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Features:

- * Schneider's List
- * Growing As A Catholic Christian
- * What Are We Becoming?



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AND THE WINNER IS...

Another milestone in the democratic process has passed - the election of barangay officials. National officials have pontificated on this electoral exercise, editors and columnists have dissected the event, homes have been deluged with handwritten reminders on who to vote for. Ballots have been cast, votes counted, the winners proclaimed and protests filed.

Many say that if bringing Christ into the marketplace is difficult, then bringing Him into politics is near to impossible. But let me share with you several examples from the May barangay elections that show us that nothing is impossible to our God.

In our parish, St. Anthony de Padua in Singalong, Manila, on the Saturday before the Monday elections, many of the candidates attended the 6:00 p.m. mass and the priest and the congregation prayed for all of them. Elections in the area were the most peaceful ever and the winners and many of the losers tramped to the church afterwards for a thanksgiving mass celebrated with their respective supporters and the whole community. Clearly, the winner was Jesus!

In another barangay in Sangley, Cavite, Marlene, an active member of the BCBP La Naval Outreach, ran for the position of barangay chairman representing the ladies group. She was supported throughout her campaign by the prayers and help of her action group and the outreach. When her opponent repeatedly filed protests against her for one thing and another, Marlene repeatedly forgave her and made no counter-protests. The campaign as conducted by Marlene was one of love in action; she forbade her supporters to indulge in character assassination, rumors and other usual methods of campaigning against her opponent.

As election day grew near, Marlene organized a 24-hour prayer relay that continued until the counting was finished. Elections were peaceful. The result - a TIE!! Comelec rules stipulated that they set a time for a coin toss to decide the winner.

After prayer, Marlene tossed the coin (because the readings for that day were "I shall turn their mourning into joy ...") and the hour at 3:00 p.m. (hour of Divine Mercy). Another prayer relay began.

When the coin was tossed, it curved slowly into the air, hit the table, rolled around a bit, and settled serenely on its edge. No heads, no tails, no winner! According to Comelec the next step was to draw lots. At this point, Marlene changed her prayer from "Lord, let me win," to "Lord, may the one who needs this position the most win. May Your Will be done." She lost the draw.

Immediately she requested time to say a few words, conceding the victory to her opponent without protest. She explained that her actions during the campaign were a way of sharing God's love and forgiveness. She congratulated the winner and said that she is sure, in faith, that God's Will had been done. She rallied all her supporters and the entire community to unite and be one in harmony, working together with the elected barangay officials for the good of the community. Many were crying as they were touched by her Christian witness and love.

As she left the platform, everyone crowded around congratulating her. When she noticed that no one was paying any attention to the winner who was neglected and weeping by herself, Marlene went over, embraced her and cheered her up. Using the training in evangelization that she had received in the BCBP, Marlene then shared about Jesus and convinced her opponent-winner (a lukewarm Catholic who had become a lukewarm 'born-again') to join the upcoming Christian Life Program. Not only that, but she will help convince her whole ticket to join the BCBP. And many in the community who witnessed Marlene's unique campaign of love have expressed their interest in taking the CLP.

And the real winner is ... JESUS !!!

Nancy R. Catan

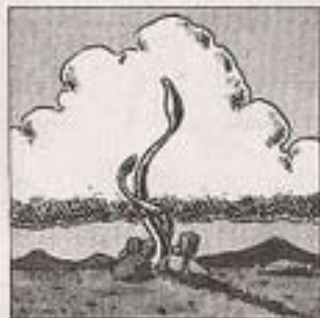
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SCHNEIDER'S LIST

Growing in the BCBP Community

Jun Amora
Tagbilaran



No, this is not a sequel to that controversial Steven Spielberg film. Nor is this about a Nazi program of Jews and program for the creation of a super Aryan race either. This is on the things Fr. Herbert Schneider, S.J., BCBP Spiritual Director, said in Cebu during that chapter's 6th anniversary last February 26.

In a sense, though, Fr. Herb spoke of another program - that of growing as a Christian in the Brotherhood community. He prescribed the extermination from our lifestyle of undesirable habits. And he, too, devised a plan for the formation of a strong BCBP race.

We shall call this plan "Schneider's List." It consists of five major concerns: physical fitness, consciousness examen, mind development, smooth interpersonal relationships and becoming men-for-others.

Physical Fitness

Now why do we need to talk of physical fitness as part of Christian growth? Because our body is God's greatest material gift to us. It's His Spirit's temple. Honestly, how can we preach the gospel effectively if our body is sickly? The old Romans put it this way: "Mens sana in corpore sane" - a sound mind in a sound body.

What kind of exercise? Not the "no pain, no gain" type of muscle building but just plain physical exercise. Regular. Resolute. Not really to bring the body back to its original contours 30 pounds ago but enough to make it feel like it was 20 again.

Consciousness Examen

We need to take stock of what has been, what is, and what is going to be in our life. A recollection of events, thoughts, deeds. This we must do daily for at least five minutes. Or weekly, monthly or annually for a longer time. We need to do it alone, away from people, away from distractions. This conscious examen can help keep us always on course in our Christian life journey. It also trains us in the art of reflection.

Mind Development

Don't confuse this with the New Age stuff. This simply means a return to the good ole' habit of reading good books and digesting great ideas and thoughts. Any book is good as long as it helps sharpen the mind and invigorate the spirit.

In our busy world, wading through good books is the most likely casualty next to physical fitness if we feel we need to dump something from our hectic schedule. But we need to see that opening our minds to great books and titillating ideas is a practice for opening our minds to the working of the Holy Spirit. It also helps us come to quiet.

cont. on p. 6

Schneider's ... from p. 5

So relax. Pick up a book. Carry it with you. Open it and read it. You will find that reading is a better leisure alternative. Get the children into the act, too, and wean them away from that nasty habit of "boob tube mesmerization".

Smooth Interpersonal Relationships

Good, harmonious relations with others often indicate a healthy personality. Develop and maintain such relationships. Among your neighbors, superiors, subordinates, even with strangers. A few minutes, a listening ear, a sympathetic shoulder yield an abundant harvest of friends.

A true Christian can't really hide for himself alone the good things Christ brings into his life. He's bound to share them with others. They'll be reflected in his smile. They'll be mirrored in his care and concern for others. They'll be echoed in his tolerance and understanding of human nature.



BCBP sisters reflect Christ in their smiles as they join the Family Day Walkathon

Becoming Men-For-Others

We are called to service. Offering ourselves in service to others. Christianity is not a self-serving religion. Growing as a Christian means reaching out to touch

others, to help others, to share with others, to become men (or women) for others.

Self-fulfilment is not reason enough to remain a Christian; this is dangerously selfish. Faith in God finds completion in sharing, in self-less service. The Lord Jesus Himself showed us how. And He's urging us to follow His lead. Our time, our talent and our treasure are to be made available for the building of His Kingdom. And as businessmen and professionals in the BCBP, we are in a privileged position to do our share in this task.

We Are The Gospel Message

This Schneider's List seems to be all-embracing. But isn't that what it means to be a member of the Brotherhood? We are committed to offer ourselves not only as the medium of the Gospel message but as the Gospel message itself. Our lives must be messages of evangelization. Visible signs that God is here. Proof in our own person that God loves His people.

We are the Gospel message to our family, to our BCBP community, to those around us. What kind of Gospel are we?



Growing as Christian means reaching out to others, sharing one's talents with others. These Makati BCBP members share their love of music with the Makati breakfast goers at the Makati Sports Club.

Poise: The art of raising eyebrows instead of the roof

After a dozen invitations by Bro. Happy Sta. Domingo, I attended my first breakfast at Sunburst. I was moved by the outburst of joyful singing and clapping by a group of men and by the testimony of the sharers.

After signing up with my wife, Irene, for BCLP 10, I slowly realized that despite the seemingly "impossible" schedule for the talks we soon found ourselves committing to the BCBP community. I now believe that nothing is impossible with our Lord! I began avidly going back to my daily scripture reading at 5:00 a.m. With the cobwebs dusted off from my dormant guitar, I revived my singing voice and joined the music ministry.

My Adventure With JESUS

Perry Co, Cebu Chapter

Prayer times are almost always a family affair with our son Pierre leading. After the BCLP I find I'm more patient and more sensitive to other people's feelings. At work, I try to be fair in all my business dealings with our dealers, suppliers and clients. And when I go on out-of-town trips, I avoid going to "honkytonk" places where temptations abound.

The Lord allowed me to travel to a lot of places last year - the Stone Forest of Kunming, China, to my father's hometown in Xiamen, to Sidney and Hongkong. But the best thing that happened to me was joining BCLP 10. Now I can't wait to sign up for the BCMR! Life is truly an adventure. How joyful it is to be walking daily with the Living God, our Lord and Savior! Shalom!

Growing As A Catholic Christian in the BCBP

Growing is a learning and sharing experience. In this KAPATIRAN, our BCBP brothers and sisters share some of their growth experiences with us.

**Encourage
one
another daily
while it is
still "today"
so that no
one grows
hardened
by the deceit
of sin.**

Hebrews 3:13

- G** God created me in His image
To know and serve Him in love.
- R** Reward for me will be His dwelling
Beyond the realm of flesh and blood.
- O** Ordained by His blessings and
sufferings I shall be redeemed by the
Son of God.
- W** With tenderness unknown to man
God in His infinite frame,
- T** Told me of His Son's coming ... I
mocked and distained, even crucified
Him.
- H** Hallelujah! even with all my evil
ways Jesus still will save me, forgive
my sins.

Searching and Serving

Rex Resurreccion, Makati Chapter

My wife and I attended our first Wednesday joint breakfast meeting in February 1993. I tagged along just to make my wife happy. In September we began attending BCLP 22 at the Metro Club in spite of conflicts with job schedules and many irritating small barriers unexpectedly coming up.

Unknowingly there were trivial changes in me. I became more aware of my relationship with God and my fellow men. I was less and less susceptible to ribald jokes. Most of all, I realized that when God created me, He had a purpose. However, He hid this purpose from me. It is my task to find out this purpose and meaning.

While I am searching, I am now serving Him in the BCBP. I know that my membership in the BCBP is part of that purpose. I always look forward to BCBP activities and I have learned to share with my BCBP brothers and sisters. Then I share what I have learned and my experience with my family, friends and my co-employees. I look to the Holy Book for my inspiration and guidance.

Materially I have not gained any wealth but I have without doubt become richer spiritually. God is tending and nurturing me as I grow in His love.

Good Luck From the Lord

Jojo Kho, Cebu Chapter

My spiritual life has always been a ZERO in the past, but with my joining the Brotherhood, I have been little by little growing in faith and slowly, but surely, going in the right direction.

Being an only child, I did not consider myself a spoiled brat, but I did have my ways to get what I wanted. The BCBP has made me realize that I have always focused so much only on myself and my needs; I thought the so many blessings that came my way were luck, my luck! Now I realize that all these blessings were from God; now I always thank Him for His good luck.



Joining the BCBP community, having a daily prayer and scripture reading time have helped me establish a much closer relationship with God and my family. While my children are still small it gives me joy to talk to them about Jesus and about prayer. Our family prayer time is truly a source of joy for me as I listen to my children singing and praying for someone and thanking God for the things He has given them.

Being close to God starts my day right and makes it fulfilling.

SOME FACTORS FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Faith

Faith is dependence on God, a dependence that begins when self-dependence ends. Faith must be based on certainty, a definite knowledge of God's purpose and will. To trust someone we must know him. So, too, with God, our Father. We must seek to know Him ever more intimately so we can step out in faith and be certain that in all things He works for our good (Rom. 8:28).

Time

Growth is a process, a time-consuming process. When God creates the majestic mango tree, He takes many years of sunlight, storms and loving care. In His creation, growth is an orderly process - 'first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear.' (Mark 4:28) And God does not hurry in His development of our Christian life. We may feel we are not making progress if we are not constantly having great days of spiritual victories. What about our idle days, our days of dryness when even service seems a burden? With these God modifies our headstrong pace, using every experience and giving us every opportunity for us to become more aware of our need for Him. Growing as a Christian means accepting His time schedule for that growth.

Need

One basic ingredient for spiritual growth is need, a true spiritual hunger. Jesus emphasizes this in the Beatitudes when He calls "blessed" those people who are poor in spirit and who hunger and thirst for righteousness. He promises that they shall be satisfied.

Growth cannot be forced. A seed will not sprout more quickly if we shout at it to grow. We must be heart-hungry for Jesus. God reveals spiritual truths to meet our spiritual needs as we most need and desire them. We can read the Bible over and over and yet every time, the Holy Spirit will reveal to us exactly what we need to know, something that we did not know from our previous readings. He has promised to "fully supply whatever you need..." (Phil. 4:19). But we have to admit our need and our spiritual hunger before God can fill us.

Cultivation

Each of us must be thoroughly cultivated before He can effectively cultivate others through us. We are not renewed to serve, we are matured to serve. Our spiritual life is the basis of the beginning and growth of our service to God. And so we should welcome such cultivation practices as pruning, grafting and fertilizing. God even may allow a drought from time to time to give us the opportunity of loving and trusting and responding to Him just because He is our Father. Cultivation in Christian living is not a matter of our living with Christ's help, it is a matter of Christ living His life in us. Cultivation is letting the Lord's promise in Isaiah 58:11 come alive in us.

Adapted by Nancy Catan from Miles Stanford's book *Principles of Spiritual Growth*, (Back To The Bible, U.S.A., c1988)

GROWING CLOSER TO JESUS

Ruth Espiridion, Alabang Chapter

Every 6:00 p.m. I do my prayer hour at the Perpetual Adoration of Tahanan Village. Annex to it is the Parish where a 6:30 p.m. weekday Holy Mass is celebrated. Thinking that a daily hour of personal prayer before the Blessed Sacrament is sufficient, I forego the weekday masses.

Last April 18, the Lord spoke to me in the Gospel reading for the day. In John 6:27 He said, "Do not work for the food that spoils; instead, work for the food that lasts for eternal life. This is the food which the Son of Man will give you, because God, the Father, has put his mark of approval on Him."

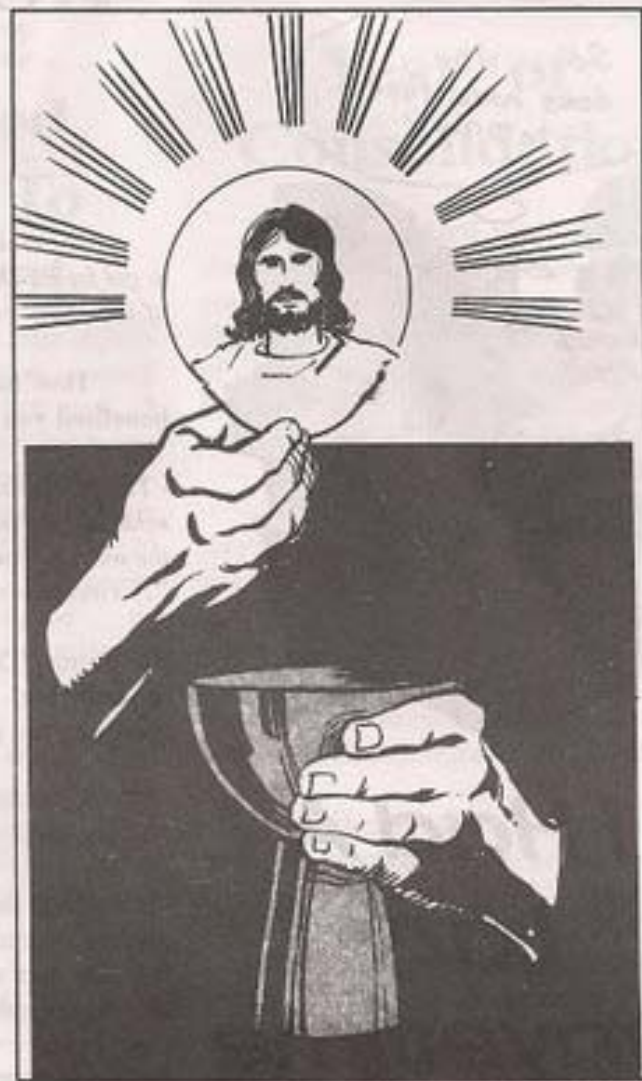
I was led to attend Holy Mass that evening not really knowing why. During the Consecration the Lord gently unveiled His victory over death and renewed His promise for eternal life. The Lord gave me a new meaning of Easter Joy -- through the Holy Eucharist.

It was then that I realized that I should not be content just staring at Him, talking and listening to each other at a distance. He has given us a very special way to be more intimate with Him. He wants us to "receive Him, touch Him, be physically one with Him and truly feel His physical presence within us." As He

provides nourishment to our spirit and flesh, He teaches us slowly to surrender everything we are and everything that we have to Him.

What an immense grace the Sacrament of the Eucharist allows us to possess -- Jesus Christ, Himself, the Bread of Eter-

nal Life. Now as I wake each day, I seek for renewed strength in Him. With ardent desire to receive Him, I prepare myself throughout the day and pray: "Lord Jesus, You are the Bread of Life, Have mercy on me, a sinner. Cleanse me and purify me, body and soul that I may be able to provide You a comfortable dwelling place in my heart."



Make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, virtue with knowledge, knowledge with self-control, self-control with endurance, endurance with devotion, devotion with mutual affection, mutual affection with love. If these are yours and increase in abundance, they will keep you from being idle or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 1:8-9

SURVEY

HOW HAS THE BCBP HELPED YOU GROW?

We took a short survey of BCBP members in the Makati and Greenhills chapters to get feedback on BCBP activities that have helped them grow spiritually. Here are some of their replies.

How has the BCBP helped you grow? What BCBP activity do you feel has benefited you the most?

- The BCBP has helped me strengthen my relationship with the Lord by teaching me to schedule my activities and to give importance to our Lord. I think the BCLP helped me the most because it reminded me of my responsibility as a Christian. Aida Patag, BCLP 21, Greenhills.

- Growing? Definitely, yes! Especially in my prayer life, willingness to serve and love of family life. Serving in the Men's Breakfast is the BCBP activity that has contributed greatly to my growth. Ronnie Caballero, BCLP 11, Makati.

- The BCBP has helped me change my old ways into better ones, I hope. What activity? For me, the Friday action group meetings. Rolando M. Jalijali, BCLP 19, Greenhills.

- I find that the BCBP teachings with constant reminders of daily prayer and scripture reading have tremendously helped me live and enjoy a true Christian life. I benefit most from the men's breakfast, community singing and worship during action group meetings and the assemblies. Vic Cuna, BCLP 6, Makati.

- Through the BCBP I've learned to see God as the Source of everything that I am and that I have. The greatest teaching that I've had is that "what's happening with my life is God's will no matter what." I learned much from the Culture Talks. Mila Jalijali, BCLP 19, Greenhills.

- Joining the BCBP has made a lot of changes in our life together as husband and wife. We see to it that we are faithful and trust each other. We try to praise and thank the Lord for not only the big things but also for the small things He gives us. We found the BCMR the most enlightening BCBP activity yet. Rudy and Paring Orino, BCLP 21, Makati.

We also asked them what activities or programs other than those being currently done that they believe the BCBP should consider to help it carry out its vision and mission more effectively.

cont. on p. 11



I Had A Lazy Prayertime

Tony Boy V. Fernandez,
Cagayan de Oro Chapter

A few months ago I had this problem with my prayer time that kept me postponing to do my daily personal prayer time. I felt that my going to mass every day was enough since we have been taught that the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was the highest form of prayer. And to top it all, I was just too lazy to even start my prayer time.

Then the Lord decided to solve this problem of mine. Through the course leader of BCLP 6 the Lord assigned me to give a talk. The talk was entitled: Prayer, Scripture and Spiritual Gifts! As I reviewed the outline, it became clear to me that the talk would be best explained if the person talking had a daily prayer time with the Lord.

So I was faced with a decision. It was either to refuse the talk or to start a prayer time with the Lord. I chose the latter ... but the difficulty of starting was another problem. A week later I found myself in the Perpetual Adoration chapel of the Cathedral in front of the exposed Blessed Sacrament. It was a glorious experience with the Lord.

Today, my wife Ann and I make it a point to still go the daily Mass and afterwards, we go straight to the Adoration chapel for our daily prayer time. It is such a humbling experience to have a daily one on one with the Lord. And for those who do not have one yet, I encourage you to start by simply visiting the nearest church where the Blessed Sacrament is exposed. Once you are inside, the Lord simply takes over. "Seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened to you."

QUESTION AND ANSWER CORNER

Fernando de Larrazabal

NO WIN - IT'S A TIE

Dear Friend,

Q - *My wife and I were having dinner with another couple when our conversation led to religion. The discussion started when these friends said that it is only through faith in Jesus Christ that we are saved and that doing charity work does not help at all. While I believe the first part, don't you think that good works are important for salvation? Since then, my wife has been converted to their way of thinking. Please referee our discussions.*

A Friend

Both you and your wife are correct. It is only through living faith in Jesus that we are saved. It is through his sacrifice on the cross that salvation has been made possible. Alone, this belief in Jesus is insufficient. As Christians, we need to follow the example of Jesus. Jesus went about doing good works - he cured the sick; he fed the hungry, he protected people from abuse; he brought some back to life.

Let us see what scripture has to say. James 2:26 - "Be assured, then, that faith without works is as dead as a body without breath." 1 Corinthians 13:2 - "If I have the gift of prophecy, with full knowledge comprehend all mysteries, if I have faith great enough to move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing."

In Matthew 25:31-45, we are given a clear indication on how Jesus will judge us at the last judgment. These verses should put an end to your discussions. They state that Jesus will judge us by our good works or the lack of them.

Jesus expects from us that genuine faith which results in action, in doing the Lord's will. His commandment is to love one another, which means caring and helping those in need.

Before I close, allow me to again quote from James 2:18 - "To such a person one might say, 'You have faith and I have works - is that it? Show me your faith without works, and I will show you the faith that underlies my works.'" The church teaches that it is impossible to please God if we only have faith without love.

SURVEY ... from p. 10

Most of the respondents would like to see more evangelization activities undertaken directly in corporations and industries. Specific programs mentioned were the Business Evangelization Program (BEP), the BCLP and Life in the Spirit Seminars, and Workers of Christ activities.

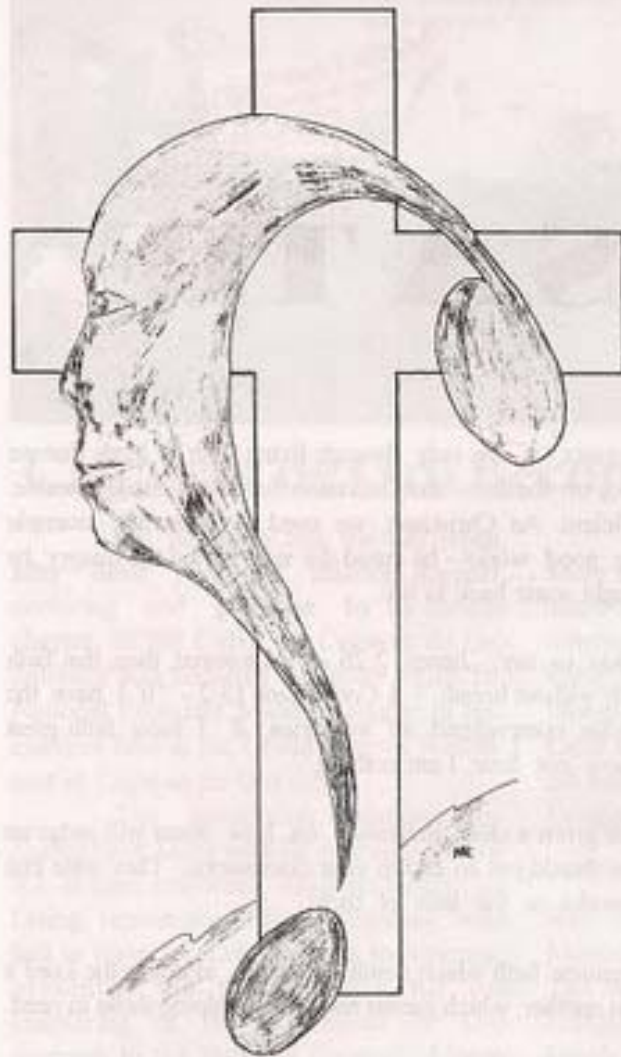
The need for more effective training was indicated by several respondents who zeroed in on better training of action group leaders, discussion group leaders, service heads and course leaders. Evangelization training was also emphasized.

Another area the respondents felt could be improved is in the area of chapter life, to strengthen the spiritual development of members, provide more avenues for service, and generally develop an atmosphere that would minimize "fall-outs". Personal visitation to members who are not regularly attending BCBP activities was recommended.

More exposure, through medical missions and the like, to the least of our brethren were suggested as well as more teachings on reaching out to poorer communities.

Several respondents wanted to see more emphasis on better children's formation and young adults programs.

The KAPATIRAN Magazine would like to thank all those who responded to this mini-survey and shared their thoughts with us. From Makati - Ronnie Caballero, Vic Cuna, Jess and Jane Manalo, Rudy and Paring Orino, Annie Salvador and one Anonymous. From Greenhills - Aida and Hector Patag, Rolando and Mila Jalijali and Noli Lopez.



SPIRITUAL GROWTH:
*What
 Are We
 Becoming?*

The stages of growth in our spiritual life are less easy to identify. Some people gauge their growth on the basis of their sacramental life - baptism, confirmation, reconciliation, the Eucharist, marriage or holy orders, and anointing of the sick. Others base their degree of growth on how many spiritual gifts they have, or how many parish organizations they are active in, or how philanthropic they are, or the number of novenas they have recited, or how many years they have been in the renewal.

perfecter of faith." (Heb. 12:1-2) Jesus puts it even more strongly in Matthew 6:33. We have to get our priorities in order; our goal must be to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness before anything else.

All of us are going to be tomorrow what we are becoming today. A child does not enter the 10 km. fun run the day after he takes his first step. The competent businessman does not hire a trainee today and make him C.E.O. (chief operating officer) tomorrow. We do not suddenly become something in our seventies that we have not been moving toward in our forties and fifties. No one becomes a mature Christian overnight.

What Is Our Goal?

No one denies that "yes, we are growing." But how are we growing? Downwards, sideways, upwards, straight ahead, around and around in circles ... ?

Enoch, A Man Who "Became"

Only seven verses in the Bible are devoted to Enoch and yet he merits mention as one of St. Paul's heroes of faith (Hebrews 11:5) and he and Elijah were the only ones mentioned in the Bible to have been transported directly into the presence of God without passing a death experience. Enoch definitely had his life goals set right.

Growing spiritually is a never-ending process. Citing Enoch's exemplary life, this Back To Basics article dwells on the need for a goal and a firm commitment to live as Christ wants us to live as the keys to "becoming".

Perhaps we should rephrase the common question of "How is your spiritual growth?" into the more accurate one "What are you becoming?" "Growing" denotes a series of changes without really specifying what kind of change. "Becoming" zeros in on the end result of growing, on the goal in our Christian life.

Firstly, we know that Enoch was a man who walked with God (Gen. 5:24) - not once, not once in a while. He walked with God until he was taken up by God. Walking with God means to be constantly aware of God's presence in our life, listening to Him speaking to us through His Word and His Church, and responding to Him in prayer and action.

An infant grows into a cuddly baby who grows into a toddler who becomes a wide-eyed first grader who grows into a teenager who becomes a young adult and so forth. In this process of life we can easily identify what stage one is in and we know more or less clearly where we have been (children) and where we will end (senior citizens).

St. Paul in his letter to the Hebrews identifies the Christian's goal and instructs us to "rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and

cont. on p. 13

Becoming ... fr. p. 12

Enoch pleased God (Heb. 11:5). As we read through this chapter on faith, it becomes clear that pleasing God is, to a large extent, obeying God and following His will for us. From the examples of David and Solomon, we can see the difference between obedience and disobedience. Solomon received God's blessing but later on deliberately disobeyed God, married many foreign women and built temples to other gods causing God to become angry with him (1 Kings 11:1-13). David, on the other hand, recognized his sin, pleaded for forgiveness and strove even harder to obey God.

Thirdly, Enoch served God as a spokesman for God among the ungodly people of his day (Jude 14-15). The Bible doesn't put a time span on his service so we can assume that he served God until he was taken up by God. The psalmist tells us that the righteous shall flourish and bear fruit even in old age (Psalm 92:14-15). None of us should ever consider ourselves finished in our service to the Lord.

What Would Jesus Do?

Charles M. Sheldon in his thought-provoking and inspiring book *In His Steps* (Barbour and Company, Inc., Ohio, c1985) tells about what happened when some Christians in a local church made a unique pledge. For an entire year they vowed not to do anything without first asking the question, "What would Jesus do?" As God revealed the answer to them, they agreed to follow His will even if doing so would bring them conflict, suffering, or disruption of their comfortable lives.

As the businessmen, newspaper men, professionals and others in the community reviewed their work every day in the light of what Jesus would do, they changed policies and business strategies.

They redirected their lives, money, talent, career and influence to Christ. And many things happened ... and kept on happening as the presence of the Holy Spirit moved in that community.

Our Commitment

As members of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals, we have also made our commitment to the Lord, believing that following the white card commitment will help our spiritual growth.

"Can we say that we have become new creations in Christ?"

Yes, committing to certain Christian practices is good. But as we grow, we need to ask ourselves, "What are we becoming?" Can we say that we have become new creations in Christ: "the old things have passed away; behold new things have come." (2 Cor. 5:17) Are we becoming men (or women) who walk with God, who please God and who serve God as did

Enoch? Are we willing to do what Jesus would do in every situation? Are we willing to follow in His steps, regardless of what others might do or advise us to do?

As another year of the BCBP passes, we could also ask, "What is the BCBP becoming?" And, "As a Christian and member of the BCBP, what am I becoming?"

Nancy R. Catan



BIBLE SHARING:



SPIRITUAL GROWTH: A Series of Changes

Growing as a Christian involves a series of changes. We create our own salvific history as God leads us out of sin into renewed lives in Christ. We become new creations in Christ through a series of interrelated changes. Read what the Bible has to say about these changes.

1. Repentance, change of mind: 2 Cor. 7:10; 1 John 1:6-10
2. Regeneration, change of heart: Psalm 51:12; Luke 15:17-24
3. Conversion, change of life: Matt. 18:3; Acts 3:26; Gal. 5:16-26
4. Adoption, change of family: Romans 8:14-17; 1 John 3:1-3; John 1:12-13
5. Sanctification, change of behavior: Heb. 10:14-16; 2 Cor. 5:17; Romans 12:1-2
6. Justification, change of state (from sin to grace): 1 Cor. 6:11; Romans 3:30-31; Romans 5:9
7. Glorification, change of place: 2 Cor. 3:18; Col. 1:11-13; Romans 8:30; Luke 17:21

For further discussion: How many of these changes have you experienced in your life? As a result of your reflection on these verses, what changes do you intend to make in your life?

Executive Ability is deciding quickly and getting somebody else to do the work.

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Member

MEGALink

Gil Abejo, a respected member of the judiciary and an active member of BCBP Greenhills, takes a closer look at the legal profession and the renewal movement.

In one of his well-liked homilies at the EDSA shrine, Fr. Soc Villegas spoke of the story of Tobit, his wife Sarah and son Tobiah, who had serious problems. They prayed to God. God sent them Raphael. Because of what happened, they wanted to repay Raphael who replied that it was God who had taken care of their problems and therefore it was God Whom they must thank. Raphael in the end admitted that he was an angel.

Who is an angel?

An angel is a messenger of God, as Fr. Soc continued in his homily. But he went further to state that although angels are generally thought of as heavenly creatures, he is referring to angels among human beings. He paraphrased Seneca, a Roman philosopher: "For as long as there are human beings here on earth, there is always the possibility that there are angels."

Among human beings are lawyers.

Not a few, though, look unkindly at lawyers, sometimes intentionally using the word "liars" when they mean "lawyers." Yes, there is even a joke that lawyers were already there when God created the world because in the beginning there was chaos and only lawyers could have caused that. People attribute many evil things to lawyers, even saying that St. Peter cannot win an argument with Satan because the latter has all the lawyers behind him down there.

Are lawyers that bad?

I don't think so. We have several in the BCBP and in other renewal groups. I am one of them.

My wife Letty and I have been with the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals since 1984. She still blooms and her eyes still twinkle. She remains as lovely and as romantic as during our honeymoon. And we are about to celebrate our 28th wedding anniversary!



Gil Abejo, Greenhills Chapter

Can A LAWYER Be An Angel?

Our eldest daughter Joy is very active in the Workers of Christ. She keeps smiling at work as a check-in-clerk of PAL seconded to Northwest Airlines. She truly is a bundle of joy!

Our second daughter, Didi, works as my confidential assistant and is also very active in the Workers of Christ, having served as ADL in the last two LSS classes. She surprises me with her intense evangelization among people close to her.

Our youngest daughter, Tricia, will graduate from college at the Golden Gate University in San Francisco, California, in June. Probably her ever ready smiles won for her the presidency of the student government.

Our housekeeper, Linda, has been with us even before Joy was born. To what would you ascribe her long and faithful service to us? Would she have stayed with us this long if we were not what we are?

I think I am an angel for my family. And I am sure the members of my family are angels for me.

I thank the Lord for His faithfulness. I pray that more and more human beings, including lawyers - perhaps especially lawyers - may be angels for one another.

14th BCBP ANNIVERSARY SET JULY 9

Theme: Christ in the Centers of Business

The celebration of the 14th anniversary of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals will take place on Saturday, July 9, at the main ballroom of the Valle Verde Country Club in Pasig, Metro Manila. Roy Calleja, Q.C. chapter head and head of the Anniversary Committee, said that all preparations are in full swing and everyone can look forward to the affair.

The theme for this year's celebration is "Christ In The Centers of Business." This theme emphasizes the thrust of the coming year's BCBP activities in its all-out efforts to bring Jesus into the centers of business through the men's breakfasts and various other Brotherhood programs like the BCLP and the BEP, Business Evangelization Program.

The activities for the celebration will begin on Friday morning, July 8, with the Greenhills chapter organizing sports and fellowship activities such as a golf tournament. Friday afternoon will be devoted to meetings. Las Pinas will host a chapter and outreach heads meeting, Alabang a mission heads meeting, and Makati a meeting of the chapter life heads.

Saturday morning is free time to allow the chapter delegations to prepare their ten-minute presentations for the program in the evening. The celebration

Calling all Provincial Chapters and Outreaches: Please submit the following as soon as possible:

1. Number of Attendees for proper bookings in Manila.
2. Participation in the Program.

Pls. Contact: Willi Guzman - National Secretariat, BCBP Center, Rm 201 Concorde Condominium, Salcedo Cor. Benavidez Sts., Legaspi Vill., Makati.
Tel. Nos: 892-4274; 892-4273.

proper will start off with Fr. Herb Schneider, BCBP Spiritual Director, officiating at Holy Mass. Dinner, program and dancing afterwards will allow everyone to renew friendships and enjoy themselves with true Brotherhood spirit. Cost per person will be P175.00.

To be released during the Anniversary will be a special Anniversary edition of the KAPATIRAN Magazine that will serve as the occasion's souvenir program. Co-editors for the KAPATIRAN's Anniversary Edition are Annie Salvador (Makati) and Emy Magdangal (Q.C.) who are asking

for advertising support from every chapter and outreach. Details and advertising contracts may be obtained from the National Secretariat or through the chapter heads.

The Greenhills chapter has been given the responsibility for arranging the hosting of the provincial delegations with BCBP families in the Metro Manila area. Greenhills also heads the welcoming task force that will meet the incoming delegations at airport or pier or bus station and take them to their Manila hosts.

Each chapter has been assigned to take charge of a specific committee as follows: Alabang - Program committee - Ray & Linda Trinidad, Ronnie & Muriel Petterson, Frank & Marissa Nuguid, Jun & Beth Ginete, Monching & Nanette Kagaon; Greenhills - Secretariat committee - Dante & Cora Magdangal, Ernie & Mariz Cardena, Sonny & Maru Lardizabal, Ricky & Maan Aragon; Las Pinas - Auxillary - Angel & Charito Garcia, Joey & Corito Garcia, Nelson & Annie Salvador, Nick Tolentino; Makati - Publicity and Promotions Oscar & Florence Ballares, Joey & Mely Cailipan, Badong & Robbie Laguda, Emy & Sally Magdangal; Quezon City - Steering - Roy & Janet Calleja, Boy & Nanette Bombais, Sonny & Charisse Marquez, Angel & Charito Garcia, Nelson & Annie Salvador. Quezon City likewise handles the Finance committee.

Meeting Schedules Set

Please take note of the following scheduled meetings. Unless otherwise advised, all meetings will be held at the BCBP National Office at 1200 noon on the date scheduled.

National Council:	Every 2nd & 4th Thursday			
May 12, 26	July 14, 28	Sept. 8, 22	Nov 10, 24	
Jun 9, 23	Aug. 11, 25	Oct. 13, 27	Dec 8, 22	
Chapter Heads:	Every 3rd Thursday			
May 19	July 21	Sept. 15	Nov 17	
June 16	Aug. 18	Oct. 20	Dec 15	
Mission Directors :	Every 1st Thursday			
May 5	July 7	Sept. 1	Nov 3	
June 2	Aug.	4 Oct. 6	Dec 1	

BROTHERHOOD VENUES

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

Wednesdays

MAKATI: Makati Sports Club,
Salcedo Village, Makati

Thursdays

GREENHILLS: Club Filipino,
Greenhills

Fridays

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

Saturdays

ALABANG: Ayala Alabang
Country Club

BACOLOD: Roli's Food Service

BAGUIO: Palace Hotel, Legarda
Road, Baguio

CAGAYAN DE ORO: Paolo's
Ristorante

CAINTA: Brian's, Marcos Hiway
beside Jacob's Supermart

CEBU: Fernando's Sunburst
Restaurant

DAGUPAN: Pinkee's Restaurant
(1st, 3rd Sat.)

DAVAO: Sunburst Restaurant

ILIGAN: Pinausukan (2nd, 4th
Sat.)

ILOILO: Amigo Terraces Hotel

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

LAPULAPU: Cesar's Mansion

MAASIN: Valtevia Restaurant

PUERTO PRINCESSA: Kamayan
Restaurant

QUEZON CITY: Terrace Grill,
119 Roces Ave. near cor.
Morato

TAGBILARAN: JJ Seafoods



Tuguegarao BCBP at Bishop's Palace.

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

Saturdays

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

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

Saturdays

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

BACOLOD: Cafe Negrense (2nd
Sat.)

CAGAYAN DE ORO: Paolo's
Ristorante (3rd Sat.)

CEBU: Fernando's Sunburst (3rd
Sat.)

ILOILO: Amigo Terraces Hotel
(last Sat.)

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

MAKATI: Dates N' Nuts, Jupiter,
Bel Air (Brunch, 2nd Sat.,
9-11 a.m.)

QUEZON CITY: Terrace Grill
(2nd Sat.)

LADIES' LUNCHEON (12:00 noon)

Mondays

GREENHILLS: Makati Skyline,
Greenhills

JOINT BREAKFASTS (7:30 a.m.)

Wednesdays

MAKATI: Makati Sports Club
(1st Wed.)

Saturdays

ALABANG: Ayala Alabang
Country Club (4th Sat.)

CAGAYAN DE ORO: Silver Court
(3rd Sat.)

DAGUPAN: Pinkee's Restaurant
(3rd Sat.)

LA NAVAL CAVITE: NAVSHIP
Managers' Club, Ft. San
Felipe, Cavite City (Sat.
afternoon merienda)

LAS PINAS: Italia Club 500 (1st
Sat.)

MANILA: Chateau 1771 (1st Sat.)



Manila Joint Breakfast at Chateau 1771.

Makati Breakfast - Makati Sports Club



NATIONAL COUNCIL Notes**Rem Gopez
Is Parañaque
Chapter Head**

It is now official. Parañaque is an official chapter of the BCBP and Rem Gopez, former mission head of the Las Pinas Chapter, is the new chapter head. This new chapter is the sixth BCBP chapter to be formed in the Metro Manila area.

After year-long labor pains, the Las Pinas and Alabang chapters have given birth to the Parañaque chapter, with each of the two chapters contributing two units of members. During the month of June it is expected that the governance team and heads of services will be put in place by the new chapter head and recommendations for mission head submitted for approval to the National Council.

**Palawan
To Become
A Chapter**

The National Council has announced that the next outreach to become a chapter will be the BCBP outreach in Puerto Princesa, Palawan, headed by outreach head Fuji Rodriguez. Target date set is July this year.

**New
Telephone
Numbers**

The BCBP National Secretariat's new office announces its new telephone numbers:

892-4274 * 892-4275**

The new address is Rm. 201, Concorde Condominium, Bldg. B, Benavides cor. Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati.

**Only
Two National
Events In 1995**

It has been decided that beginning 1995 there will be only two Brotherhood events that will be national in scope. This will be the annual and financial report given by the Council President in April and the anniversary celebration in July.

All other activities like Family Day, Sports Fest, Bazaar and Children's Day will no longer be BCBP-wide in scope but will be held at chapter level.

YOUR CHAPTER HEAD:***How Was He Selected, What Does He do?***

In response to numerous queries, the National Council has addressed these questions by issuing Policy Directive No. 22 which gives the role of the chapter head, criteria for his selection and the process of selection.

The process of selection of a chapter head begins when the sponsoring chapter recommends three members of the chapter (or proposed chapter) to the National Council, giving a resume of their accomplishments and activities. After evaluation and interviews, the National Council then chooses and appoints the chapter head.

A chapter head must be well versed in chapter life, having served as a unit head for at least one year. He should have handled a BCBP course and given BCLP teachings. Availability for service in the BCBP is another important consideration. A nominee must have both the

time and willingness to take up the added responsibilities of a chapter head. Not only must he have proven leadership qualifications but he must be able to work under the direction of the National Council.

Fully committed to the BCBP covenant, he should have an exemplary family and business life that is closely identified with the Vision and Mission of the Brotherhood. His church life should be in good order and he should be well known for his virtues of faith, hope and charity.

Personal characteristics of a chapter head should include a servant's heart,

being a prayerful person who can excite his members to a life of prayer by his personal example. He should also have the wisdom and prudence to get his members to cooperate and work together.

What does a chapter head do? He is responsible for managing a full complement of four or five BCBP units and for leading the chapter's evangelization program. He governs the chapter by example and by leading the members to the BCBP corporate life with the Lord, shepherding members as situations require. The chapter head chairs the chapter's governance group and leads his own personal action group, composed of his unit leaders.

Failure is only the opportunity to begin again, more intelligently. - Henry Ford



The BCBP Secretariat And Its GENERAL

In this interview Willi Guzman, the only member of the original BCBP breakfast still in active service in the Brotherhood, describes the scope of his responsibilities as Secretary General of the National Secretariat which he claims is oftentimes misunderstood. He says, "I am not an errand boy!"

Officially Wilfredo N. Guzman, Willi for short, is the Secretary General of the BCBP National Office. Some people have had the wrong impression that he just oversees a repository of the official BCBP letterheads and envelopes and maintains the files, that he is merely caretaker of the office, host for occasional meetings and, as he puts it, is the errand and message switchboard of the Brotherhood. "This is a wrong concept that I would like to correct," he emphasizes.

The BCBP Secretariat is the operating arm of the National Council, Willi stresses. He sees to it that policies and mandates from the National Council are properly distributed to all concerned and implemented. He coordinates the activities of chapters and outreaches, mission heads, the Council, hosting meetings at the Secretariat office on some occasions. All these he orchestrates with an army of one, or two people helping at the most.

The BCBP National Council was established two years ago in 1992, when Willi then took office as Secretary General. Some twelve years before that he finished LSS 2 of the then Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen (only). Prior to his officership in the BCBP, Willi was an active member of the BCBP Alabang chapter where he has held the positions of breakfast head, unit head and member of the governance team, among others.

Willi takes pride in the fact that he is the only surviving member of the original

breakfast meeting still active in the Brotherhood. While others have transferred to other communities, migrated or met the Lord, Willi is serving the BCBP, a die-hard fan, one might say. Willi is in fact the continuity, or the link, between what was originally called the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen (BCB) and the present expanded Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals (BCBP).

He comes to the position of Secretary General with impressive credentials: premed at the Collegio de San Juan de Letran, BA and MBA at Far Eastern University. After his formal schooling, Willi successfully engaged in business, traveling frequently both within the Philippines and abroad, honing his corporate and managerial skills.

Asked to describe his job, Willi characterizes it as "challenging." He explains that while it is the mission of the BCBP to refocus the life of men from this material world to the Word of God, still

many members continue to live within the worldly standards. This makes his job more contesting, in the sense that when money matters are involved in any activity, some would rather choose to be themselves rather than to be for others.

"We are supposed to be one 'brotherhood'", he exhorts. "Our actuation should always be for the good of the others, especially when one brother needs material help. After all it is not "my God" but "our God", and all these material things are entrusted to be shared and not to be absolutely owned. This makes us all related to each other and therefore we have the stewardship responsibility to share the harvest, particularly with those who can hardly cope up with this fast-changing material world. Let's talk and work for "ours" and not only "mine".

Five years from now, Willi visualizes that the BCBP will certainly grow in numbers and most especially in really living out Christian values and spiritualities.

cont. on p. 20

The horn of plenty is the one the guy behind you has on his car.

What's The Action In Your Action Group?

The next regular issue of the KAPATIRAN Magazine, the September-October issue, will focus on BCBP action groups. What is an action group? Is this really where the action is? What kind of action can we find in the action group? How important to the Brotherhood is the action group? In what way do you feel that your action group contributes to your walk with the Lord in the BCBP?

We invite you to submit pictures of your action group "in action". We do not want posed pictures with everyone lined up exhibiting toothpaste smiles; we want action shots of groups during meetings, taking part in BCBP service, reaching out to the least of our brethren as in Matt. 25:34-40, doing special things together as a group. Together with the pictures a one or two paragraph report of what happened (when, where, who took part, result) would be appreciated.

Short sharings (150-200 words) on your experiences in your action group are also welcome. Please submit your pictures and/or sharings to your chapter or outreach KAPATIRAN coordinator or send them directly to either the National Secretariat or to the Editor. Deadline for submission is July 22.

There will not be an August issue of the KAPATIRAN as the Special Anniversary Edition of the KAPATIRAN will take its place. This special edition will be released during the 14th Anniversary celebration on July 9. The Anniversary Committee under Roy Calleja is responsible for this special issue; co-editors are Annie Salvador and Emy Magdangal.

WHAT'S A BCBP CHAPTER?

As the Brotherhood continues to grow, more chapters are forming, the most recent being Cagayan de Oro. The National Council in its February 17, 1994 meeting set down in Policy Directive No. 22 the resources necessary to maintain and develop a Chapter.

A chapter in the BCBP can result from the growth of an outreach or by the splitting of an overcrowded chapter into two. In order to function dynamically as a chapter, it must have a proven Christian leader capable of taking on the responsibilities of managing the chapter.

The new chapter must have the necessary evangelistic capabilities to maintain a regular BCBP breakfast and the manpower resources to give BCBPs, BCMRs and all other BCBP teachings. Such evangelistic capabilities must in-

clude enough trained resources to develop and assist their own future outreaches.

A BCBP chapter should have a minimum membership of at least 75 couples who have received the required BCBP teachings. These members should be fully cognizant of the Vision and Mission as well as the Culture of the Brotherhood. It is expected that with this committed membership, there should then be sufficient financial resources to manage the chapter's needs, obligations and expansion.

Secretariat ... from p. 19

"I would like to think that the BCBP had contributed significantly to the evangelization of the marketplace with its fourteen years of existence. And because of this, I envision that the BCBP will become a real force not only in spiritual aspects but also in the physical and material world. Despite the current practices of some members contrary to what we preach, we can still be effective in changing the marketplace and winning it for Jesus Christ."

*"I envision that
the BCBP will
become a real
force for God
in the
marketplace."*

Finally, Willi says that while he has reached a certain level of Christian maturity, he believes that "everything that happens here on earth has a purpose and that God is teaching us more about Himself through these manifestations. The world is a continuing school for all of us. And this is why my Christian growth does not end; this is why my spiritual maturity constantly needs pruning to prepare it for yet another and another season of harvest."

Sammy Ulanday

MAKATI Notebook

Makati Winners in BCBP Family Day

The BCBP's annual Family Day celebrations, held at the BNS Gym in Fort Bonifacio last April 17, kicked off with a walkathon at 6:00 a.m. When the winners were announced, Makati made a clean sweep of all prizes: Jun Catan, first place, Eric Ortigas, second place and Sebs Mendiola, third place. Cora Flores received a special award for "finishing last."

Other Makati award winners included Jun and Nancy Catan (Early Bird Award for arriving first at 5:45 a.m.), and raffle winners Nancy Catan, the Maravillas, the Javellanas and the Salvadors.

Worship Talk Given

Manny Banigan, BCBP National Council president, emphasized that worship is not a receiving, but rather a giving act in his talk on Worship during the Makati chapter's assembly on April 15 at the Magallanes Parish Hall. He also stressed that worship is a relational as well as a directional manifestation of faith in God. His talk was followed by an awe-inspiring prayer meeting led by chapter head Jess Manalo.



Makati members gather for picture-taking before the day's fun-filled activities begin during their summer outing on April 10 at Algon Resort in Cabuyao, Laguna

MAKATI WELCOMES SUMMER!

April 10, Sunday dawned bright and cheery for BCBP Makati and La Naval members who gathered at the Algon Resort in Cabuyao, Laguna, for their annual summer outing. The resort is owned by BCBP members Rudin and Annie Gonzales.

Fr. Chito Dimaranan celebrated Holy Mass at 8:00 a.m. A tornado of activities followed: swimming, riding a bamboo raft in the lagoon, fishing for tilapia, playing with water guns, feasting on an abundance of food and listening to an impromptu concert of worship songs. Lunch was a happy affair with everyone sampling the results of Jun and Nancy Catan's hydrogrill oven. An added treat was "going shopping" and choosing from the Resort's harvest of hito, bangus, garlic and upo before going home.

BCBP Makati members had their blood typed during the March 18 chapter assembly at the Magallanes Parish Hall. The blood typing service was organized with the help of Ina Redelosa, a corporate nurse by profession.

Off to Spain

Rico and Honey Tirona, CLP 15 graduates and stalwart members of Makati chapter's music ministry, bid the chapter "Adios" during the chapter's March 18 assembly. The couple are moving to Spain with their three children Corinne, Mark and Chico. Without exception, everyone in the chapter will miss them but nonetheless all wish them a fond and fervent "Vaya con Dios!"

GLORIA P. ARABELO

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NANE & GLO ARABELO

BCLP # 20

BCBP - GREENHILLS CHAPTER

TUGUEGARAO

BCLP 2 Underway

Ten couples and ten singles are participating in the second Brotherhood Christian Life Program to be held in Tuguegarao Outreach since its founding in August 1993. The course which began on April 30, 1994, has Didi Perez, outreach coordinator, as course leader, while Gerry de Leon, BCLP 1 graduate, is heading the service team. Venue is Marilyn's Restaurant.

Rem Gopez, Las Piñas mission director, handled the empowerment of the service group on April 23, with the BCLP proper being started by BCLP coordinator Manny Dacayan.

Eight Las Piñas members - Jun/Lydia Figueroa, Pete/Lulu Bertis, Manny Dacayan, Jerry Vidal, Tonton Allarey and Cora Trinidad - braved the rough roads and distance and traveled to Tuguegarao to serve in BCLP 2. Module I commenced on April 30 and ended with the first one-to-one dialogue after lunch on May 1. The other modules will be given during the remaining weekends of May with the course being completed on June 4.

Archbishop Diosdado Talamayan D.D., Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Tuguegarao celebrates the mass at the start of BCLP 2 Tuguegarao Outreach.



BCLP 2 Tuguegarao Outreach participants fervently sing the "Ama Namin" during the celebration of the mass.



LA NAVAL CAVITE

OUTREACH FORMS 3 UNITS

The La Naval outreach with its 110 members has been divided into three units, reports outreach head Tony Ylanan. The Sangley unit, Unit I, has 4 action groups, the Ft. San Felipe unit, Unit II, has 3 action groups, and unit III has 3 action groups.

The unit leader for Unit I (Sangley) is Dioko and Cynthia Matas with AGLs Ferdie/Del Dimawala, Will/Nene Agudelo and William/Marlene Turalde in their unit. The Matas also handle one action group.

Unit II leader is Max and Ellen Estinosa. They serve as one of the AGLs with AGLs Roger/Baby Tabermeo and Jess/Millie Mendoza handling the other action groups of the unit.

Rod and Emma Banico serve as the unit leaders for the unit composed of action groups in the areas of Caridad, San Antonio and Noveleta, Cavite. AGLs, besides the Banicos, in this unit are Gerry/Ines Coronel and Del/Mercy Belostrino.

The outreach is currently planning BCLP 4 tentatively scheduled to begin late July. Joint fellowships are held every last Saturday with sharers followed by the Lord's Day celebration. Formation and outreach assemblies are held every Saturday at the Managers' Club, NAVSHIP, Ft. San Felipe, Cavite City.

Isaiah 55



Celebrating the 4th Anniversary of the Las Piñas Breakfast on April 16, 1994, are (l - r) Joey Estagle, Las Piñas Chapter Head, Larry de Larrazabal, BCBP National Council Director for Luzon, Olga de Larrazabal & Tess Estagle

4th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED

The Gran Teatro of the Italia Club 500, B.F. Resort, venue of the weekly Las Piñas breakfast, saw something special in the morning of April 16, 1994, as the men's breakfast celebrated its 4th anniversary. Fr. Bernie Taylor, chaplain of Las Piñas, began the celebration with Holy Mass. A breakfast of steak, fried rice and omelet was served to the hundred members and guests who attended the affair.

An audio-visual exhibition of past events and activities in the history of the Las Piñas breakfast, complete with pictures and voices from the past, regaled the audience and reminded them of the future waiting for evangelization. The inaugural sharers on April 21, 1990, were Omy and Roxanne Romero at Max's Restaurant, Las Piñas.

Brief sharings capped the celebration. Joe Gillo, Efren Carag, Frank Nuguid, past breakfast heads, and Vovos Suarez, present breakfast head, did not only draw a chronicle of the Las Piñas Breakfast, but also depicted the changes in their lives brought about by steadfast service to the Lord in the breakfast. Ludy Pardo, Beth Domingo and Marissa Nuguid likewise expressed their gratitude for having served in the Las Piñas ladies' breakfast.

Joey Estagle, chapter head, and Manny Banigan, BCBP national president,

in closing voiced out the obvious that indeed growth had taken place as seen by the present multitude of faces who were not present in the inaugural breakfast in 1990. Ad multos annos !!!



Vovos "Engracio" Suarez, here with his wife, Lette, both graduates of BCLP #20, is very visible in the Las Piñas Chapter. He succeeded Totoy Tirona to the Men's Breakfast as its Head.

LIGHT MOMENTS

Signs seen on Church Bulletin Boards:

- Ask about our pray-as-you-go plan.
- We hold sit-in demonstrations every Sunday.
- Start living to beat hell.
- Come in and have your faith lifted.
- Come in and let us prepare you for your finals.

Basketball theology:

- Draft choice: Selection of a pew near to (or away from) the electric fans.
- Bench-warmer: Inactive member.
- In the pocket: Where too many Christians keep their tithes.
- Fumble: Lousy sermon.
- Two-minute warning: Commentator sitting in front looking at his watch in full view of the priest giving the homily.

At The Zoo

The teacher took her class to the zoo. When they passed the lion's cage, she asked, "What's the plural of lion?" One of the boys answered, "Lions." "What's the plural of sheep?" she asked in front of the sheep pen. One of the girls answered, "Sheep."

A little farther along they came upon a hippopotamus. "What's the plural of hippopotamus?" the teacher asked little Johnny. Johnny shuddered. "Who would want two of those?"

Oops!

- Wife: Do you love me?
- Husband: Yes, dear.
- Wife: Would you die for me?
- Husband: No - mine is an undying love!

The Solution

- Wife: This article on overpopulation of the world says that somewhere in the world there is a woman having a baby every four seconds!
- Husband: I think they ought to find that woman and stop her!

Service and Sharing Are His Rule Of Life

Early in the morning Joey Estagle, Las Piñas chapter head, is already deep in prayer. This habit he acquired and developed in the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals. "Prayer gives me the proper perspective to the new day and makes the chips for the day fall where they should," he confided. This is an assertion of faith that only a committed man can make.

Joey is married to Tess Estagle. They have two sons: Carlo, who is in a Jesuit seminary studying for the priesthood, and Tomtom, who is married with one child.

Insurance is the business that has preoccupied and placed Joey in the level of successful executives and entrepreneurs. Like many of his peers, after college he had pursued growth and success in business or work that is totally grounded in the 'material' or 'secular'. But unlike many, he was given a flash of insight into the other side of success. "I discovered that the more I achieved, the more I looked for more. I was never satisfied."

So Joey searched for things that would give him more permanent satisfaction. This search led him to the renewal movement and, finally, to the Brotherhood. "The BCBP has given me an insight into myself and my relations that soothes my longing for something permanent." He entered the Brotherhood in the middle of the 1980's and since then has been dividing his time between his business and the BCBP.

Yes, he encounters conflicts between the demands of business and the needs of the community, between the dictates of family and requirements of the chapter. But Joey says, "I experience a lasting satisfaction when I give priority to the Lord through service to the community. This way I become more effective in the operation of my business and in solving the needs of my family."

Service in the BCBP and sharing with members his spiritual experiences and discoveries is Joey's rule of life. As chapter head of BCBP Las Piñas for the last two years or more, he has been shepherding the community towards growth. Presiding over the programs and activities of the chapter, he has managed to redirect its members back to the basics in order to strengthen brotherhood life.

How does Joey accomplish the vision and mission of the BCBP? By example and by inspiring his chapter's members to greater growth. "I am only an instrument," he smiles. "It is the Lord who works in everybody."



*"I experience
a lasting
satisfaction
when I give
priority to
the Lord."*

Under Joey the Las Piñas chapter is a beehive of activities. Do the members feel they are being drowned with too many programs? "Those who perceive the direction we are going in do not show any withdrawal symptoms. Others having different perceptions have to be enlightened and shepherded so that they will be able to see the meaning and purpose in these programs and activities." And he goes on to point out that breakfasts and assemblies, teachings and special convocations are well attended and well served.

Our Lord has indeed found an effective instrument in Joey Estagle. In fact Las Piñas chapter members feel that his life in the BCBP is reason enough for doing what they do in the Brotherhood.

Bong Lodero

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BACOLOD

From CHRISTMAS To EASTER

Christmas Concert. The Partners-in-Mission esented a free musical concert with the theme "Celebrate, Jesus, Celebrate ... He is the Reason for the Season", with a cast of about a hundred from the BCBP, BCBP Youth, Lingkod and CYA. A repeat performance was held at the Bacolod City plaza for the general public.

Leaders' Retreat. The regular annual leaders' retreat was held on January 16 with Tito Ed Locsin (member of the original breakfast core group in 1988) as Retreat Master. The theme of the retreat was discipleship.

Vismin Council Meeting. Coinciding with the 6th anniversary of the Men's Breakfast and the 1st chapter installation anniversary, Bacolod played host to the VisMin council meeting last January 22. Attending were National President Manny Banigan and his wife Haydz, and Managing Director Rolly Ona and his wife Emma. From the VisMin area came Sadi Saguisag, Larry Veloso, Ed Lising (Cebu), Pepot Fortich, Henry Dy (Cagayan de Oro), Albert Sanvictores (Tagbilaran), Gau Arancillo and JT Barrera (Iloilo).

Youth Formation Conference. Simultaneously, a whole-day Youth Formation Conference was conducted by the Youth Formation Program Service Team, composed of BCBP and Lingkod members, with a group from Manila headed by Lyn Feria of Alabang.

The next morning the Youth held their first breakfast with Joanne Atendido of Alabang Youth as sharer. Acting as Emcee was Randy Feria, head of PALS, assisted by April Javier and Myra Lopez. It was a SRO event as many parent-members came to lend their support. The Youth now hold a



Vismin Council Meeting in Bacolod. Foreground (l-r): Sadi Saguisag, Manny Banigan, Rolly Ona. Background (l-r): Bacolod's Anabelle Sajo & Emily Ferrer, Cebu's Ed Lising & Larry Veloso, Tagbilaran's Albert Sanvictores, Cagayan de Oro's Henry Dy & Pepot Fortich.

regularly monthly breakfast every 4th Saturday.

ACTS 2. On February 19 and 20, 60 boys and girls ages 11-17, all children of the BCBP Bacolod members participated in an LSS weekend held at Balay Kalinungan, La Salle. During that weekend, the Youth Formation Program which started last August 1993 was christened "ACTS 2", as inspired by Acts 2:17. Their Service Council was organized on March 26 with Kerwin Legarde designated Coordinator.

The monthly activities of ACTS 2 include a Service Council meeting, an action group meeting, a prayer meeting, an assembly and a prayer breakfast.

Reorganization. The standard organization as outlined in the BCBP 5-year development plan was adopted at the beginning of 1994. Unit leader Art Legarde was appointed chapter life director to take charge of the internal evangelization of BCBP Bacolod members. All service ministries were grouped under the new secretariat and service group headed by Cris Gaston.

Christian Service Series. The four Saturdays of February were dedicated solely to the Christian Service Series with chapter life director Art Legarde as course leader.

BCMR. BCMR 4 was held during the first weekend of March with 29 couples participating. Venue was the Redemptorist Scala Retre at House. Nene and Lyn Gamboa were assisted by Edgar and Marilou Castillo and had Bodie and Nadie del Castillo as servant couple. The BCMR talks were ably handled by Manny and Haydz Banigan together with Louie and "Mother" Lily Morales.

Governance Recollection. On March 12 the governance team "disappeared" from Bacolod for their day-long semestral recollection held at the fishfarm of AGL Junie and Suzette Bantug and Cesar and Cynthia Regino in Victorias. The message of the Lord during this day of "listening" was that love to be authentic has to be expressed.

Easter. The Partners-in-Mission (BCBP, Lingkod, CYA) held an Easter Eucharistic Celebration and Worship Assembly on Easter Sunday morning at the University of St. La Salle. After an "agape" lunch the Children's Formation was formally launched.

Easter Recollection. To emphasize the importance of Easter, an Easter Community Recollection was held the following Saturday. Invited to conduct the recollection was Dr. Telly Somera who led the

cont. on p.30

Any fool can criticize, condemn and complain, and most fools do. - Dale Carnegie



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MAASIN

Commitment Program Held

The graduates of BCLP courses 1, 2, 3 and 4 gathered together for their formal commitment ceremonies on March 6. With this commitment to God through the Brotherhood, the outreach has 109 members divided into 3 units. BCLP No. 5 is scheduled for September of this year.

ILOILO

Outreach Update

The first quarterly report for 1994 for the Iloilo outreach as reported by Gau Arancillo showed the outreach with 128 members, 2 units and 12 actions groups. However, the recently concluded BCLP (May 7) has increased the number of units to three.

Plans after the BCLP in May include going out on mission by extending the BCBP activities to Roxas City.



Bacolod BCBP - Act 2 boys and girls pose with their "elders" from the Lingkod Ng Panginoon community.

The outreach is helping, together with BCBP Cebu, conduct the first BCLP in Dumaguete City that has been tentatively scheduled to begin on May 28.

During Holy Week the outreach conducted a Brotherhood Evangelization Program at the Gov. Celestino Gallares Memorial (Central Visayas Regional) Hospital. 200 employees attended with 72 receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit last April 18-19. Course leaders were Jun and Nim Escobia. Coordinating the BEP were Betty Labado and Mae Virtucio. Some 60 BCBP members served as discussion group leaders.

DUMAGUETE

BCLP 1 Underway

The first Brotherhood Christian Life Program in the new outreach of Dumaguete begins June 4, with baptism in the Holy Spirit scheduled for July 2 and commitment ceremonies for July 30. Mission teams from Tagbilaran and Cebu are conducting the course.

PALAWAN

The Beauties Of BCMR 4

On the memorable week-end of April 29, 30 and May, nine couples experienced the beauties of BCMR 4 in Puerto Princesa City. It was held at the Palawan Provincial Agricultural Center (PAC) site nestled in the foothills of the Iwahig mountains, a mere twenty-minute drive from the city center but with the serenity of woodland, blooming flowers and bird calls.

Commitment was foremost among the participants as seen when Alex Asuncion of WESCOM cleared his deck of military matters for the whole weekend. Melit Sabando got up from a major operation to make her date with the Lord and Lota Turralba alternated between the conference room and the retreat house bed as she endured malaria attacks. The other participants also overcame conflicting demands on their time to be present for the whole weekend.

Ding and Tess Reyes were the retreat team leaders assisted by Abe and "preggie with twins" Malou Celzo. Edwin and Gina Tan served as the retreat team couple, complemented by "live in servants" Cora Bilog, Marita Villanueva and Ed Ponce de Leon, plus a host of daytime servants.

The beauty of the weekend owed a lot for its fulfillment to the inspiring direction of our trio of couple speakers - Manny and Haydz Banigan, Rey and Tess Datu, Joey and Tess Estagle. They brought the talks and sharings to a high level of inspiration with God's grace outpouring on the receptive couples. The endless beauties to be found in the Christian marriage are now evident in these nine couples.

Gina Gamboa-Tan

TAGBILARAN

Going Up And Reaching Out

Outreach head Rey Dejaresco reports that the Tagbilaran BCBP has a total head count of 252 members with 5 units and 24 action groups. Average men's breakfast attendance is 55, ladies' breakfast attendance is 40.



Banner-Turnover. Endorsement from Cebu to Cagayan de Oro - Cebu represented by Ed Lising to CDO's Ed Canlas

In The Beginning

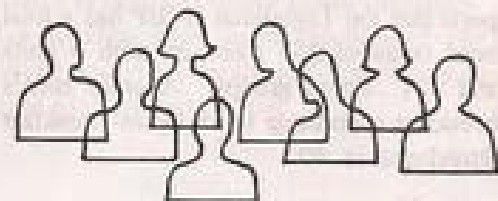
The BCBP Cagayan de Oro outreach began in 1990 by brothers from BCBP Cebu and BCBP Alabang. The first scheduled CLP had to be postponed from November 1990 to January 1991 because of the Noble coup and Typhoon Ruping. First to come were Ed Lising, Nap Polotan, Romy Du and Sadi Saguisag from Cebu. Others who came later included Louie Morales, Lito Urgino (first breakfast sharer), Rey Datu, Ferdie Baena, Manny and Haydz Banigan, the Gamboas and the Pobres.

Among those who came from Cebu during the early mission days were Romy and Elvie Du, Rene and Marites Almendras, Rene and Marite Congmon, the Saguisags, the Polotans, the Lisings, the Escanos, the Villas, the Luches, the Garcias, Joe Eco and Fr. Tucker. CLP 1 was held at the Manresa Retreat Center, the second CLP at Tay-en Restaurant and the subsequent CLPs moved to the "home" of the outreach's activities, Paolo's Ristorante, courtesy of one of the original BCBP member-couples, Jess and Nena Paras.

As an outreach, under the leadership of outreach head Ed Canlas, the group conducted six BCLPs, one BCMR and is assisting in two outreaches - Iligan and Davao.

Bacolod.. from p. 27

participants to make a recommitment to the Lord at the end. The afternoon ended with a mass celebrated by BCLP 8 graduate Fr. Aris Dormido, treasurer of the Diocese of Bacolod.



Cagayan de Oro Becomes 9th Chapter

April 23, 1994 was the day when, after three years of mission support, nurturing and guidance by its mother chapter, BCBP Cebu, the Cagayan de Oro outreach was declared a chapter by BCBP National President Manny Banigan in ceremonies held at the Grand Caprice Restaurant in Cagayan de Oro city.

The installation ceremonies included Holy Mass with Fr. Mariano Varela, S.J. as main celebrant. After the homily, Ed Lising, representing Sadi Saguisag who had to leave for Cebu early in the evening, presented the justifications for the charting of the Cagayan de Oro outreach to the National Council. Manny Banigan on behalf of the National Council formally accepted BCBP Cagayan as a full-fledged chapter of the organization. Fr. Varela then anointed with holy oil each and every officer-leader of the new Cagayan de Oro chapter and their wives. Dinner, entertainment numbers and dancing followed the Mass.

New Chapter Organization Announced

Ed Canlas, confirmed by the National Council as the chapter director of the newly installed Cagayan de Oro chapter, announced his organizational set-up and governance team in the first issue of the Cagayan de Oro Chapter News dated April 23, 1994.

The mission head of the new chapter is Pepot Fortich. Ed Abastas will serve as breakfast head. Outreaches are coordinated by D. dela Cerna. Angie Palana is the

Emcees for the evening were Tito Mora and Beng Pelaez. Guests included some CYAers who contributed a dance number, Mrs. Mimi Fabello from the Kahayag sa Diyos community, and former vice-president Emmanuel Pelaez. In the Cebu delegation were Jeff Villa and wife, Ed and Ester Lising, Rene Almendras, the Congmons and Nap Polotan.

From BCBP Bacolod and Iloilo came Ray Garcia, Gau Arancillo, Digoy Montalvo, Nene Gamboa and Mr. Lopez. The Manila delegation included Joey Estagle, Pete and Rose Padre, Manny and Haydz Banigan, Rolly and Emma Ona, Willi Guzman, and others.

To date there are three units and 20 action groups in the new chapter, totaling about 250 active members. The chapter is assisting BCBP Cebu's Davao outreach and Iligan outreach activities. They plan a Valencia outreach for the end of 1994.

Partners In Mission liaison. Wewel Sison is overall worship head with Jong Tiro handling the music ministry, Ping Almonia the liturgy, Wilifredo Alcantar the intercessory and Art Neri the assembly, service teams.

Administration head is Bobby Cabrera with Mansion Liong taking care of the chapter's finances. Unit leaders are Jess Paras, Ernesto Mondonedo and Mon Fernandez. The spiritual formation service team members have not yet been announced.

ILIGAN

BCBP Iligan Marks 1st Anniversary

March 13, 1994 was a day of thanksgiving and rejoicing for the BCBP Iligan outreach headed by Bebens Yanez as the outreach celebrated its first anniversary. The day began with a Eucharistic celebration at 10:00 a.m. at the Inahan sa Kinabuhay Church in Kalubihan, Iligan City.

Luncheon and fellowship at the beautiful and spacious beach house of BCBP member Allan Siao followed the mass. BCBP brothers and sisters from Cagayan de Oro were headed by mission head Pepot Fortich. Rene Congmon, BCBP Cebu coordinator for the Iligan outreach, was also there to witness and support the growing outreach in Iligan City.

Now 120 Members Strong

Pepot Fortich (Cagayan de Oro), reporting for Iligan outreach head Bebens Yanez during the April Vis-Min meeting, said that the outreach has 120 members with two units and 9 action groups. Their last BCLP, BCLP 2, graduated 94 participants.

The men's breakfasts are held every 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month, with the former at Pausukan Restaurant and the latter at Sunburst Restaurant. The ladies' breakfasts will begin in August. Although some sharers still come from Cagayan de Oro and Cebu, Iligan already has good sharers of its own. Breakfast head is Ronie Albulario assisted by Rudy Uy. Music ministry head is Manoling Ignacio.

DAVAO

BCLP 2 Completed, BCLP 3 To Begin Sept.

The Cebu mission team reports that the newly opened Davao outreach has just completed BCLP 2 last April 29 graduating 34. Davao brothers and sisters now total 59 strong and committed members. BCLP 3 is being planned to begin sometime in September 1994. The 20 singles that completed BCLP 2 were immediately endorsed to Lingkod ng Panginoon as the LNP is now active in Davao, too.

The men's breakfasts in Davao are held at the Sunburst Restaurant every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month. The outreach is being supported by mission teams from both BCBP Cebu and BCBP Cagayan de Oro.

CEBU

Year of Consolidation

During the April Vis-Min meeting, the Cebu group emphasized that 1994 is a year of consolidation for the Cebu chapter. As of the end of the first quarter of 1994, the chapter has a membership headcount of 309 members composing 4 units with a total of 20 action groups.

Rene Almendras reported that they have only planned one BCLP for this year, BCLP 11 to start in September and finish in December. The strengthening of their chapter life activities includes three Brotherhood Christian Marriage Retreats on the weekends of June 3, July 8 and August 5 with course leader Jaime Gallego.

Mission activities have been extended to Mactan with the orientation for BCLP 1 held on April 30. The Cebu mission team continues to support outreaches in Tagbilaran, Tacloban, Maasin, Davao and Dumaguete.

TACLOBAN

BCBP Activities Begin

May 7 saw the orientation for BCLP 1 begin the Brotherhood's entry course in the city of Tacloban. Talk #1 was scheduled for May 14 with baptism of the Holy Spirit following on June 11 and commitment in early July. Plans indicate a second BCLP will begin in September.

This outreach was launched on March 12 with the men's breakfast, reports Ed Lising, mission director of BCBP Cebu, the chapter tasked with opening up the Leyte area. The breakfasts are scheduled every first and third Saturday of the month.

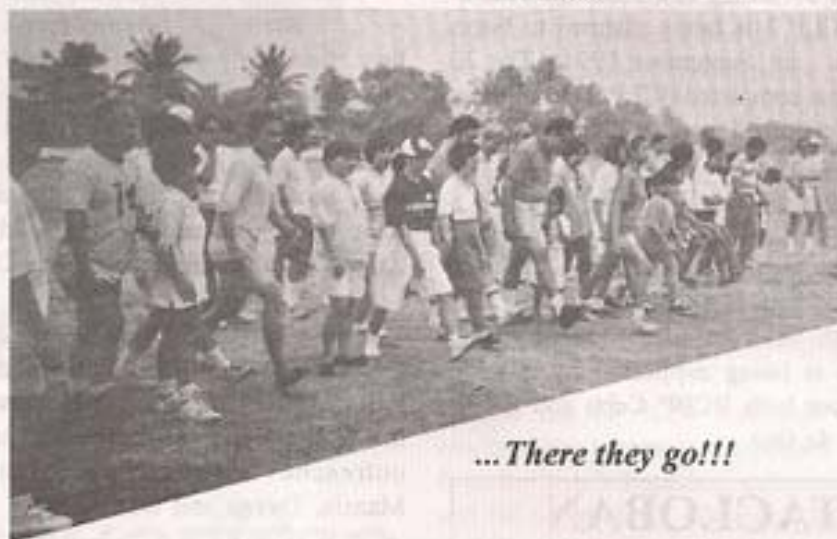
CDO BCLP # 6 brothers reading their commitment cards along with Bro. Pepot Fortich.



Pleasant memories must be arranged in advance

It's A Family Affair!

Just about to start...



...There they go!!!

...and the winner is... who???

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In middle age you are as young as ever, but it takes a lot more effort.

...then Fr. Gerry sang,



and Teng and Sonny sang...



and Manny danced???

Fun!!!

And games!!!



Mommies and ... cuties???



Daddies learn ABC.



"L is for elephant" "E as in Indians."

"No, I told you, this is not a prize. It's my lunch!"



Success comes in cans; failure in can'ts.

Ladies Observe Anniversary

The Greenhills Ladies' Luncheon celebrated its anniversary with a "Dinner-Dance gala on May 16, 1994 at the Camp Aguinaldo Officers' Club. Well attended, it was highlighted by a couple sharing by Rolly and Ady Aberion. Manolet and Carla Siojo rendered a song commemorating their 13th wedding anniversary on that date, Danny and Presey Lazo were cheered for their 30th wedding anniversary.

Dance numbers by Andrew Lopez, Gina Cendana, Nes/Sandy Macaraniag, Badong/Robie Laguda entertained the audience during the program emceed by Eddie and Daisy Mendoza.

Forthcoming sharers for the luncheon which is held every 3rd Monday are Oly delos Santos in June, Chic Castro in July and Joy Villaluz in August.

16 Couples Renew Vows

Sixteen couples, mostly graduates of BCLP 20 renewed their marriage vows at the culmination of Greenhills BCMR on May 6-8 at the Don Bosco Retreat House in Batulao, Batangas. Speakers for the retreat included Danny Carreon, Bobby/Marite Lavina, Rolly/Ady Aberion, Ben/Pita Sugang, Eddie/Daisy Mendoza, and Manolet/Carla Siojo.

The service team was headed by Noel/Marissa Dela Paz supported by Prudence/Mitz Tabaquero, Teng/Dia Cruz, and Efren/Bootchie Pascual in coordination with Bro. Obet Narvaez of Don Bosco. Rev. Fr.

Chris Kennedy, rector of Don Bosco, presided over the participants' renewal of their marriage vows on the last day.

Participants were Nane/Glo Arabelo, Raymond/Marissa Bienvenida, Dante/Dedette Santiago, Willy/Yollie Cruz, Alex/Vicky Cruz, Gilbert/Lou Donato, Francis/Tanya Adriano, Buboy/Arlyn Cantera, Bernard/Jessica De Mesa, Sammy/Veron Ulanday, Dannie/Ellen Arcilla, Bert/Carol Escario, Danny/Emily Fule, Joy/Cristy Evangelista, Nonong/Mila Garces and Mon/Patty Cocson.

Workers Go Into High Gear

The Workers of Christ, an outreach of the BCBP Greenhills, has gone into high gear with the completion of two successive Life in the Spirit Seminars. A total of 46 participants of the corporate LSS and 32 for the community LSS completed the course at the Philippine Women's University on March 18-20 and at the Center for Peace on April 29-30, May 1,7 respectively.

The corporate LSS was headed by course leaders Jing Pascual and Christine Feria while the community LSS had Caesar Liza and Mrs. Meroy Adriano as course leaders. The supporting service team members were Rose Punzalan, Ogie Villamar, Edwin Caday, Jo Ros, Susan Laeson, Ric Guevara and Danny Tiu.



Workers of Christ in prayer.



TRIBUTES

Ana Maria Panganiban Gamboa BCLP 14, Greenhills Chapter

Ayna is best remembered by Greenhills BCBP members for her almost perpetual happy mood, her funny stories and genuine concern for others, but most of all for her participation in the chapter's music ministry. She was serving as an action group leader with her husband Juni for the first BCLP in Cainta when the wrath of her asthma and effects of smoking finally caught up with her. She was 30 years old and left two children ages 7 and 2-1/2. Her husband Juni and relatives, friends and BCBP members are sure that Ayna is now singing with the angels and eternally cheering up the other souls in heaven.

Rogelio Luna Cruz BCLP 9, Greenhills Chapter

Bro. Rogie ended his life of searching for the meaning of life at the age of 54, succumbing to a heart stroke, his third and final, on April 19, 1994. His search brought him to the BCLP - and he brought along his entire family, including his married children and their spouses into the renewal. Tina and husband Jigs Mateo are active in BCBP Cebu, Isa and Denden are with the Tahanan ng Panginoon, Babo is a member of Bukas Loob sa Diyos, Toni is with Ligaya ng Panginoon, and the youngest, Lala, is active with the In Christ Thrust for University Students.

cont. on p. 36

Alabang Youth In Action

PALS Bonding. 20 youthful participants and 15 service team members of the PALS spent a day of fun and bonding at the Picnic Grove in Tagaytay. Tito Boy and Tita Nanette Bombais and Tito Boy and Tita Tet Javier joined the group of Alabang youth. Games. Getting to know each other. Lunch. More games. The day's activities happily ended with many of the new participants of the BCBP PALS promising to attend the next CLP.

Youth On Fire. Members of the PALS attended the week-long Summer Training Conference for Christian youth leadership development organized by Christ's Youth in Action (CYA) held at the Lay Formation Center, Guadalupe on April 18-24. One of the memorable activities was evangelizing the youth at SMMegamall on April 21.

PALS Of The Lord

If we haven't reached you yet,
call Randy Feria, the overall
coordinator at 801-9926

Those from PALS Alabang who attended were Pamela Palacios, Karina Figueroa, Joan Atendido, Laurie Adriano, Montse Preysler, Monica Dumalasa, Patricia Besinga, Rachel Uy, Joel Gana, Red Boy Feria and Carlitos Carballo.

Music Ministry. The PALS music ministry has been practicing diligently twice a week throughout the summer break to meet the demand for their musical exuberance in praise and worship services in the Alabang chapter. The empowered music ministry was organized by Richie Feria and is coached by Jeanette Guzman.

From reports by April Javier, Angela Montalban, Pamela Palacios and Karina Figueroa.



The color of the day was orange with the Orange Team winning overall.

Orange Team Wins The Day

A rainbow of colors worn by the different teams ushered in the annual Family Day of the Alabang chapter last May 1, 1994 at the Southridge gym. After the Holy Mass, the PALS, Pro-Active Loving Servants of the Lord or the youth who were responsible for planning this year's Family Day, took charge of the games. Members were divided into five groups: the Green Team was headed by Bill Gamboa, the Blue Team by Teks Espiritu, the Red Team by Charlie Carballo (defending champions of last year), the Yellow Team by Manny Jimenez, and the Orange Team by Bobby Atendido.

The games were quite different than those of previous years, thanks to the crea-

tiveness and ingenuity of the youth. These included "Longest Line", "Save the Babies", and "Scavenger's Hunt". More exciting than the games was the unofficial contest to see who could cheer the most creatively.

The winning team at the end of the day was the Orange Team with the Blue Team and Yellow Team coming in second and third respectively. The Family Day was an opportunity to show true sportsmanship and honesty not just in the marketplace but in our BCBP Alabang community where God comes first above all else. The Lord above who made this day possible was the real Champion!

Tina A. Palacios



PALS at Picnic Grove Tagaytay, for fellowship.

A man of words and not of deeds is like a garden full of weeds.

LOOKING BACK

ALABANG TURNS 10

Pete Padre, Alabang Chapter Head

Pete Padre, presently chapter head of Alabang, reminisces about the early years of the Alabang breakfast when he was the first Alabang breakfast head.

The year was early 1984. The BCBP was looking forward to its third anniversary that coming July. Started in July 1981 as a Christian businessmen's breakfast at the Makati Sports Club, the Brotherhood had by then evolved into a structured group with two chapters, South and North, each with its own weekly breakfast - the South at Metro Club in Makati, the North at Club Filipino in Greenhills.

Not long after the start of the Greenhills breakfast, the idea of a separate breakfast for the Alabang-Las Pinas-Paranaque "golden triangle" came up. Easily half of the regular breakfast goes at the Metro Club at the time were from that area. They envisioned a Saturday breakfast as ideal since there would be less pressure to rush off to office after the breakfast. The idea was broached to Mike Joseph Sr., then BCBP Central chapter head. At first, he was not receptive. But the "southerners" persisted with over 50 brothers committing to attend the new breakfast. Mike finally gave in but with many conditions.

The first breakfast was held on the last Saturday of April 1984 with an attendance of almost 100 filling the main dining room of the Alabang Country Club. First sharer was Fernando de Larrazabal, now a member of the BCBP National Council. At first, the Alabang breakfast faithfully trod on every single footstep of the Metro Club breakfast. If you didn't look out the wide windows and see the rolling landscape of the Alabang golf course, you could as well be at the Metro Club. Except that everyone was in casual attire and much more relaxed than during the Metro Club's Wednesday breakfasts. But with "free spirit" emcees like George Najar and later on, Rey Datu, the Alabang breakfast soon started to acquire its own special flavor which has remained to this day.

The year 1985 was a pivotal year for the country under martial law. Public opinion was being crystallized and polarized as never before under the Marcos regime through various fora, one of which was euphemistically, albeit appropriately enough, called "kaphans." With breakfast regular Emmanuel "Manny" Pelaez as the moving spirit, the Alabang breakfast soon doubled up as a "kapihan" of sorts. After the breakfast had been officially closed and the final hymn sung, the group would move out to the veranda for a free-for-all discussion of the day's affairs.

Two "blockbuster" affairs marked the early years of the Alabang breakfast. The first was our second anniversary breakfast on April 26, 1986 when we had then General Fidel Ramos as guest sharer. Extra tables had to be set up in the veranda to accommodate the overflow crowd that showed up for the occasion. The second big affair was a testimonial for Manny Pelaez after his appointment as Philippine ambassador to the United States. This was done in the best tradition of "honoring" which is very much a part of the Brotherhood culture.

By then, the Alabang breakfast was healthy and alive, averaging 100 brothers every Saturday at the Alabang Country Club. The next step was full chapterhood and the rest is history!

Tributes... from p. 34

While the BCBP opened the gates of renewal even wider for Bro. Rogie, Sis. Melita, his wife, says that he became even more hungry for Christ. This spiritual hunger led him to the Cenacle Movement at the Center for Peace where he became a full time worker. He also trained as a trainer under CLAYE. Was his mission aborted when he died? "Certainly not." Sis. Melita concludes, "I am sure that God took him just at the right time; Rogie's death is the culmination of his mission here on earth. It is an occasion of bliss for him who will now be face to face with the One he was searching for."

Romy de Leon BCLP 20, Las Piñas

Romy de Leon, 64, joined the BCBP through BCLP 20 in 1992. His was an unwavering commitment and total service. Shortly after Commitment Night, Romy discovered that he had the big "C". He battled the disease unrelentingly and with strong faith, building not only his character and spirituality but that of his family and confreres too. The end came in March 1994 with total acceptance with the Spirit of the Lord, descending on Romy, on Georgie his wife, on Edwin and Erwin his children and on all his BCBP friends.

A Chapel in My Heart

*I am serene, for I have built
A chapel in my heart,
A silent, sheltered citadel,
A separate place apart
To which I come in solitude
To lift my thoughts in prayer,
Telling God my troubles
And confiding every care;
Yes, in this chapel in my heart
I can renew my soul,
For solitude will bring me peace,
And prayer will make me whole.*

- Katherine N. Davis

EXHORTATION

Being In God's Service: God Never Allows Us To Lose Track Of Him

Jess Manalo
Makati Chapter Head

As we try to recall our hazy beginnings in the BCBP, all of us were honestly uncertain where or what the CLP will lead us to. But as time passed by, a new outlook helped us to see and experience a new way of life. In one way or another, our AGL, UL or whoever was in-charge of us were instrumental to our spiritual growth. And all of us realize from our experience, how crucial and important the role of a leader is to a budding member.

Today as we have grown into some degree of maturity in the Spirit, we are once again confronted with decisions. The Lord is knocking at the doors of our hearts, disturbing us from our everyday preoccupations with worldly needs and concerns, shaking us up and telling us: "Focus on Me. I am the Answer. Seek first My Kingdom, serve Me first and all these things you're worried about will be sorted out in your favor."

At one time or another we experience difficulties in our service, in the demands on our time and energies and even resources. We feel tired simply because we are uncertain whether what we are doing still matters or not.

Let us not be mistaken that it was the Lord who called us to serve Him through the love and care we give to our brothers and sisters in the BCBP. Let us pause and reflect on the lives of individuals and families whom we have touched and whose hearts and minds the Lord has conquered through us.

Let us stop for a moment and thank God for having made us instruments to such a purpose. Then we realize we have not failed in His eyes and our work for Him has not been futile at all. Perhaps we need to learn more for bearance from Job, stronger faith from Peter, and trusting obedience from Mary, His mother. And let us strengthen our prayertime, praying for

wisdom and discernment so that we can continue to live our covenant with Him to be fishers and shepherds of men.



One Minute Meditations

by F. de Larrazabal

1

"Whatever you declare bound on earth shall be bound in heaven; whatever you declare loosed on earth shall be loosed in heaven." (Mt. 16:19)

We are faced with the unfortunate reality of having many of our members leaving the Church. Their reasons being they no longer feel fulfilled in their faith, nor is there need for a church. We are tempted to ask if there is really a need for a church. It certainly would be a lot easier to deal directly with God and by-pass priests, pastors, ministers, and do away with all church rules.

The covenant that Jesus made at the Last Supper was made to a people, not to an individual. Jesus chose twelve men whom he taught and trained to become the nucleus and foundation of his Church. He appointed Peter to head the Church when he declared to him "You are the rock and upon this rock I will build my Church." He further empowered his Church by entrusting to Peter the keys to the kingdom of heaven, while giving the Church the authority to declare bound or loosed whatever the Church may so decide. Now I ask you, "Is there need for a Church? Why then did Jesus institute the Church?"

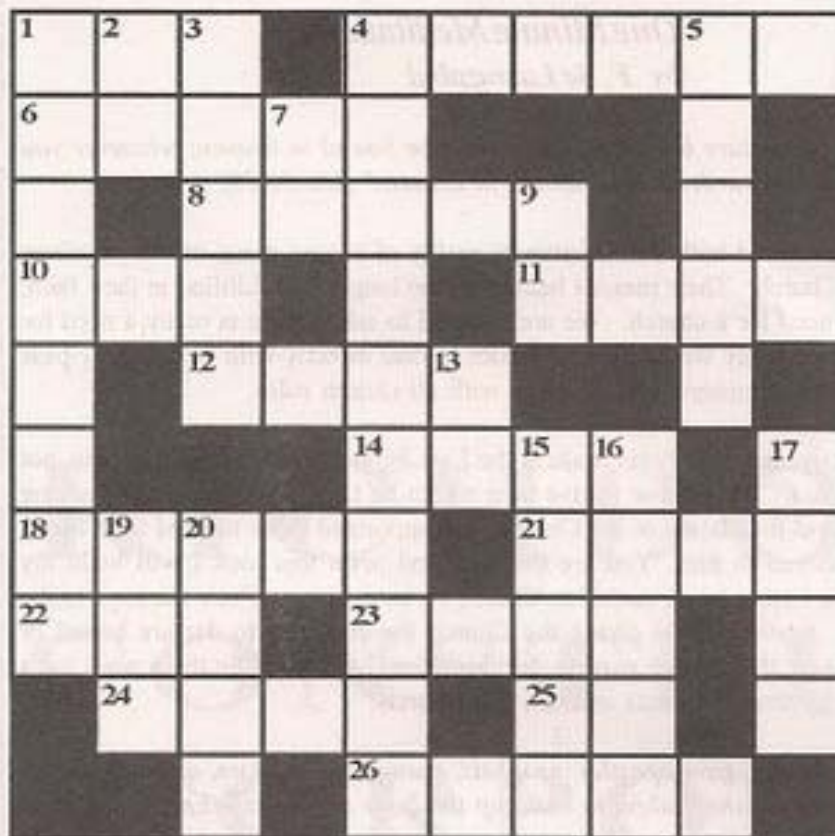
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"It is he who gave apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers in roles of service for the faithful to build up the Body of Christ." (Eph 4:11-12)

St Paul went about the Gentiles building a Church. In this passage he precisely used the word Body to respond to those who imply there is no need for a Church. The Lord Jesus brings together his people to form them into a body of worshippers, where he is the head.

The Church is a community where people of God find mutual support and fellowship, vital needs to give a successful Christian life. We will not be able to sustain this life alone by ourselves. We need the church to guide, correct and reproach us, if we wish to lead and walk in the Lord's footsteps. Is there need for a Church? Why do you think Jesus instituted the Church?

by Noli Lopez, Greenhills Chapter



ACROSS

1. A book (Jb. 1:1)
4. Inn (Acts 28:15)
6. ___h, son of Shaphan (Ezra 10:22)
8. Collection of Books
10. Mother of Seth (Gen.3:26)
11. Ancient Greek (Ezek. 30:5)
12. Messiah (1Kgs. 5:3)
14. Repeopled Earth (Gen. 9:10)
18. Market (Mk. 6:56)
21. Prince (Josh. 13:21)
22. ___ad, Abraham's grandson (Gen. 25:15)
23. To summon (Jer. 1:15)
24. Immortal (Mat. 10:28)
25. After Christ
26. Elijah (Ezra 10:26)

DOWN

1. A prophet (Mt. 2:17)
2. ___ives, Plant (Lk. 19:29)
3. A tower (Gen. 11:9)
4. Holy Place (Ex. 25:16)
5. My teacher (Mr. 10:51)
7. ___n, disobedience to God (2Pt. 2:4)
9. Generic word of God (Gen. 1:1)
13. ___ve, pure bird (Lev. 12:6)
15. David's Cattle (1Chron. 27:29)
16. Prophetess (1Kgs. 22:14)
17. Adam's son (Gen. 4:25)
19. Air (Gen. 1:30)
20. Smell (Jn. 11:39)

Answer to the Bible CrossWord will be in the next Issue.



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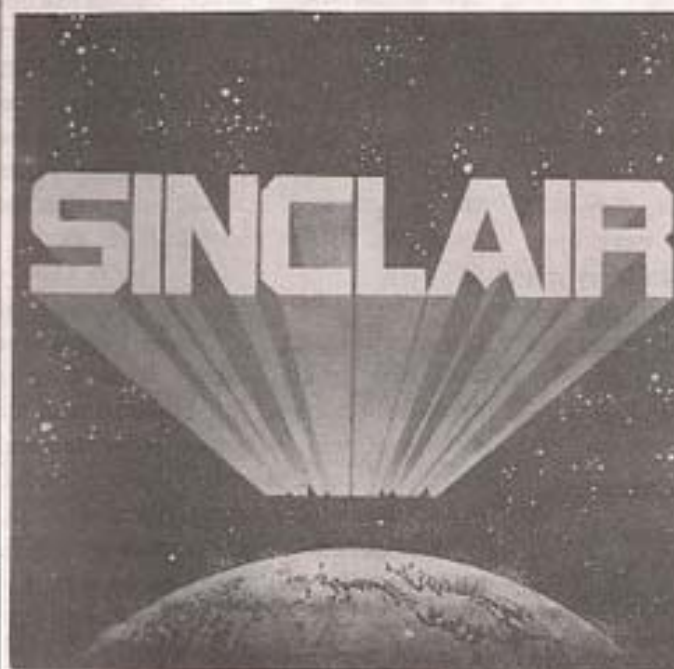
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Confident in Christ

Before I met the Lord Jesus, I used to stutter a lot. I was very insecure about the things I said and the reaction it would elicit from other people. When the Lord came into my life, this was one of the first areas He touched. Somewhere in the Bible, it says that He shows His strength in our weakness. I know this is true.

In my Speech I class, we were told to make a personality sketch. While I was preparing, I felt lost and scared. The only time I feel confident is when I speak in CYA (Christ's Youth in Action) about God because He is Someone I can talk about from my heart. When I speak about Him, I notice I do not stutter as much.

Faced with my Speech I talk and remembering His loving power, I began praying like I always do before I share or give a talk, telling Jesus to work within me and through me. ... And He did. Praise Him for the confidence He gives me!

Tippy Sala, CYA-Cebu

Art of Engraving

If we work on marble, it will perish; if we work upon brass, time will efface it; if we rear temples, they will crumble into dust; but if we work upon immortal minds and instill into them just principles, we are then engraving that upon tablets which no time will efface, but will brighten and brighten to all eternity.

Daniel Webster

This section is comparable to what is commonly called "Letters to the Editor". The section is open for you. Say what's in your heart and mind. Though we do not guarantee publication, we can assure you that your letters/articles will be accorded due consideration.



BCBP Cebu Bro. Jeff Villa speaks out on "Who is Jesus?" during Davao BCLP I.

Eternal Perspective, Holy Indifference

Last Holy Wednesday, the telephone woke me at 7 a.m. My friend from college days wanted to know where she could make a closed retreat. It seems her rich sister-in-law had just died in the States and her children had sold her expensive collection of silver, china, Persian carpets, and fine glass figurines at a very cheap price. The entire episode jolted her to reflect on her parallel life spent on building a collection of beautiful home decors and three Mercedes Benz cars. When she dies, she said, she is afraid to suffer the same fate. Is this what life is all about?

I remembered St. Ignatius of Loyola's teaching on Eternal Perspective and Holy Indifference. Everything is made for a purpose. God created man for a purpose, too: to praise, reverence and serve God his Creator and, by this means, to save his soul. And everything on earth, living and non-living, are created to help man attain the end for which he was created.

It is essential for man to see things in the light of eternity and ask himself constantly, "Will this person, place or thing help me or hinder me to attain my

salvation?" This is the Eternal Perspective: to choose whatever will help one save his soul and to avoid or rid himself of whatever hinders him from saving his soul.

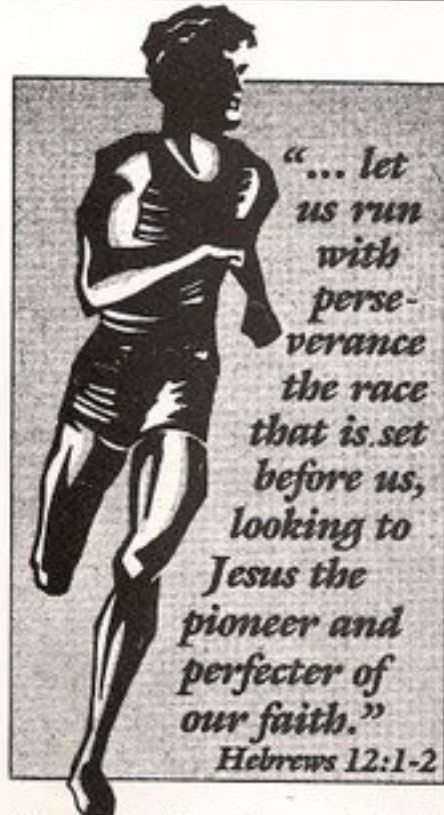
Many things in this world are neutral; they can be good or bad, depending on circumstances and use. For example wealth can be used for philanthropy or vice; poverty can challenge man to rise to greatness or drive him to crime. Man must strive to maintain a Holy Indifference to created things as far as he is allowed free choice. Holy Indifference means not to prefer wealth to poverty, health to sickness, but to choose and accept what is conducive to the end for which he is created, that which will help save his soul.

I know it is not easy for us to have St. Ignatius' Eternal Perspective or to exercise Holy Indifference. But with Jesus and the power of His Cross and Resurrection, we can rejoice with Isaiah: "I am confident and unafraid. My strength and my courage is the Lord, and He has been my savior." (Isa. 12:2-3)

Rose Padre, Alabang Chapter

You can't just go on being a good egg. You must either hatch or go bad. - C.S. Lewis

OUR HEART LONGS FOR GOD



From the Tractates on the first letter of John by St. Augustine, bishop

The entire life of a good Christian is in fact an exercise of holy desire. You do not yet see what you long for, but the very act of desiring prepares you, so that when he comes you may see and be utterly satisfied.

Suppose you are going to fill some holder or container, and you know you will be given a large amount. Then you set about stretching your sack or wineskin or whatever it is. Why? Because you know the quantity you will have to put in it, and your eyes tell you there is not enough room. By stretching it, therefore, you increase the capacity of the sack, and this is how God deals with us. Simply by making us wait he increases our desire, which in turn enlarges the capacity of our soul, making it able to receive what is to be given to us.

So, my brethren, let us continue to desire, for we shall be filled. Take note of Saint Paul stretching as it were his ability to receive what is to come: **Not that I have already obtained this, he said, or am made perfect. Brethren, I do not consider that I have already obtained it.**

We might ask him, "If you have not yet obtained it, what are you doing in this life?" **This one thing I do, answers Paul, forgetting what lies behind, and stretching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the prize to which I am called in the life**

above. Not only did Paul say he stretched forward, but he also declared that he pressed on toward a chosen goal. He realized in fact that he was still short of receiving **what no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived.**

Such is our Christian life. By desiring heaven we exercise the powers of our soul. Now this exercise will be effective only to the extent that we free ourselves from desires leading to infatuation with this world. Let me return to the example I have already used, of filling an empty container. God means to fill each of you with what is good; so cast out what is bad! If he wishes to fill you with honey and you are full of sour wine, where is the honey to go? The vessel must be emptied of its contents and then be cleansed. Yes, it must be cleansed even if you have to work hard and scour it. It must be made fit for the new thing, whatever it may be.

We may go on speaking figuratively of honey, gold or wine -- but whatever we say we cannot express the reality we are to receive. The name of that reality is God. But who will claim that in that one syllable we utter the full expanse of our heart's desire? Therefore, whatever we say is necessarily less than the full truth. We must extend ourselves toward the measure of Christ so that when he comes he may fill us with his presence. **Then we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.**

*But to each one of us grace has been given
as Christ apportioned it ...*

*It was He who gave some to be apostles,
some to be prophets, some to be evangelists,
and some to be pastors and teachers,
to prepare God's people for works of service,
so that the body of Christ may be built up
until we all reach unity in the faith
and in the knowledge of the Son of God
and become mature, attaining to the
whole measure of the fulness of Christ.*

*Then we will no longer be infants,
tossed back and forth by the waves,
and blown here and there
by every wind of teaching
and by the cunning and craftiness
of men in their deceitful scheming.*

*Instead, speaking the truth in love,
we will in all things grow up
into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.*

*From him the whole body,
joined and held together by every supporting ligament,
grows and builds itself up in love,
as each part does its work.*

Ephesians 4:7,11-16 (NIV)