHEON (12:00 noon)

Mondays

GREENHILLS: Makati Skyline, Greenhills (3rd Mon.)

JOINT BREAKFASTS (7:30 a.m.)

Wednesdays

MAKATI: Makati Sports Club, (1st Weds.)

Thursdays

GREENHILLS: Club Filipino (1st Thurs.)

Saturdays

- ALABANG: Ayala Alabang Country Club (4th Sat.)
- CAGAYAN DE ORO: Silver Court (3rd Sat.)
- CAINTA: Brian's Restaurant, Marcos Hiway (3rd Sat.)
- DAGUPAN: Pinkee's Restaurant (3rd Sat.)
- LAS PINAS: Italia Club 500 (1st Sat.)
- LEGASPI: Vista Al Mayon (4th Sat.)

JOINT MERIENDA

Saturdays

CAVITE/LA NAVAL: Philippine Fleet Multipurpose Hall, Sangley Point, Cavite

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TUGUEGARAO

2-Day Celebration For Outreach's 1st Year

On August 27 and 28 the Tuguegarao outreach observed their first anniversary as a BCBP outreach. A Eucharistic celebration opened the affair at 5 p.m. on Friday followed by a merienda meeting and program of recognition and awards. On Saturday, outreach members, guests and delegation from BCBP Las Pinas, their mother chapter, trekked to Piat for early morning mass. Fellowship and a fraternal lunch capped the 2-day celebration.

Outreach head Diddi Perez recounts his rendezvous with God through the Brotherhood and the history of the Tuguegarao outreach in their Souvenir Program. "As I now live a new life-style after my BCLP, I cannot help but ponder on the pre-BCBP events in my life -- the arrival of that client who came so propitiously on that afternoon of 9 July 1993 that nipped in the bud my intention to hide from Bros. Rem Gopez, Mael Kalata and Johnny Avila; my attending the meeting on 10 July 1993 at the Pension Lorita despite my earlier decision not to; my attending the breakfast meeting at Italia 500 despite the distance and heavy rains. Instead of being turned off by the monologue of Bro. Johnny Avila in that early Saturday morning on our way to attend the breakfast, I was evangelized." "Through these events", Diddi continues, "I was, indeed, called to a rendezvous with God through the BCBP." #

Tuguegarao BCLP 3 Begins

Right after the joint breakfast meeting of Saturday, October 8, the Parañaque chapter's governance team conducted an Empowerment Exercise for the BCLP team that was tasked with handling BCLP 3 of the Tuguegarao outreach. Spearheaded by mission director Ferdie Baena, the BCLP is being conducted during the 7-week period from October 16 to November 27, 1994.#

DAGUPAN



Dagupan BCLP team meets to evaluate first session on July 16.

BCLP Takes Place

The Brotherhood Christian Life Program (BCLP) #8 took off on Saturday, September 17 at 3:00 p.m. at the Dominican School, Tapuac, Dagupan City. Course leader Teddy Fernandez said that commitment of the new members was scheduled during the weekend of October 16.

The five-weekend course saw the various BCLP and Culture talks being handled by the Alabang chapter team headed by Bro. Teks Espiritu. Two talks were given on Saturday afternoons and two talks were presented during the Sunday morning session.

The BCLP opened immediately after the chapter's joint luncheon during which Jun and Nancy Catan (BCBP Makati) inspired the group with their sharing of how the Lord has built up their faith through years of answered prayers.#

More Changes

Soon after the Dagupan chapter's reorganization of their governance team, chapter head Teddy Siapno put into action his plan to involve as many members as possible in service. "This will not only put more energy into the chapter activities but it will also serve to strengthen their faith," Teddy says.

Team heads are: Botong Aguinaldo, administrator; Lulu Santos, secretariat head; Chito Non, Jr., Afterlight (chapter newsletter); Tony/Venie Miranda, KAPATIRAN; Rudy Fernandez, men's luncheon coordinator; Nenet Rosal, women's luncheon coordinator; Rudy Fernandez, BCBP/Culture talks; Lito/Mila Ang, music ministry leaders; Russel/Elsa Braganza, teaching/prayer assembly; Irene/Eping Siapno, intercessory prayers; William/Flora Cua, liturgy; Jo-ann Siapno, social action; Jess/Freda de Guzman, fellowship and family day; Rudy Fernandez, outreaches.#

BAGUIO

Outreach Observes 1st Anniversary

Baguio outreach celebrated its first anniversary on October 8 at the Baguio Palace Hotel. On that same day, it started BCLP 2 with Art dela Cruz of Quezon

City chapter as course director. Assisting Art in the on-going program are Ric and Edith Galing with Felix and Lyn Obusan as couple servants.#

BCBP: An Evangelistic Community

In response to inquiries, the BCBP's National Council in its September meeting clarified that the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals is an evangelistic community, governed by its National Council, and as such, is a registered member of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal under the Archdiocese of Manila.

Clarifications

Interaction. The National Council would like to be advised for coordination purposes of any meetings or activities that take place between BCBP chapters. This also holds true for activities involving a BCBP chapter and any other transparochial community.

Chapter Life Heads in Outreaches. The mission director of the mother chapter is responsible for "outreach life" until such time that the outreach matures. #

Nat'l Planning On Nov. 11-13

The National Planning Conference of the Brotherhood will be held on November 11, 12 and 13 in Cagayan de Oro City. All ten chapters, north and south, plus the three chapters-in-training -- Iloilo, Puerto Princesa and Tagbilaran -- are expected to send participants to this important annual planning activity.

Invited to attend the planning weekend are all members of the National Council, all chapter heads, outreach heads of chapters-in-training, all mission directors, chapter life directors and chapter treasurers.

Immediately prior to this conference the VisMin Council meeting will be held in Iligan. #

On July 8, 1994, while their husbands were workshoping, the wives of the chapter and mission heads went window shopping. KAPATIRAN editor Nancy Catan joined the lively group for lunch at the DAP cafeteria.



Flee sloth, for the indolence of the soul is the decay of the body. -Cato the Elder

Mission is Part of BCBP Commitment

Every member of the BCBP must be prepared to fulfill a mission service as part of their basic commitment in the organization. This was one of the recommendations forwarded to the National Council by the Mission Directors Workshop held on July 8 at the Development Academy of the Philippines.

The mission directors emphasized that evangelization is the primary directive of the BCBP and as such should receive as much attention as chapter life. They felt that this missionary culture must be inculcated to all the members from the moment of their first breakfast attendance throughout their life in the Brotherhood.

Recommendations included preparation of an evangelization teaching track, an annual mission plan to be formulated by the National Council, the restoration of the breakfast as original entry point to the BCBP and requirement for the BCLP, and the preparation of a manual for breakfast and business evangelization programs.

The workshop participants proposed that as one means of strengthening a chapter's mission activities, the mission director be given the full management and accountability of the 50% chapter budget for evangelization.

Other suggestions were: An evangelization talk should be included in the BCLP. All new members, as their first mission service, must share in the breakfast, bring in breakfast first timers, and enlist as a trainee in regular mission activities. #

Las Piñas Tackles 2nd Grand Breakfast

The National Council has designated the Las Piñas chapter as the lead chapter for the 2nd Grand Breakfast to be held either late this year or early next year. This breakfast will be open to captains of business and industry and their spouses.

The breakfast heads committee headed by Boy Javier (Parañaque) has been tasked with the initial planning of the affair. #



First grand breakfast held July 13 at Hotel Intercontinental Manila with President Fidel Ramos as sharer.

VisMin Reports In

Representatives from all chapters and outreaches in the Visayas and Mindanao except Maasin gathered in Tagbilaran last August 20 for the VISMIN second quarter reports. Manny Banigan, Rollie Ona, Louie Morales and Bobby Lavina of the National Council attended the meeting.

Tagbilaran. Tagbilaran outreach was formally designated as a chapter-in-training. Its target for chapterhood is 1995. Presently the outreach has five units with a total of 256 members, almost equal the membership of its mother chapter Cebu. Another 40 couples are expected to join the outreach on November 20 as graduates of BCLP 4. Jojo Maniwan is BCLP 4 course leader.

Bacolod. The chapter's BCLP 9 is ongoing with commitment night scheduled for December 3. Course leader is Jess Ramos. As of June 30, Bacolod reported a total membership of 364 divided into 6 units and 32 action groups.

Iloilo. Membership in this outreach is 63 women and 65 men; however year end totals are expected to increase as a result of the current BCLP 6 under course leader Jimmy Escalon.

Cebu. As the mother chapter of most of the Visayas and Mindanao chapters

and outreaches, Cebu reported a strong, committed membership of 276 consisting of 4 units and 20 action groups. BCLP 11 is ongoing with course leader Ed Banaag; this will add another 35 couples by December 8. Cebu has also hosted three BCMRs for itself and its outreaches in Mactan and Maasin.

Mactan. One of the newest outreaches, Mactan has 39 members and is presently in the midst of its second BCLP headed by Casey Nadela. Commitment ceremonies will be November 19.

Maasin. Cebu reported 105 members in the Maasin outreach. A news report from A.B. Espina of Maasin adds that the outreach's BCLP 5 began on Oct. 2 and is expected to end by mid-December.

Tacloban. BCLP 2 under course leader Toti Solis is being held from October 1 to December 10 for about 25 couples. These graduates will bring the Tacloban outreach's membership to 63.

1995 Anniversary Planned

The 15th Anniversary of the BCBP will be celebrated at an earlier date next year, 1995, probably sometime in May. This change of date from the rainy season to the dry season was made to avoid the problems arising from storms occurring during the annual affair.

The National Council also declared that the anniversary format will be the format of "convention evangelical". Venues being considered at this time are either Cebu or Metro Manila.

Cagayan de Oro. Second in size to Bacolod, Cagayan de Oro has 321 members. It is now conducting BCLP 7 with Tito Mora as course leader.

Iligan. This outreach reported having 113 members with their BCLP 3 ongoing. Buddy Gerona, course leader, foresees a graduating class of 35 couples.

Davao. From a membership of 57, the outreach is expanding with about 20 couples presently taking its BCLP 3 under course leader Orly Ramos. #



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MAKATI

Makati Goes To Legaspi

Makati chapter launched the first Brotherhood Christian Life Program (BCLP) in its newest outreach, Legaspi City in Albay. For practical purposes the BCLP was conducted every other weekend, starting on 10-11 September. Each weekend was designed to include a men's breakfast or joint breakfast, to be followed by one module of the BCLP.

The first module was led by Ronnie Caballero and Babes Javellana; the second module was handled by the unit of Jun and Beth Ginete. Chapter head Jess Manalo and his wife, Jane, led the October 8-9 delegation for the baptism of the Holy Spirit, while the unit of Rico and Elsa Santos took charge of the last module during the weekend of October 22-23, 1994.#

New Ministry Formed, Units Realigned

Johnny and Marite Calixto have been appointed head of the Makati chapter's newly created Intercessory Prayer Ministry. Their team of prayer warriors is charged with storming heaven with prayers for the protection and success of chapter members and activities, foremost of which are the conduct of BCLPs and the handling of outreaches. They will also pray for members' particular prayer requests.

As the Calixtos shall no longer be unit leaders, the action groups under them have been assigned to other units. Makati's current unit leaders are Jun and Beth Ginete, Andy and Odette Nanagas and Rico and Elsa Santos. The chapter life director, Art Olarte, shall be assisted by Cheng Legaspi.#

Chapter Retreat

The SVD Retreat House in Tagaytay was the site of the Makati chapter's retreat on the weekend of 1-2 October. Fr. Chito Dimaranan, Makati chapter's chaplain, was the retreat master.#



A first-timer introduces himself during a Legaspi breakfast as Mission Director Ronnie Caballero listens.

Legaspi breakfast goers have a moment of reflection on the gospel reading for the day.



The present time demands Catholics without fear to whom it is a thing supremely natural to confess their faith openly in word and in deed every time the Law of God and regard for Christian honor demand it. Real men, whole men, strong and fearless. Not men who are men by halves... Pope Pius XII

Dutch Boy Welcomes BCBP

August 31, 1994, saw the beginning of Alabang chapter's evangelization activities at Dutch Boy Paints in Pasong Tamo, Makati, with Alabang member Loy Mendoza as course leader and Buddy Dimacali and Ernie Cardema as coordinators. The group's baptism was on October 7 with commitment day by the end of that month. Orly Neri heads the chapter's corporate evangelization team.

ALABANG

The Naga outreach head is Elmer Boboy Aquino. Contact persons are Lito Garcia and Greg Viduya.

Calamba. Through the efforts of Alabang coordinator for the Calamba outreach, Jojo Gana, the Vicar of the Archdiocese of Laguna, Msgr. Poblete, recently approved the Brotherhood's mission activities for Calamba. The Alabang mission team is now planning the first Calamba breakfast to take place early in January 1995.#

2 BCMRs For 1994

The Alabang chapter offers two opportunities for the chapter's couples to experience the Brotherhood Christian Marriage Retreat in 1994. 20 couples attended the first BCMR of the year last July 15-17 at Dos Bosco in Tagaytay. Course coordinator was Bobby Atendido.

BCLP 21, 22 and 23 couples are expected to take the 2nd BCMR of the year on November 11-13. This weekend retreat will be held at the Blessed Joseph Marellito Retreat House in Tagaytay. Manny Jimenez is the course coordinator.#

BCBP B'fasts For Naga And Calamba

The Alabang chapter under their new chapter head Charlie Carballo has targeted two new areas for their chapter's outreach activities -- Naga City in the province of Camarines Sur, and Calamba in Laguna province.

Naga. Naga's inaugural breakfast was held on Sept. 24 at the Grand Imperial Plaza with 13 members from Alabang and 33 breakfast first timers attending. Approval for the BCBP's entrance into Naga was given by Archbishop Legaspi through arrangements made by chapter head Charlie Carballo.

GOD'S Healing Power

Juliet A. Talasie

Friday, September 1, was no ordinary First Friday Assembly for us BCBP members of the Alabang chapter. The priest who was supposed to preside over the evening's ceremony, couldn't make it, so chapter head Charlie Carballo held an impromptu healing session. His wife Josie assisted him.

The evening started with gospel singing, and a concert of praising and thanksgiving. Several sharers acknowledged God's tremendous blessings and divine healings in their lives.

cont. on p. 25

Gee, Golly, God Over Exag

This was the musical title song of the Alabang ladies breakfast anniversary, held last August 27, 1994, at the Alabang Country Club. Motif was "South Pacific".

Breakfast head Reggie Jimenez congratulated those involved in the colorful and lively presentations. She thanked Carmeling Liwanag, program coordinator, Ed Adriano for story and script, Sonny Liwanag for direction and choreography, Reggie Lim for the musical score, Bobby Dela Paz for sounds and lights, and Lita Limcangco for choreographing the two dance numbers.#

BRO'



QUEZON CITY



Quezon City chapter BCMR participants with course leader Rey Tansioco (standing extreme right).

GOD'S HEALING... from p.24

The healing session began and there was a strong presence of the Holy Spirit as the entire room was suddenly filled with an outpouring of grace. Three of our sisters were slain in the Spirit, another sister had instant relief from extreme pain in her shoulders.

I was praying for physical healing of my very ill mother when a feeling of serenity, peace and warmth enveloped my whole being. I had been wanting to experience being slain in the Spirit but I guess this sensation I felt was the healing that God wanted me to have. Truly, Jesus, the Great Healer, really showed His overwhelming love to me and to all of us that First Friday. #

22 Couples Renew Vows

Twenty couples from the Quezon City BCBP renewed their marriage vows on September 11 at the chapel of the Maryhill Retreat Center in Taytay, Rizal after completing their three-day Brotherhood Christian Marriage Retreat.

The retreat coordinators were Rey and Raquel Tansioco. They were assisted by Pete/Del Ignacio and Jojo/Weng Odina. #

Fr. Tony Ranada, QC Chaplain

Fr. Tony Ranada, SVD, has been designated as chaplain of the BCBP Quezon City chapter.

Tony, as his friends call him, is a BCBP member. He completed his BCLP in 1988 under the BCBP North chapter which was later split into the Greenhills and QC chapters. #

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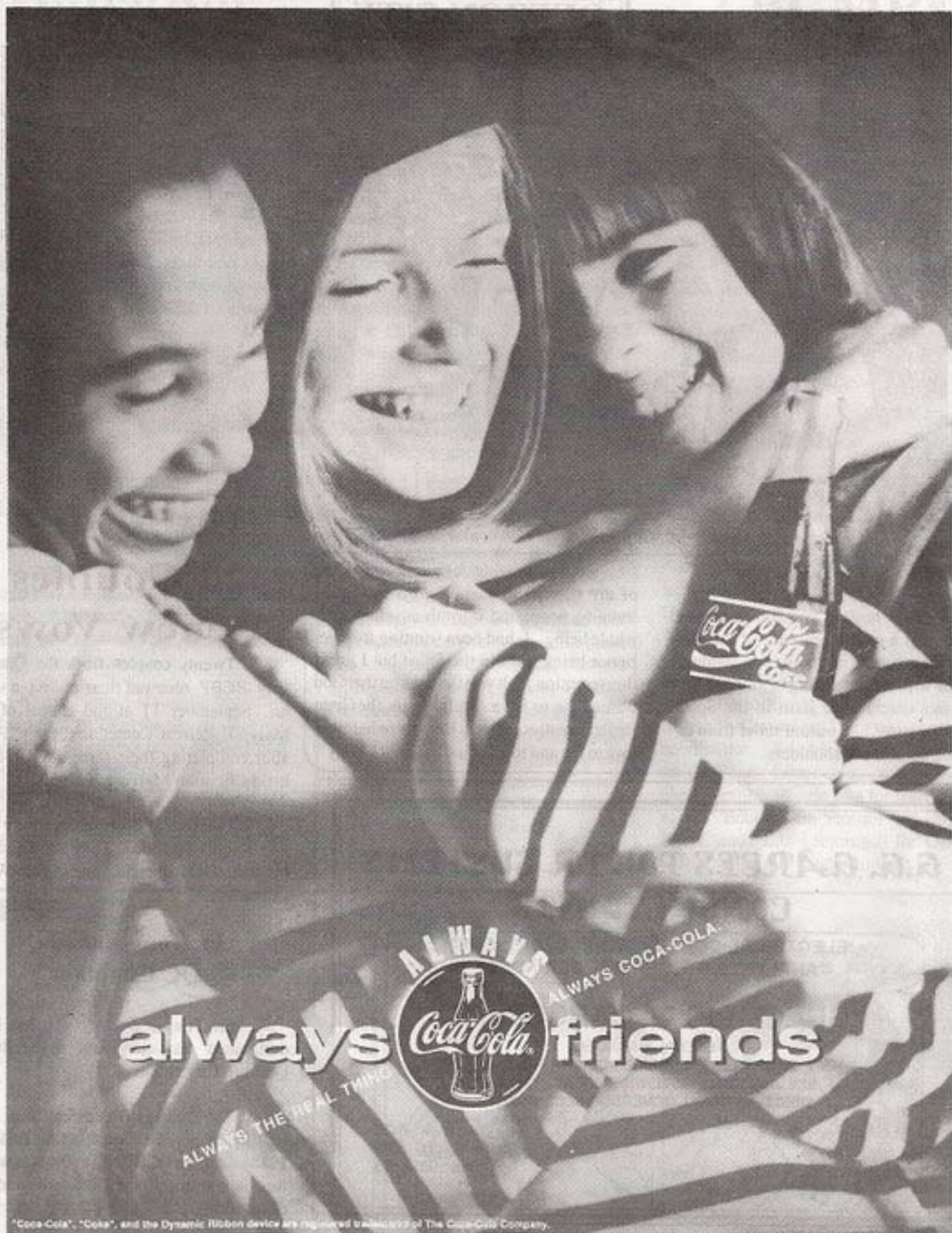
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Business Interview

Putting faith into action is what Orly Neri does best. In this interview by Sammy Ulanday, Orly shares with us his business philosophy and how it enables him to bring Christ to his marketplace.

"ONE cannot be a successful businessman without Christ," emphatically states Orly Neri, VP and Sr. Executive Assistant to the President of Coca-Cola. And he backs up this piece of personal business philosophy with his management style and his way of letting himself and his lifestyle be an example of an evangelized Christian.

Orly, currently mission director of the Alabang chapter, admits that the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals has given him the opportunity to put his faith into real action, something he did not experience in his previous affiliations with other religious groups. "I have found fulfillment in being able to share my Christianity with others through my service in the BCBP," he says.

Two years after completing BCLP 13 in 1987, Orly became an action group leader. The following year he headed the breakfast team and in 1992 he assumed the position of mission director of the Alabang chapter. His main thrust as mission director was--and still is--business evangelization. Proof of his efforts is clearly evidenced in the Christian Life Programs concluded in four Coca-Cola plants.

Orly observes that the BCBP's organizational structure is geared more towards chapter life and he strongly advocates that business evangelization should be formally put into the structure as co-equal with chapter life. "Members should give priority to reaching out to others in line with the commissioning mission of the Brotherhood," he avers. And in consonance with this, he feels that each member must have a dynamic conviction to become an evangelizer.

Orly is literally living up to his words. Despite his busy schedules and tremendous responsibilities inherent to the top executive echelon of corporate life, he makes certain that Christ is introduced into his own workplace. Four BCLPs have already been concluded with a total of 69 Coca Cola executives and 15 of their spouses making a personal commitment to Christ. He vows to continue his efforts until all the rest of the 20 plants of Coca Cola will have been reached and evangelized.

cont. on p. 28



HIS EVANGELISTIC
HEART PUTS

HIS
INTO FAITH
ACTION

HIS EVANGELISTIC HEART...*from p. 27*

Asked about his strategy for accomplishing this, Orly says that many companies today have some kind of value formation seminars built into their Human Resources Development (HRD) programs. With the proper explanation of what the Christian Life Program is all about, most executives do not find it difficult to integrate the BCLP into their value formation setup.

He explains that once the BCLP proper is completed, the renewed executives hold general assemblies twice a month and smaller action group meetings also twice monthly. The result? Improved relationships, higher morale and stronger Christian values.

It seems that this strategy is effective, too, not only in Coca-Cola where he works, but also at Dutch Boy Paints where the chapter is presently conducting a business evangelization course. Plans are on stream for a similar program to be held at Johnson and Johnson's in the near future. And his mission team is getting invitations from government institutions, particularly the NEDA and GSIS.

With an educational foundation that spans from Ateneo de Cagayan to MLQU/Lyceum to various financial and management specialization programs in the United States and Hongkong to the Philippines' own Asian Institute of Management, Orly's executive prowess has been honed to a fine edge with over thirty years of experience in San Miguel Corporation. And he has found that, aside from some initial minor misunderstandings about what he was trying to do -- which conflicts were later overcome -- his evangelistic zeal has had a positive effect on his job.

A native Cebuano, Orly is married to Azucena and the couple are blessed with five children. When queried about whether he has experienced conflicts between his job, his BCBP activities and his family, he admits that there

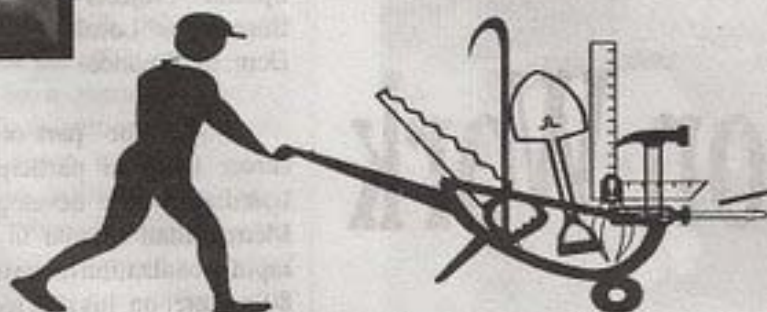
"An evangelistic heart is one that will decisively put Christ first and allocate time for Him, and everything else will fall into proper place."

have been some snags in the matter of getting his priorities right. "But one has to make a decision. An evangelistic heart is one that will decisively put Christ first and allocate time for Him and everything else will fall into proper place," he firmly believes.

He clarifies that finding time for Christ is not only setting aside time for prayers and scripture reading, but also means doing something for Christ through men, by putting into action one's faith. James 2:14-26 guides him in this.

"It is only when I continually do good things for others -- in my case, bringing Christ into my marketplace -- that I can truly say I am faithful to Christ," Orly concludes. #

Sammy M. Ulanday

In The MarketplaceE. A. Mendoza
Greenhills Chapter**REENGINEERING**

THE flavor of the month for management consultants and practitioners is this new thing called "reengineering". Basically, this involves a major change in the process of doing a business, and it promises substantial strategic advantages to a firm that is able to successfully undergo this process.

Reengineering involves a major revolution in the way one conducts one's entire business: from marketing to finance to manufacturing to purchasing. Almost everyone in a firm is affected by a reengineering effort, and it therefore requires the cooperation of the whole organization, up to and including suppliers, creditors and even customers.

Because of the nature of the change involved, reengineering requires a strong top management that is committed to its vision, and yet must be willing to make the necessary initial sacrifices for the sake of the change that is required. Practitioners of reengineering say that this seems to work best for companies that are in such deep distress that they are

almost willing to try anything. On the other hand, relatively stable firms may find such drastic changes unnecessary. Oftentimes it may take a crisis to feel the need for change.

Reengineering is not a new concept. You know, Jesus was already talking about reengineering during His time. He said things like, "I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."

Each of us, He says, has to go through a process of spiritual reengineering, a total change in the way we view life, in the way we prioritize our time and effort, in the way we relate to others and to God, in order to belong to the kingdom of God.

Jesus said, "How hard it is for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven." Many non-believers would say, "who needs heaven when you're already in it?" Sounds familiar from the business reengineering point of view doesn't it?

How many of us find ourselves face to face with Jesus at a point of crisis

in our lives? How often does the Lord use the many crises in our lives to refocus our attention on Him, to re-affirm our need for Him?

"Lord, save me!" cried Peter when he was drowning in the stormy lake after losing sight of Jesus for a split second while walking on water. "Lord, save us, we are going to drown!" cried the apostles as their boat was being tossed in a storm while Jesus was asleep on a pillow. But the rich, young man who wanted to follow Jesus sadly didn't realize his need for Jesus at all, since he preferred his accumulated wealth.

"Blessed are the poor for theirs is the kingdom of God," said Jesus. Blessed are you who realize the need to change. Blessed are you who realize that you are unable to do anything on your own, that nothing that you possess, no success, no wealth, can save you except Jesus himself.

And we all need to be saved, each person, each day, crisis or no crisis. **We all need Jesus.#**

Mission Director Interview

Government Service & BCBP Mission Work Go Hand In Hand

What makes a BCBP Mission Director tick? A strong professional career, in Lito Pardo's instance in government service. Enthusiastic dedication to the Lord. Commitment to the mission and vision of the BCBP. Lito's favorite bible passage - Psalm 23 - sums up his walk with the Lord.



Lito, Ludy and Rashel Pardo.

WHAT does government service and BCBP mission work have in common? This is the question that comes to mind upon learning that Lito Pardo, the recently appointed mission director of the BCBP Las Piñas chapter, has been in government service with the Department of Finance for 18 years. He currently is Director of Special Projects Management Service, Bureau of Local Government Finance, Dept. of Finance.

A major part of his government career involved participating in operationalizing the development vision for Metropolitan Manila in the midst of its rapid urbanization in the mid 70's and early 80's. Later on, his task led him to advocating decentralization as a strategy towards a meaningful participative democracy.

Lito feels that his experience in advocacy, in conceptualizing ideas, strategies and innovations for responsible development stand him in good stead as mission director. "I guess this is basically what mission work is - to organize and to go out and try new approaches to transform traditional corporate values into Gospel values," he says.

Since Lito and his wife Ludy attended their first BCBP breakfast in June 1990, completing the Brotherhood's Christian Life Program soon after that, they have been in active service in the BCBP. From carrying voluminous song books and taking charge of physical arrangements for CLP meetings, to serving as discussion group leader and subsequently action group leader, Lito has become more and more involved in the chapter's mission activities.

As coordinator for the Las Piñas' Brotherhood Evangelization Service Team (BEST) he organized and led the team in bringing Jesus and the Gospel values to his government office, one school and a bank in Intramuros.

Ludy, Lito's wife and a professional in her own right, is very supportive of her husband's activities. Since the Las Piñas' ladies started their own breakfast in

Great souls have will; feeble ones have only wishes.

April 1991 until May 1994 she manned the registration table where she was able to use her experience in organizing international conferences at the Asian Development Bank. Currently Ludy heads the chapter's ladies' breakfast. Lito and Ludy are blessed with a 15-year old daughter, Rashel.

Lito believes that the Men's Breakfasts are very strategic to achieving the mission plans for Las Piñas. "As the entry point to the Brotherhood, we need to look into using some innovative marketing strategies to attract first timers and to sustain interest and commitment of members." Lito would like to see an improved system of screening of sharers and discerners, a BCBP-wide roster of sharers set up, and the printing of flyers and breakfast invitations in addition to having a more streamlined breakfast procedure.

"At the same time a more aggressive and innovative Business Evangelization Program (BEP) should be planned and undertaken to evangelize the corporate world. We should

also find out how we can take advantage of corporate institutional resources to help us in our mission," he continues. "I must admit though that a lot of marketing savvy is needed to launch a successful BEP. And this is where we

need the support of our BCBP businessmen members."

Lito feels that joining the Brotherhood has been the most significant event in his life. "It is through the renewal that Ludy and I learned to enthrone God at the center of our lives. We experience a love, peace and harmony that we did not have before. My parents molded, guided and motivated me to be a good Christian in my adolescence; the Brotherhood has helped me become stronger in my faith and more mature in spiritual matters."

Because of this, Lito is fired with the desire and an irrepressible sincere enthusiasm to bring the Gospel values and the BCBP renewal experience to as many men and women in the businesses and professions as possible.

Now as the Las Piñas' Mission Director, he looks forward to making this happen. #

Bong Lodero and Nancy Catan

"More innovative marketing strategies are needed to attract first-timers."

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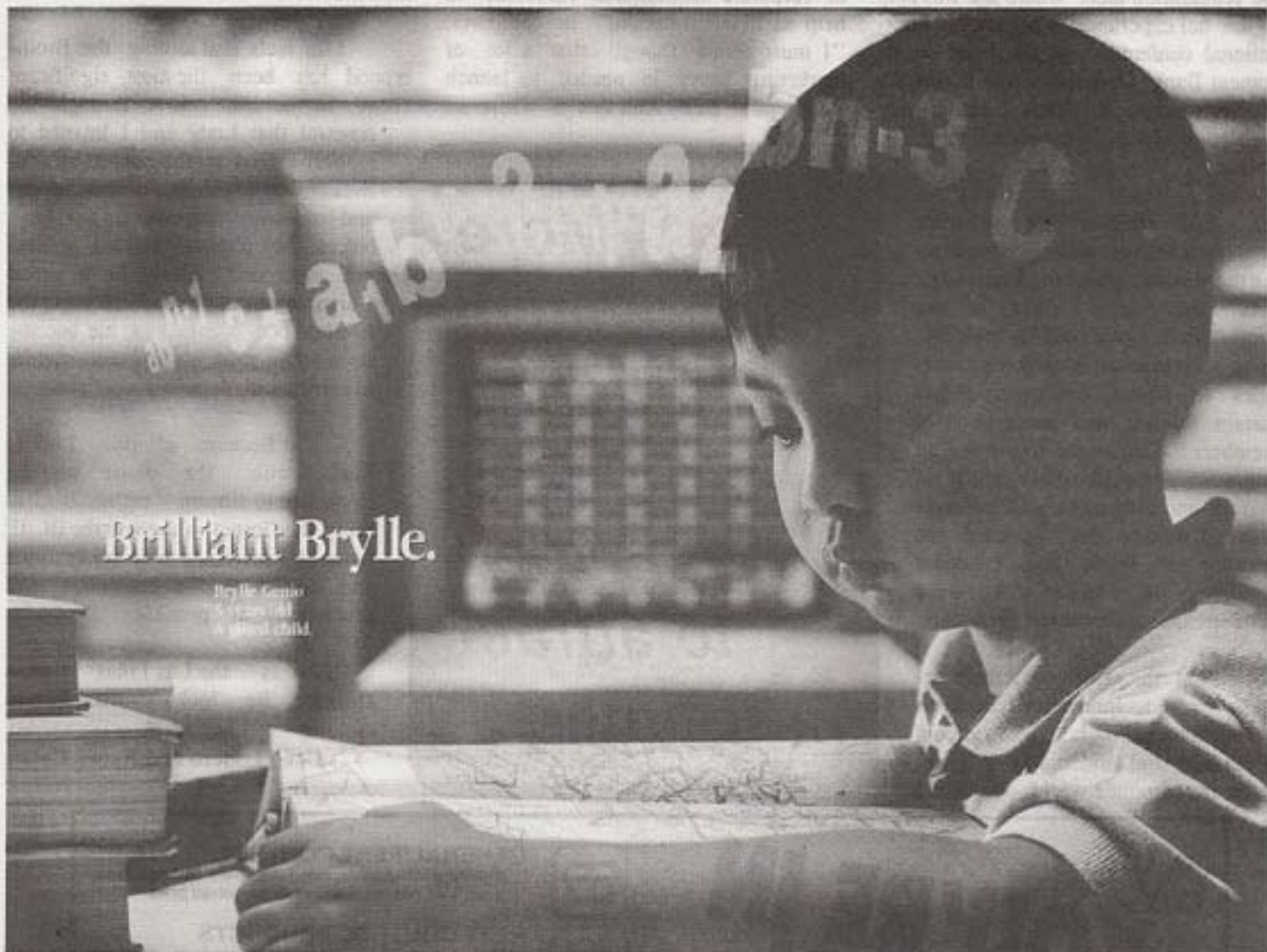
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**THE PHILIPPINE FOUNDATION OF THE BROTHERHOOD
OF CHRISTIAN BUSINESSMEN AND PROFESSIONALS, INC.
(A Nonstock, Nonprofit Organization)**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 1993 AND 1992**

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

The Board of Trustees
The Philippine Foundation of the Brotherhood
of Christian Businessmen and Professionals, Inc.

We have examined the statements of assets, liabilities and fund balance of The Philippine Foundation of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals, Inc. (a nonstock, nonprofit organization) as at December 31, 1993 and 1992, and the related statements of revenues, expenses and changes in fund balance and cash flows for the years then ended. Our examinations were made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and, accordingly, included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

As described in Note 2 to the financial statements, the Foundation's policy is to prepare its financial statements on the modified cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion the financial statements referred to above present fairly the assets, liabilities and fund balance of The Philippine Foundation of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals, Inc. as at December 31, 1993 and 1992, and its revenues, expenses and changes in fund balance and its cash flows for the years then ended, on the basis of accounting described in Note 2, which basis has been consistently applied.

SGV & CO.
SYCIP, GORRES, VELAYO & CO.
Certified Public Accountants
PTR No. 5149165
January 21, 1994
Makati, Metro Manila

September 15, 1994

Approved for Publication: Roberto Laviña, BCBP National Treasurer

STATEMENTS OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

| | December 31 | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| | 1993 | 1992 |
| ASSETS | | |
| Cash (including temporary cash investments of P477,477 in 1993 and P520,058 in 1992) | P1,317,556 | P1,227,942 |
| Accounts Receivable from Members and Others | 77,416 | 305,539 |
| Musical Instruments and Office Equipment (net of accumulated depreciation of P304,736 in 1993 and P174,748 in 1992) | 271,970 | 190,495 |
| | P1,666,942 | P1,723,976 |
| LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE | | |
| Accounts Payable to Members | P 4,240 | P 16,991 |
| Fund Balance | 1,662,702 | 1,706,985 |
| | P1,666,942 | P1,723,976 |

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE

| | Years Ended December 31 | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------|
| | 1993 | 1992 |
| REVENUES | | |
| Donations and tithes received | P4,110,665 | P2,758,727 |
| Interest | 41,135 | 74,118 |
| | 4,151,800 | 2,832,845 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| Training, seminars and conferences | 2,515,855 | 1,017,653 |
| Donations | 417,429 | 365,490 |
| Salaries and employees' benefits | 305,920 | 37,124 |
| Transportation | 265,016 | 239,487 |
| Books and subscriptions | 192,664 | 102,138 |
| Depreciation | 130,061 | 63,206 |
| Professional fees | 102,355 | 149,750 |
| Office supplies | 69,254 | 27,231 |
| Miscellaneous | 197,519 | 237,568 |
| | 4,196,083 | 2,239,647 |
| EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES | (44,283) | 539,198 |
| FUND BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR | 1,706,985 | 1,113,787 |
| FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR | P1,662,702 | P1,706,985 |

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

| | Years Ended December 31 | |
|--|-------------------------|------------|
| | 1993 | 1992 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses | (P44,283) | P593,198 |
| Adjustments to reconcile excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation | 130,061 | 63,206 |
| Decrease (increase) in accounts receivables from members and others | 228,123 | (61,640) |
| Decrease in accounts payable to members | (12,751) | (40,068) |
| Net Cash provided by operating activities | 301,150 | 554,696 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITY | | |
| Acquisition of musical instruments and office equipment | (211,536) | (161,847) |
| NET INCREASE IN CASH | 89,614 | 392,849 |
| CASH AT BEGINNING OF YEAR | 1,227,942 | 835,093 |
| CASH AT END OF YEAR | P1,317,556 | P1,227,942 |

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Organization

The Philippine Foundation of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals, Inc., which was incorporated on August 14, 1984, operates with the principal objectives of promoting, supporting and encouraging the: (a) human development and value formation of businessmen and professionals; (b) improvement of Filipino marital and family life and community consciousness; (c) total human development and value formation of the youth and students and all others who may be so interested therein; and (d) to foster and maintain fellowship and goodwill and unity among its members and all those with whom the Foundation and its members may interact.

As a nonstock, nonprofit organization, the Foundation's revenues are exempt from payment of income tax as set forth in Section 26(e) of the national Internal Revenue Code (NIRC). The Foundation, however, is subject to the corresponding internal revenue taxes under the NIRC on its income derived from any of its properties, real or personal or any activity conducted for profit regardless of the disposition thereof.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Method of Accounting

The Foundation follows the cash basis of accounting for its transactions, except for the inclusion of depreciation of musical instruments and office equipment and accrual of certain liabilities. Consequently, certain revenues and the related assets are recognized when received rather than when earned.

Musical Instruments and Office Equipment

Musical instruments and office equipment are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is computed on the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the instruments and office equipment.

3. Statements of Cash Flows

In 1993, the Foundation adopted the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 22 of the Accounting Standards Council, "Statement of Cash Flows" and presented a statement of cash flows in place of a statement of changes in financial position. The previously reported statement of changes in financial position for December 31, 1992 has been restated to be consistent with the current year presentation.

PARAÑAQUE

Chapter Planning Begins

Anticipating the rush for venues to hold corporate planning exercises towards the last months of the year, the Parañaque chapter's governance team headed by Rem Gopez proceeded to the Holy Spirit Mission Center in Tagaytay for a two-day Planning Retreat last October 1 and 2.

The weekend gave the governance team a chance to examine in a prayerful environment the needs of the new chapter and the direction it had taken in its first three months. This planning activity was intended to lead the chapter toward a more effective pursuit of its evangelical mission in 1995.

The Retreat was the first step of the chapter's planning cycle that will last till the end of November or early December this year. A series of subsequent meetings will lead to refinements in the evangelization strategies discussed in the Tagaytay Retreat and may result in an organizational realignment within the chapter. #

Dec. 4 Is Family Christmas Day

The Parañaque chapter will hold its Family Christmas Day on December 4, a Sunday, with chapter life head-couple Lito and Chic Francisco coordinating the affair. Being the first occasion of this sort for the new chapter, the Family Day is expected to contribute greatly to further strengthening BCBP Parañaque's chapter life. Venue will be announced later. #

First BCMR In November

Parañaque chapter's member-couples -- graduates from BCLP 24 (Alabang) and a handful of "stragglers" -- will attend the first Brotherhood Christian Marriage Retreat (BCMR) for the new chapter. It is slated for the weekend of November 18-20, 1994 and is expected to lead to an enrichment of the participants' husband-wife relationships and their family life.

The BCMR will be handled by a team led by the newly designated formation ministry head-couple Rene and Lulu Leandro. Venue will be announced. #



Willi Guzman, BCBP Sec. Gen., Nancy Catan, KAPATIRAN Editor and Manny Barigan, BCBP President enjoy a laughter break during a meeting at the Nat'l. Secretariat Office.

WORKERS OF CHRIST

Workers Of Christ March On

Gus Leonardo, coordinator of the highly-charged Workers of Christ, reports that in addition to their regular weekly meetings, they have undertaken the following activities.

-- A Basic Christian Maturity Course was held on Sept. 17 and October 1 as part of members' formation.

The Workers of Christ is pleased to offer the 1995 edition of "Christ and Partners", a gospel diary with daily reflections written by members of the Workers of Christ, published by Salesiana Publishers, Inc. At P150.00 per copy this is an ideal Christmas gift. Orders will be delivered before November 30, 1994. Contact Jess Dacayan at tels. 242-1211 and 912-1226 for your orders.

-- The Workers of Christ worked in collaboration with the Salesiana Publishers in finishing a Catholic gospel diary, "Christ and Partners", in which the members share their reflections on the gospel readings for 1995.

-- A corporate LSS was conducted on July 15-17 for a dozen meter readers of Magnetics Corp. in Quezon City with Pyth Brion as team leader.

-- From August 1 to October 3 a unique experimental type of corporate LSS was successfully held for 28 employees of PICOP, Paper Industries Corporation of the Philippines, at the Centerpoint Bldg. Ortigas complex, Pasig. Edith de Guzman headed the service team for the sessions that were held for ten consecutive Mondays during lunch break from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m.

-- 38 graduates were baptized in the Spirit on Sept. 3, 1994, completing a community LSS at the Guadalupe Minor Seminary. Jun Octaviano was the team leader. #

GREENHILLS

GH Members Now Sport Green IDs

In October members of the Greenhills chapter were issued official permanent IDs that replace the name tags variously issued during assemblies, BCMRs, breakfasts, etc. Issued at no cost to the members the IDs are printed in the chapter's color -- green.

Chapter head Rolly Aberion encouraged everyone to wear his/her ID to show that they are members of the BCBP Greenhills chapter and are approachable. IDs are to be worn at all chapter activities. #

CAINTA

BCLP 2 Ongoing
In Cainta

Baptism in the Spirit for the eighteen couples in the ongoing BCLP 2 in the Cainta outreach will take place on November 5. Sessions are held every Saturday from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Morning Dew Montessori School along Marcos Highway in Cainta, Rizal.

Marte Sarenas, the course leader, is assisted by Rhane and Bel Reyes. Almost all the graduates of the outreach's BCLP 1 are in the service group working with Chito and Grace Reyes, head servant couple. #

How To Emcee A
Breakfast

In an effort to train some members of the Cainta outreach to become effective masters of ceremonies during breakfast meetings, Max Joaquin of the BCBP Greenhills chapter and member of the Toastmasters Club conducted a workshop after the Saturday breakfast at Brian's Restaurant, Sept. 24. Cainta breakfast goers are now enjoying the results of this workshop. #

We Almost Lost Our
28th Wedding
Anniversary

Gil Abejo, Greenhills Chapter

Our eldest daughter Joy works for PAL so we were able to get passes for my wife and I and our daughters that enabled us to attend the graduation of our youngest daughter Patricia in California. It was a precious time for us because it marked the first time that our entire family had had a real family vacation overseas.

Letty and I wanted to be back home on June 11 so we could celebrate on June 12 our 28th wedding anniversary here. No way! PAL was fully booked. Finally we left on the June 11 flight arriving in Manila on the 13th, technically losing the 12th, our wedding anniversary!

I say technically. But in reality we were up there, 39,000 feet above the earth, high up in the clouds, and that much closer to heaven on our anniversary night! What a wonderful anniversary gift from our Lord!

I want to proclaim the Lord's faithfulness for this unforgettable experience and for the multitude of blessings we received throughout our trip and family vacation. I will always "Ascribe greatness to our God, the Rock..."

GH Inaugurates
Joint B'fast

The Club Filipino venue of the Greenhills chapter's breakfast meetings inaugurated its first joint meeting -- husbands and wives -- on Thursday, October 13, 1994 with Jess and Jane Manalo, Makati chapter head couple, as sharers.

Breakfast coordinator Johnny Filart announced that in subsequent months the joint breakfasts would be held every first Thursday of the month. #

Mixing The
Action Groups

For one action group meeting night in September, the Greenhills chapter members found themselves in entirely new groups for the evening of praise and worship and "getting-to-know-you" fun.

This first-ever activity was organized by the chapter's governance team to help the increasing number of members build relationships within the chapter and outside of their own action group. Such an activity is planned for twice a year, each time with a new and different set of members in each group. #

2nd 1994 BCMR

The Don Bosco Retreat House in Batulao, Batangas was again the venue for the Greenhills chapter's second BCMR this year. PV and Monette Beley served as course leaders assisted by Bobet and Ponggay Deluria. Servant couples were Louie/Girlie Abad with Sammy/Veron Ulanday providing the music.

SVD priests from the Divine Word Seminary in Tagaytay City were very gracious as confessors for the fifteen participating couples from BCLP 21. #

BACOLOD



The BCBP- BACOLOD ACTS 2 YOUTH PRAYER BREAKFAST is held at "McDo" every last Saturday of the month.

Light Moments

**GNU
Words**

By Arnold Spilka, a poet

- A dreamadary
is a sleeping dromedary.
- A gnaw
is a gnu that hasn't forgotten.
- A mrow
is a worm that has turned.
- A sparrowrow
is a bunch of sparrows on a line.
- A lowena
is a hyena with short legs.
- A kingeroo
is the leader of the kangaroos.
- An emepphant
is the one who comes after the elephant.

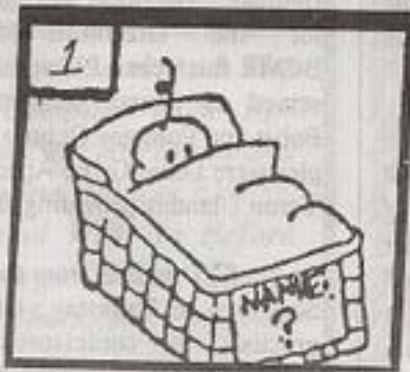
**KAPATIRAN DEADLINES
FOR JANUARY - FEBRUARY ISSUE**

Features, Interviews, Sharings, Surveys - November 21
News, Advertisements - December 7

Issue Themes: The Church and the Pope's Visit
The Language of Love

Can You Identify These

SONGS OF CHRISTMAS?



answers
on p. 40



BIBLE SHARING

Evangelize By Example

Teaching facts is simple. But shaping the heart is what Christianity is all about. It requires intimate relationships founded on strong, dynamic life witness.

The early disciples Paul, Timothy and Silas show us the way to bring God's Word to others. Study carefully chapters 1 and 2 of 1 Thessalonians.

1. 1 Thess. 1:6-10; 2:14 gives seven ways in which the Thessalonians imitated Paul, Timothy, and Silas. What are these ways?

2. 1 Thess. 2:1-13 shows ten ways in which Paul set forth his, Timothy's and Silas's ways of being living examples to the Thessalonians. What are these ten ways to be a Christian example?

3. After studying these two chapters, what do you believe should be the proper character of a Christian, especially one involved in active evangelization?

For further discussion: Comparing your character and behavior with these standards, what is your greatest strength? Your greatest weakness? How can you become a more effective Christian example to others?



KUDOS!



Pete

Pedro Padre, Jr. For his dedication and commitment in pursuing the mission and vision of the BCBP in bringing Christ to the marketplace, contributing to the creation of Christian business environment and the leadership of Christ over all, Pete Padre was given a plaque of recognition by the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals during its 14th anniversary on July 9, 1994. Pete was instrumental in the beginnings of the first Alabang breakfast in 1984 and has since served the BCBP in various positions, most recent of which was chapter head of the Alabang chapter.

Luis Morales, Sadi Saguigag.

These two staunch BCBP members from Alabang and Cebu respectively also received plaques of recognition during the Brotherhood's 14th anniversary for their untiring efforts in BCBP mission work, particularly the opening up and pastoring of BCBP outreaches in the Visayas and Mindanao.

Louie, formerly Alabang chapter head, now serves on the National Council as Managing Director for Guilds. Sadi, formerly Cebu chapter head, is presently Deputy Director of the Vis-Min Heads Council.



Louie



Yolly



Jun

Gonzalo O. Catan, Jr. In recognition of his 38 patented products and technologies and his significant contributions to and leadership in the field of science and technology in the Philippines and to the inventors in particular, seasoned inventor-entrepreneur Jun Catan was chosen the country's Most Outstanding Inventor for 1994 by the Presidential Panel of Judges. Dr. William Padolina, DOST Secretary, conferred the Presidential Medal, a plaque and P50,000 cash prize upon Catan during the 5th Annual Science and Technology Fair on July 16, 1994. Jun Catan, a member of BCBP Makati, currently serves as mission team head for the BCBP's La Naval Cavite outreach.

Cecil Maala, Nelson Yuchiongian.

These BCBP Dagupan members were inducted on Sept. 4, 1994 for their second consecutive term as President and Vice President respectively of the Dagupan Chamber of Commerce and Industry.



Nelson

Yolly Gonzales. Yolly, a member of BCBP QC, was recently promoted as Assistant Vice President of Jona's International (Phils.) "for a job well done!". She had joined the company in 1990 as Chief Accountant, moving up to be Finance and Administration Manager in 1992. #



His Magnificent Wings

Charisse Fortich, Cagayan de Oro

As the only child in our family, I had my own room with a very big bed to myself. I would fill up this bed with stuffed toys, teddy bears and pillows. But I always left a space beside me for my guardian angel to sleep in. I could feel his presence watching over me, and if he got tired, he slept beside me, too.

Now my angel assists Jesus in waking me up each morning -- can you imagine 365 days a year -- feeling refreshed and rested and just in time to go to the first Mass daily. I am able to share this beautiful experience of having a guardian angel with our six children. Even though that space in bed closest to me is now reserved for my true-life angel -- Rafael, my husband -- I still continue to pray to my guardian angel. And I still feel his angelic presence not only around me but around my entire family as he shields us with his magnificent wings.#

Apologies and Gratitude

In the September-October issue of the KAPATIRAN, a featured article entitled "Beggars and Blessings" appeared under the name of Charisse Fortich, our KAPATIRAN staffer from Cagayan de Oro. "Beggars..." was actually written by Dr. Wewel Sison, also from Cagayan de Oro. We would like to apologize for the error.

We also would like to extend our gratitude to Charisse, who has been working very hard to provide us with articles and advertisements. Keep it up! - Editor

TRIBUTE

Richard Dacanay of Alabang chapter passed away last September 14, 1994 after a short battle against liver cancer. He was 54. "Dicky" graduated from BCLP # 9 of Makati in 1986 prior to the formation of Alabang chapter. He is survived by wife Lil and four children; Lito, Patrick, Eileen and Nadine. He was the Marketing Director of Westmont Pharmaceuticals at the time of his death.

Lil remembers Dicky as the man who loved till the end. Quiet, undemonstrative yet he truly cared and loved so much, his family and mankind as a whole.

Answers to Songs of Christmas: 1. What Child Is This?, 2. O Holy Night, 3. Noel.



We Would Like
To Hear From
You...

Beginning with the January issue of the KAPATIRAN Magazine, we will have a section about what you, our readers, think and say about various topics. So, may we invite you to join our mini-survey and answer any of the following questions.

Answers should be brief -- two or three paragraphs at the most. In addition to your name, chapter/outreach and BCLP number, we would appreciate also either your i.d. picture or a picture of you and your family -- informal, not posed. We would like to hear from you...

++ What particular aspect/person/activity of the Church most influences your life? Or, is most important to you? Why?

++ If you had to summarize the "language of love" in ten words or less, what would you say?

++ When you pray, what do you consider the most important words or part of your prayer to be?

Please submit your responses either to your chapter's KAPATIRAN correspondent or directly to the Editor, c/o BCBP Nat'l Secretariat on or before November 16, 1994. Thank you very much.

My Very Own Angel

Nena Paras, Cagayan de Oro Chapter

ANGELS are real. Angels are God's creatures. Angels are our friends and mentors. I know because I have my very own angel!

WHEN I was a little girl my parents taught me short, easy-to-memorize prayers. One of these was the Prayer to our Guardian Angel. I would shut my eyes every evening and ask him to

take good care of me. I also recall being so curious and perplexed about this winged being that I would ask Baby Jesus to hold him still even for just one second so that I could see him. Talking with my angel while under the sheets -- I was afraid of the



eerie darkness in my room -- my fear would slowly vanish. But I never did see my angel; I grew up and I guess forgot him.

I MARRIED and had a baby boy. Like all mothers I protected my child from everything I could but somehow it was never enough. Evenings would be hardest as I had to sleep, too. Then I recalled my own childhood and asked the angels to protect my little baby from evil spirits, disturbed sleep and from crib death. I asked the angels to sing him lullabies and fill his mind with beautiful thoughts.

IT WAS only at this point that I began to relax again. My faith, love and devotion for angels, especially my own, resurfaced. The feeling doubled for every child I had. Now after five children and after constantly asking God to please reveal my angel's name to me, I feel I really know my angel.

HIS name is Symphony. I learned that Symphony has truly loved and cherished me all through my life; it was he who has been keeping me faithful to the Lord. The Lord has also revealed to me that it was this angel who developed in me such a great love for music in prayers.

YES, angels are real. Let us keep them happy by loving them as we should.

WHAT can I say? She is a friend, a dear companion, and a confidante who not only keeps my deepest secrets but whose main concern is my spiritual as well as physical well-being.

SOME time ago, I read a book titled, "Yes You Can Become A Saint." It had a chapter devoted to angels and their very special relationship with us. I learned that our good Lord gave us our very own protectors, guardians who help us attain the life of holiness we are called to lead. It was this book that encouraged me to establish a relationship with my own guardian angel.



ANGEL MENYA

Girlic Mora, Cagayan de Oro Chapter

STEPPING out in faith, I asked the Lord during my prayertime to introduce me to my angel and I also asked my angel to become known to me. Then ... little things began to happen. I would ask, angel dear, please help me find a parking space and there would be one just for me in a crowded parking lot.

IN time, I mustered enough courage to ask my angel for her name. A sweet feeling came over me and I sensed my angel telling me her name was "Menya." Now that I can address my angel by name our relationship is on a different level -- not so much on the 'do this', 'do that' level, but more as a constant, comforting presence in my life.

ANGEL MENYA prays the rosary with me. When I'm down, she encourages me to get up. I ask her to assist me in begging favors from Mama Mary and all the saints and she does. When I storm heaven with prayers, I know Angel Menya is there lobbying for my cause and inviting others to join in.

SHE is without pretensions. She is there to help me recognize opportunities to be closer to our Lord Jesus. She is not my servant, neither does she boss me around. Her angelic being is constantly looking out for the safety of my soul.

WHAT more can I say but I love you, my Angel Menya, and I thank you for all the love and care you have given me and my family.



DESPITE all the good resolutions made the week after Christmas to have my next year's Christmas shopping done at the very latest by mid-November, somehow I always seem to find myself joining the last-minute crowds in the frantic search for just the right kind of gift. Or else I end up buying ten of this and six pieces of that for those nephews, nieces, and dozens of cousins that invariably appear during the gift-giving season. Too impersonal, but no more time. Next year I promise myself...

The best gifts I can remember receiving are those that had something of the giver in them. Like the wooden doll house with furniture lovingly assembled by my Dad, with curtains and bed covers sewn by my Mom. Like the scrapbooks filled with pictures of my favorite things that Mom had clipped out of magazines throughout the months.

The gifts that I remember as being the most satisfying to give were ones that had something of me in them. One Christmas I spent weeks going through old magazines and clipping out Dad's favorite cartoons and farm jokes, witty sayings and funny pictures to fill a scrapbook of jokes for him. After Dad died, Mom gave the book back to me where it occupies a special place in my heart, a remembrance of my Dad's wonderful sense of humor.

Each year there are many articles written with suggestions for gift-giving. I have a few of my own I'd like you to consider...not only for this year's holidays but for all year round.

The Gift of Health

We can give our children the gift of our being in good health. Parents who smoke, who have an alcohol or drug problem, who let the stress in their lives make them sick are not good examples for their children. Many studies show that youngsters who smoke, drink or take drugs are just following the examples set by their parents or their friends' parents. Chemically dependent parents may love

THE GIFTS MONEY

CAN'T BUY

or...

Why Can't Christmas Last All Year?

Nancy R. Catan

their children but they are cheating them out of the kind of love and care they should have.

The Gift of Attention

Nowadays many families have both parents working. It can be difficult to set time aside to spend with the children. As we all know, time has a way of running away with us, and taking us away from the things we should be doing.

One Easter friend of ours with a time problem and small children inserted in the plastic Easter eggs they traditionally hid for the kids slips of paper redeemable for special treats with Mom and Dad such as lunch in the park, a day at the beach with Mom and Dad, an after work/school bike ride with Dad. The children treasured these coupons and redeemed them over the following months.

Rather than just giving toys on a birthday, why not give a "Your Very Own" scrapbook of pictures, snapshots and homemade stories?

The Gift of Creativity

Teaching your child to be creative, to see the world as a rich source of interesting playthings and building materials, is a gift that remains long after the fact. Kids today don't seem to be as creative as we were when we were kids; I think it's because T.V.-watching spoonfeeds them with information rather than making them find out that information through trial and error, through creative use of things at hand.

Play things don't have to be store-bought. We used to drape a blanket over a table, throw in a couple of pillows, some plastic dishes and Voila! it's a cave-man's tea party. Or, how about the time one of my granddaughters turned her merienda into a unique mosaic pattern of different kinds of crackers and biscuits stuck to the wall with peanut butter.



from your HEART

Gift of the Month. Instead of giving one expensive gift (especially if your cash flow during the holidays disappears!), present someone with a special cake or a batch of cookies, together with a promise to provide one gift from your oven each month for the rest of the year.

And it's a fact that creative kids are better able to handle the problems and situations that they will have to face later on in life than those kids who never had to think for themselves.

The Gift of Approval

When was the last time you told your spouse, your children, your parents that you like what they are doing, that you are proud of their grades in school, that you particularly enjoy being with them?

At work we consciously and unconsciously seek the approval of our officemates and bosses. We feel slighted, even neglected, when approval does not come. Isn't it the same way in our families? Our children need our approval, our loving affirmation that they are our children, whatever happens. And

GIFTS

Family Calendar. Buy a blank calendar or make your own on your computer. Fill in all the family birthdays, anniversaries and special events for the year. Decorate it with photographs and illustrations (if you can't draw a crooked line, let your children make their mark). Make photocopies and spiral-bind the pages calendar-style for a practical, "remember-me" gift.

Wish List. Make a list of things you would give the person if money were no object. Include photographs from magazines and an explanation of why you'd buy them for him or her if you could afford it. #

From Woman's Day Magazine, Dec. 21, 1993 issue.

this is true no matter whether they are 8, 18 or 28.

My Resolutions This Year

This Christmas my resolutions are few -- to give more gifts of time and attention, to be more creative in this whole exercise of holiday cheer, and to show my family members that I approve of them, even if this may be possible only through a warm hug, a few tears of joy at their presence, or a welcome voice over the phone.

After all, these are the gifts that the Christ Child gives us -- His presence and attention, His creativity in solving our problems, His loving approval of our being His brothers and sisters. And the best gift of all -- He gives us His LOVE! These are the gifts that last all year. #

PILGRIMAGE

Tour



PILGRIMAGE

Tour

LIPA, BATANGAS

SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF LIPA

TAAL, BATANGAS

SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF
CAYSAYSAY
SISTERS OBLATES OF THE HOLY
SPIRIT (orphanage)
STA. LUCIA WELL
BASILICA OF TAAL

TAGAYTAY (to experience
nature meditation)

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One Minute Meditations

F. de Larrazabal

**WATCH OUT,
YOU MAY BE NEXT!**

(1)

"Grant not, O Lord, the desires of the wicked; further not their plans." Psalms 140:9

It seems that some of the countries of the world are preparing themselves for far worse atrocities than those committed by Hitler and Stalin. Historians claim these two criminals exterminated some fifty million lives during their period of power. Tons of articles have been written; numerous books authored and countless movies produced, describing the evil of these two men.

The world is now faced with a far worse situation; the slaughter of the innocent unborn children in one year's time far surpasses in number those lives which were eliminated during those forty years.

By comparison, very little is written about these new victims and the perpetrators of the crime against them. The governments who cried out against Hitler and Stalin are the very same ones who are now sponsoring and supporting this heinous crime. The world's conscience and the Church do not accept it and have raised their objection against their evil designs. The fight has just begun, good will always overcome evil. There may be need for a "Nuremberg" trial in Washington.

(2)

"...and from man in regards to his fellowman I will demand an accounting for human life." Genesis 9:5

The different methods of family planning has divided the world into two opposite camps. Many of the Western nations are advocating abortion as a means of controlling births, while those others who believe life is sacred are opposing it. This was the issue discussed at the Cairo conference. Today abortion of the unborn is the main issue; a few years from today, who are to be the next victims?

If life is not to be respected, what is there to prevent these countries in the future to bring up the issue of euthanasia as also a means of controlling the world's population to a manageable level? Following this trend, the next in line to be disposed of are those who they consider liabilities. You have the elderly who are said to be a burden to governments; the retarded who serve no purpose to some; the poor and the unemployable who are a burden to society; the sick who are incurable, etc. If we don't stop the concept of abortion as a means to regulate population growth, these people will certainly be in the next agenda at a future conference which could very well be held in Washington. Watch out, you may be in the next agenda!

IMMANUEL

*He said a Guest was coming
so we swept the temple bare,
compiled our sacrifice reports
and memorized each prayer.*

*But while we tidied up the altar,
dusted off the pews,
a sound came from the city streets
to smash our stained-glass views:*

*No hymn or mighty chorus
but an Infant's startled cry
and the simple, homely comfort
of a mother's lullaby.*

Immanuel!

*A priest, we could anticipate;
a prophet, we might tolerate;
philosopher, evaluate;
a prince, we could applaud.*

*But who had thought
to see the day
when Potter climbed
inside His clay,
when Monarch in a manger lay,
when Heaven walked the sod?*

Immanuel!

*You send us running home again
to wash our windows clean,
to sweep our floors
and open doors,
to break the tired routine.*

*You drive us to the streets
and squares
to glimpse you passing by.
You beckon us to follow there--
and wait for our reply.*

Paul Thigpen



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Everyone enjoys a party! In fact, almost every occasion can be a party. To keep parties from degenerating into gluttony, beer and chismis, try a few of these fresh ideas gathered from various Christian publications.

Roots Party

On the front of the party invitation draw a large tree including the roots. Inside invite everyone to get to know each other better by bringing a salad, main dish, or dessert that represents their ancestral or geographic roots. Ask them to come prepared to talk about their ethnic or geographic backgrounds. Limit the subject by specifying a topic, i.e. where he or she lived between the ages of seven and fourteen or who was the best cook they remember from their childhood.

Talent Revelation

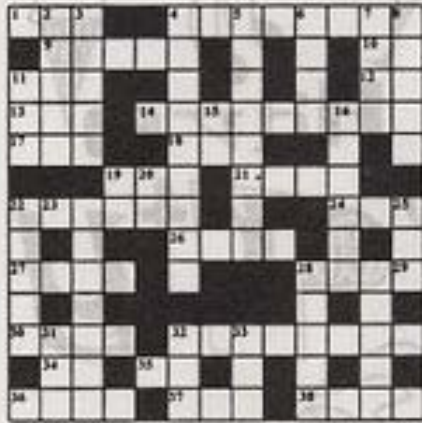
Here is a family game that is great for family reunions. Give everyone a piece of paper and ask each one to write his or her name on top. Gather the papers and shuffle them well. Pass them around so each member has someone else's name. Then ask each one to write down the three nicest things about the person whose name is on top of his or her paper. Now pass the papers back to the people to whom they belong. Each one can read the paper and discover his or her best gifts and talents. You can now discuss what each of you will do about your special gifts. And some may even want to demonstrate their revealed talent to the group!

Song Fest

Have each one bring copies of his or her favorite song (Christmas carol, if this is a Christmas party) and be prepared to tell a little about the song's background, why it is their personal favorite and to teach the song to the group. A good way to enrich one's musical knowledge as well as to get to know each other better.

BIBLE CROSSWORD FOR CHRISTMAS

By Noli Lopez, Greenhills Chapter



ACROSS

1. Donkey (Ps 147:10)
4. Date of birth (Lev. 12)
9. Lord's supper place (Lk. 1:63)
10. ___ll, Cone shaped instrument (Exo. 28:33-35)
11. Offspring male (Gen. 3:16)
12. ___r, Tavern (Mat. 16:17)
13. Omega (Rev. 1:8)
14. Birth of Christ (Lk. 2:1-7)
17. Val___, RAvine (Lk. 6:5)
18. Timber, cut tree (Deut. 16:21)
19. Plant evergreen (Lk. 11:42)

21. Metal kind (Josh. 19:38)
22. Mary's partner (Mar. 1:16)
24. ___t, Give something (Rom. 6:23)
26. Mother of Timothy (2Tim. 1:5)
27. Son of Cosh (Gen. 10:7)
28. Fruit bearing plant (Gen. 2:9)
30. Stool (Ps. 1:1)
32. God is with us (Isa. 7:14)
34. Capital of Attica, ___hens (Acts 17)
35. Generic word for God (Gen. 1)
36. ___s, Burnt dust (Gen. 18:27)
37. Lodging (Exo. 2:20)
38. The evil one (Mat. 13:19,38)

DOWN

2. Rock (Mat. 7:24)
3. Desert grain (Gen. 22:17)
4. Jesus birthplace (Mat. 2:1)
5. Relationship with God (1Tim. 5:4)
6. Body and blood (1Sam. 17:45)
7. Father (Mk. 14:38)
8. Ferment baking
11. ___a, City called Petra (2Ki. 14:77)
15. ___be, dress (Isa. 19:9)
16. Stall, Trough for cattle (Lk. 2:7)
19. Sun God (Gen. 41:45)

20. Bring high (Num. 22:41)
22. Christ (Mat. 1:1)
23. Rest & worship of Jew (Exo. 20:8)
25. Enemy (Mat. 5:23)
28. Snuffers (Exo. 25:38)
29. Chosen (Ps. 106:23)
31. Sunrise (Ps. 103:12)
32. High priest in Samuel (1Sam. 1:4-13)
33. Has body & soul (Gen. 1:26)



Answer to Previous Puzzle

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Happy those who do not abandon the way I have bidden them go! Happy those who listen to what I tell them. Prov. 8:32-33

In putting these words on the lips of Mary, the Church urges us to study the life of the Queen of Saints and to imitate her splendid example.

Happy the man who imitates our Lady, for in imitating her he imitates Jesus, king and incomparable model of all virtue.

The Blessed Virgin's life contains lessons for everyone. If we study it, we learn how to live in prosperity and adversity, prayer and work, honors and humiliations.

We shall never attain the perfection she brought to every action; but our perfection can be measured by our closeness to her.

You claim to be the servants of Mary: do you really want to become like her in her sublime holiness? Then imitate, as far as you can, her lively faith, her prompt obedience, her deep humility, her selfless intentions, her generous love.

If your devotion does not take you a step further [from daily prayer recitation and other external signs of devotion] and lead you to imitate her virtues, then your devotion will not save you.

The Philistines took possession of the ark of the Lord and adorned it with their gifts. But the ark did not become a source of blessing for them, because they continued to adore their idols as before.

The Apostle rightly says: "If you love me, then imitate me as I imitate Jesus" (1 Cor 4:16). If you are really my children (Mary says), then make your mother's spirit your own: the spirit of charity, peace, self-denial, and reverent love for God.

Book 1, Chapter 1, Imitation Of Mary, Alexander De Rouville (Catholic Book Publishing Co., N.Y., 1985)



A MEASURE OF PERFECTION



RING OUT, WILD BELLS, RING OUT

*The time draws near the birth of Christ:
The moon is hid; the night is still;
The Christmas bells from hill to hill
Answer each other in the mist.*

*Four voices of four hamlets round
From far and near, on mead and moor,
Swell out and fall, as if a door
Were shut between me and the sound:*

*Each voice four changes on the wind,
That now dilate, and now decrease,
Peace and goodwill, goodwill and peace,
Peace and goodwill, to all mankind.*

*This year I slept and woke with pain,
I almost wish'd no more to wake,
And that my hold on life would break
Before I heard those bells again:*

*But they the troubled spirit rule,
For they controll'd me when a boy:
They bring me sorrow touch'd with joy,
The merry, merry bells of Yule.*

*Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light:
The year is dying in the night:
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.*

*Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go:
Ring out the false, ring in the true.*

*Ring out the grief that saps the mind,
For those that here we see no more;
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,
Ring in redress in all mankind.*

*Ring out a slowly dying cause,
And ancient forms of party strife:
Ring in the nobler modes of life,
With sweeter manners, purer laws.*

*Ring out the want, the care, the sin,
The faithless coldness of the times;
Ring out, ring out my mournful rhyme
But ring the fuller minstrel in.*

*Ring out false pride in place and blood,
The civic slander and the spite;
Ring in the love of truth and right,
Ring in the common love of good.*

*Ring out old shapes of foul disease,
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.*

*Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.*

Alfred, Lord Tennyson

