

BROTHERHOOD OF CHRISTIAN BUSINESSMEN AND PROFESSIONALS SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1994

BROTHERHOOD OF CHRISTIAN
BUSINESSMEN AND PROFESSIONALS



Kapatiran

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PHILIPPINES BCBP 2000



In This Issue:

*First BCBP National Men's Breakfast With Pres. Fidel V. Ramos
14th BCBP Anniversary Pictorial * Social Responsibility * Group Dynamics
Christian Business Reflection * Special Feature On Masonry*



THE SYMBOL OF THE BCBP

The logo of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals captures the very essence of the organization.

The Cross in the middle of the logo symbolizes Christ, who is the heart of the Brotherhood. Christian tenets and values are central to all endeavors of the organization.

The arms of the Cross -- indeed, Christ's outstretched arms -- welcome all who come under His salvation and love. It symbolizes, too, the mission of the group to increase its numbers by evangelization.

The twin figures on the logo's foreground are the two active groups of the Brotherhood -- businessmen and professionals. They are bent in adoration, typifying the brothers' acceptance of Christ as Master and Redeemer.

Finally, enveloping all the elements of the logo is a circle. It represents the unity of the Brotherhood -- one in purpose, one in spirit, one in Christ.

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EDITORIAL	3	METRO MANILA NEWS	
NATIONAL NEWS		24	<i>Greenhills</i>
<i>FVR at the First BCBP National Breakfast</i>	5	27	<i>Quezon City</i>
<i>President Ramos' "Sharing"</i>	6	28	<i>Makati</i>
<i>Chapter Heads Meeting</i>	22	29	<i>Las Piñas</i>
BACK TO BASICS:			<i>Parañaque</i>
SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY		INTERVIEWS	
<i>Justice Vs. Mercy</i>	9	30	<i>Boy Javier: "Pilosofo to Businessman to Christian"</i>
<i>Helping Is A Chain Reaction</i>	11	32	<i>Eddie Mendoza: "Disguised As A Businessman"</i>
<i>Key Aspects of Catholic Teaching</i>	12	33	IN THE MARKETPLACE: Jesus And His Money
GROUP DYNAMICS		34	SPECIAL FEATURE: MASONRY
<i>Trouble Shooting</i>	13		<i>Is Masonry Compatible With Catholicism?</i>
<i>Sharing Vs. Discussion</i>	15		<i>Can A Mason Join The BCBP? Some Fundamental Differences</i>
<i>How Well Do You Know Your Action Group Members?</i>	37	REFLECTIONS	
VISMINS NEWS		39	<i>We Must Please God</i>
<i>Cagayan De Oro</i>	25		<i>Golden Rule</i>
<i>Palawan</i>	28		
LUZON NEWS			
<i>La Naval Cavite</i>	26		
<i>Dagupan</i>			

This issue's contributors are: David Inocencio, Quezon City; Joy Villaluz, Greenhills; Noli Lopez, Greenhills; Eddie Mendoza, Greenhills; Bobby Cabrera, Cagayan de Oro.

14TH ANNIVERSARY PICTORIAL ON PAGES 20 AND 21

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People seldom improve when they have no model but themselves to copy. Oliver Goldsmith

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ARE WE KILLING



We fondly talk about our grandchildren and our great grandchildren. What will be our legacy to them? We consider property splits, shares of stock, jewelry, art collections and bank accounts. Shouldn't we be more concerned with the moral legacy we will leave them?

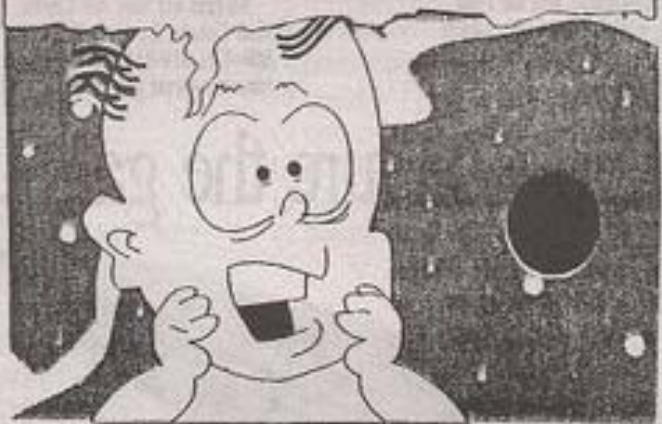
The Cairo Conference Draft Final Document advocates free abortion, sexual freedom, reproductive rights (an undefined and ambiguous term!), plurality of family forms (homosexual couples?), and widescale contraception access. The document targets to raise the "number of couples using contraception in the developing countries". This means sterilizing 151 million persons and distributing at least 310 million intrauterine devices and several billion cycles of contraceptive pills, according to Fr. Jaime Blanco Achacoso of the Theological Centrum.

In the cartoon accompanying Fr. Achacoso's article "The Indecent Cairo Proposals" a baby floating in the womb exclaims in horror, "What kind of development is this? This is a **METHODICAL EXTERMINATION!**" So, too, should we all be horrified!!!

A close and reflective scrutiny of the Cairo documents must cause us to come up with this appalling thought: Are we going to have any grandchildren at all? What about their children and their grandchildren?

On July 30 our family was increased by two when our daughter gave

...What kind of development is this?
This is a
METHODICAL EXTERMINATION!



birth to identical twins, Bernadette and Bridget. All five of their brothers and sisters rejoiced with the rest of the family on this happy occasion. If our daughter and her husband had limited their family to two, we would be deprived of the blessings of Bea, Beth, Boni, Bernadette and Bridget. What a tragedy!

Why should we as Catholics follow the position of the Catholic Church in this matter of abortion and sexual morality?

Thirty-two years ago when I was taking my instructions in the Catholic faith (I grew up as a Methodist and was baptized a Catholic before marriage) this was one area that Fr. Murphy and I frequently discussed - why do we recognize the authority of the Pope and the Magisterium?

I was convinced when I found out that every teaching of the Church is the result of endless work by prominent scholars and theologians. In fact the sheer number of such respected scholars like St. Augustine contributing to the rich repository of inspired knowledge is truly impressive. There are even those theologians like Cardinal Newman from other religions that converted to Catholicism as they searched for the truth.

Can all of these learned and holy people be in error on issues as basic as Christian morality and the value of life? I don't think so.

As responsible members of the Brotherhood we are committed to be good Christians and to practice our faith. As responsible Catholics we are committed to the tenets of our faith. Therefore we are doubly bound to **respect, follow and defend** the Church's stand against abortion, contraceptives and sexual freedom.

We MUST speak up, join rallies, write protest letters - whatever it takes - in unequivocal support of the inviolability of the domestic family church and the authority of the Holy Father, Pope John Paul II. It is our responsibility to our grandchildren to do so!

Nancy R. Catan

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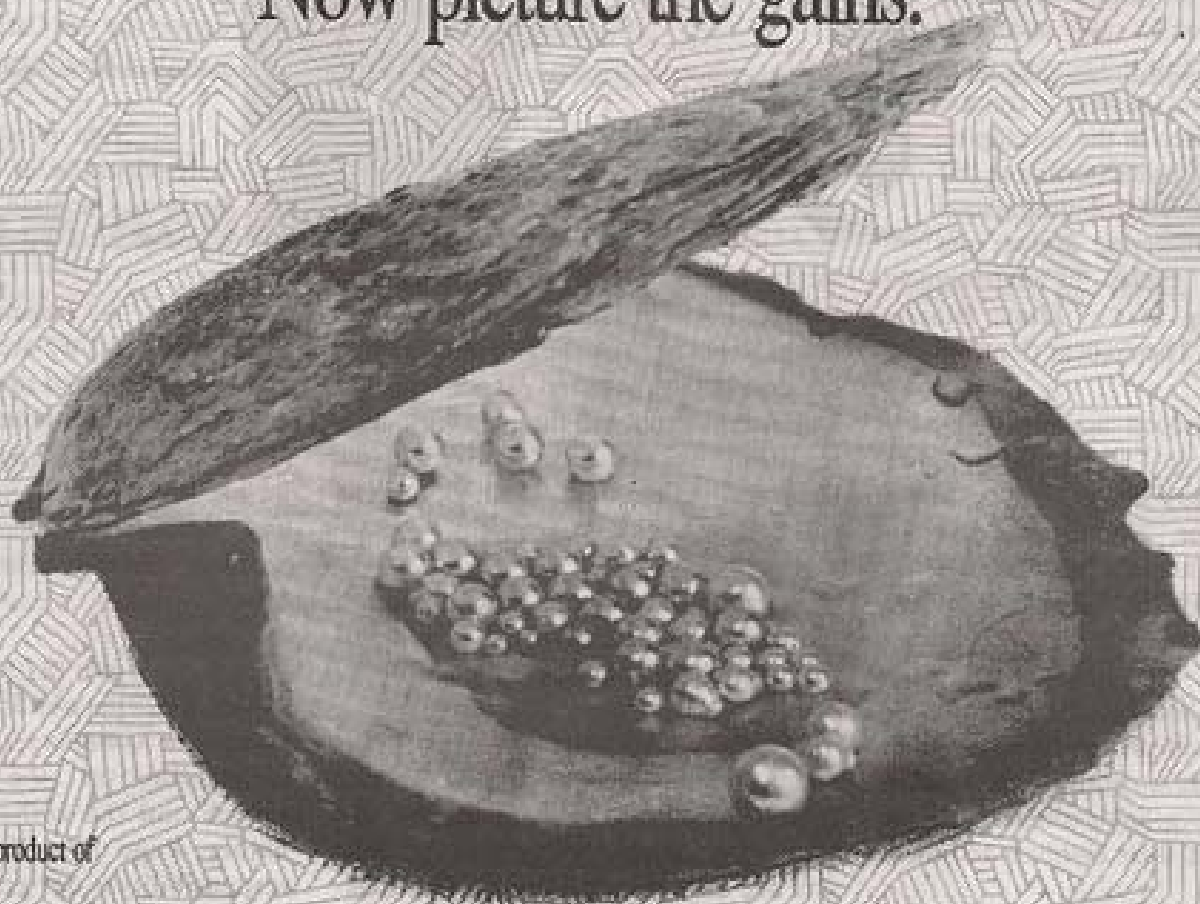
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500 Attend BCBP's 1st Nat'l Men's Breakfast

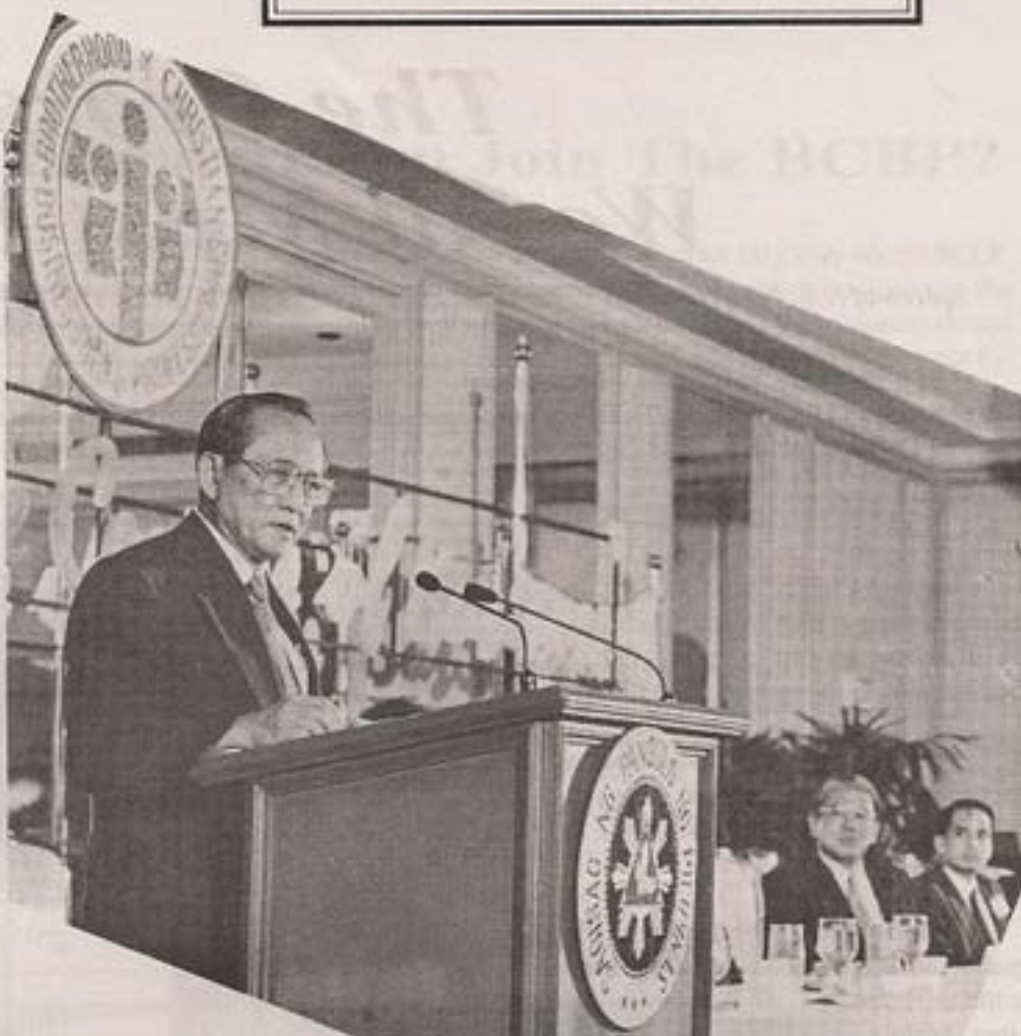
July 13, 1994 marked a milestone in the history of the BCBP. On this date, the First National Men's Breakfast was held at the Hotel Intercontinental's ballroom with no less than President Fidel V. Ramos as the guest sharer.

500 captains of industry (150 of them first-timers to a BCBP breakfast) applauded and cheered President Ramos repeatedly during his talk as he lauded the BCBP's mission in the marketplace and exhorted its members to help our "less fortunate countrymen." According to the President, it was the biggest breakfast gathering that he had been invited to.

Emceed by Luis Morales, BCBP National Council Guilds and BEP Director, the program opened with the National Anthem followed by the singing of "We Are Men Of Jesus Christ" by the BCBP Greenhills music ministry. BCBP National Council Director Rolly Ona led the prayers. After the welcome by Luis Morales, Manny Banigan, BCBP President, briefly introduced the guest sharer, the President of the Philippines Fidel V. Ramos. Jess Manalo, Makati chapter head, said the closing prayer.

Over a year in the planning with Makati as the lead chapter supported by the BCBP National Secretariat, the National Breakfast seeks to become a venue for leading businessmen and professionals to meet in Christian fellowship with their peers in business. With the resounding success of the first breakfast quarterly breakfasts are now being planned.

From reports by David Inocencio (Q.C.) and Sammy Ulanday (Kapatiran Staff).



The Cross We Must All Bear

It's BCBP 2000 Into Philippines 2000

"To all of us, Christianity has a compassionate heart, and we must not only profess our faith but also strive to live it in the world. It is in this light that I interpret the goal of the Brotherhood: To Bring Christ To The Marketplace - all over the Philippines. I salute the idea of people bonding together to practice and spread Christian values in order to create a better world."

With these words, His Excellency President Fidel V. Ramos opened his "sharing" at the 1st National Men's Breakfast of the BCBP held at the grand ballroom of the Hotel Intercontinental Manila on July 13, 1994. Some 500 businessmen and professionals, mostly captains of their respective industries, attended the affair.

cont. on p. 7

Full text of the President's speech is on pages 6 and 19.

The person who is wrapped up in himself makes a very small package.

The Cross We All Must Bear

Speech of H.E. President Fidel V. Ramos at the 1st National Breakfast of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals (BCBP), Intercontinental Hotel, Makati, July 13, 1994.

By its very name, the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals (BCBP) is a society of fellows from different Christian churches and faiths.

Yet whatever our doctrinal differences in worship, we all belong to the same house of Christianity. And within the mainspring of the Christian tradition, we all believe not just in the worship of God but also in the service of humanity.

To all of us, Christianity has a compassionate heart, and we must not only profess our faith but also strive to live it in the world.

It is in this light that I interpret the goal of this Brotherhood: to bring Christ to the marketplace -- all over the Philippines. I salute the idea of people bonding together to practice and spread Christian values in order to create a better world.

The operative word here, I believe, is values.

If we are who we say we are -- Christians -- then we must accept that we have an obligation not only to ourselves or to our families, but also to our society and our country.

As Christians, we know it is not enough to meet our obligations for us to spend a portion of our lives in prayer and churchgoing. From the moment we come to maturity as Christians, we know we have to do more. Good works are the necessary counterpart to our worship.

My own version of this is simply: "Perform as you pray and pray as you perform."

Once we accept this, we cannot be indifferent to the poverty and misery that still grip so many in our country. We cannot but be involved in the search for healing answers to the problems of our people and our country. We can never claim not to know of the problems -- not even because of our comfortable suburban enclaves which may have walled us off from our poorer brethren.

As Pope John Paul II clearly described it: "We must feel the poverty of others as if it were our own, and convince ourselves that the poor cannot wait."



This is not the first time that I speak before this Brotherhood. I remember being invited twice before to grace your breakfasts. The first time was in Alabang in 1986, just after the EDSA revolution. And the second time was in 1989 just after the biggest coup attempt during President Aquino's term. On both occasions, we were in the midst of trying times in our country.

To this day, I believe we could not have crossed that critical chapter in our lives and in the nation's life at EDSA in February 1986 without faith to fortify us. We surmounted the test because of the power of faith. The memory of EDSA may have dimmed for some, but I am certain that among most of us, the fervor still lives on.

We were tested again in December 1989, when the government of President Aquino literally was under siege from the gravest challenge mounted by rebel soldiers against it. Not being a priest, I cannot say that our victory was due to prayer, but this I know deep in my heart: that without the fortitude and strength that come from faith, we could not have weathered the storm.

Four and a half years have passed since that very crucial time in our beloved Philippines. And they have been four and a half years of eventful and fruitful change. Today, surely we can say, even in the midst of the many problems that still confront us:

"Lord, we are blessed for the stability and peace that have come upon our land, and the economic recovery that has begun, and we thank you."

But this, of course, is not the culmination of our labors. It is rather just the beginning. We have much farther to go. As Christians we will be tested many, many times more.

cont. on p. 19

THE CROSS WE MUST ALL BEAR... from p. 5

The president explained that being a Christian requires us to accept greater obligations to our families, society and country. Good works are a necessary counterpart to worship. "Perform as you pray and pray as you perform," he said.

He recalled the two times he was invited to speak before the BCBP. These were in 1986 in Alabang right after the EDSA revolution, and in 1989 just after the biggest coup attempt during President Cory Aquino's term. Without the fortitude and strength that come from faith, he professed that we could not have crossed those critical chapters of our country's history. And for this he thanked the Lord.

"Perform as you pray and pray as you perform."

President Ramos then posed a challenge that, "as Christians, we all have to bear the cross of Christ ... to bear it according to his respective calling and station in life." He then cited some of the crosses he had had to bear since assuming office as President.

He continued, "But this is in the nature of the Christian journey - that from one problem solved, our compassion passes on to embrace another. In a similar way, you in business and the professions have your own challenges to face -- beyond merely the tasks of making your companies competitive, productive and financially profitable. You must bear Christ's cross within your corner of the world."

The president referred to the BCBP covenant in the commitment card as a way of meeting the burden of the cross. He reviewed the covenant statements and added jokingly that "You will pay the proper taxes to the government - VAT or no VAT."



Pres. Ramos enjoys light moments with BCBP members.



BCBP Guilds Director Louie Morales and BCBP President Manny Banigan escort Pres. Fidel V. Ramos to the Nat'l Breakfast.

Towards the end of his "sharing", he rallied the members saying, "If your country is now moving decisively forward, I believe it is largely because of groups like you. ... [if the BCBP keeps to this path of productive and earnest labor while bearing Christ's cross] then it shall be BCBP 2000 successfully helping the Filipinos for Philippines 2000."

Front cover picture (front row 1 to r): Jess Manalo, Ed Canlas, Manny Banigan, President Ramos, Louie Morales, Bobby Laviña, Rolly Ona and Andy Fornier. At the back row are BCBP members and other breakfast first timers.

Be bold in what you stand for and careful what you fall for.



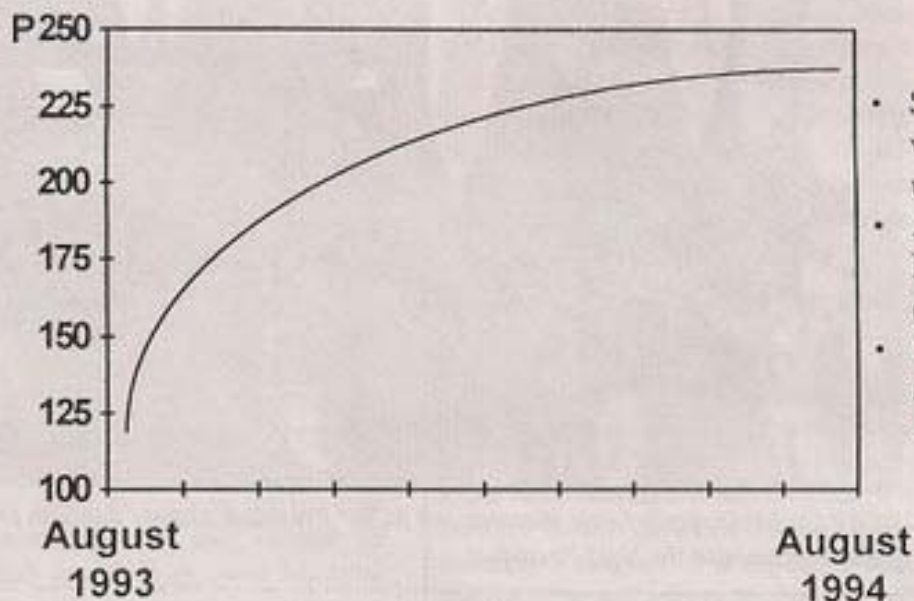
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Back To Basics

Our Back to Basics article this month addresses the issue of our conscience and the church's teachings on social responsibility, justice and mercy. As Catholics, we need to understand the relationship between justice and mercy so that we can more responsibly respond to the many important social and moral issues of today.

Much has been said about our social responsibility as a Christian. What should we as Christians do about peace and the nuclear arms race, economic justice, racism and sexism, labor unionism and corruption in the workplace? How concerned should we be about international development, environmental pollution, national integrity and human rights? And what about the death penalty, abortion and the right to life issue? Where does our responsibility lie?

The prophet Micah, a contemporary of Isaiah way back in 700 B.C., summed up a Christian conscience very succinctly when he said:

"You have been told, O man, what is good, and what the Lord requires of you: Only to do the right and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8)

Doing justice, loving mercy, walking humbly. Jesus set the example for us in both word and deed throughout his ministry. And his followers carried on the teachings on social responsibility. James cautioned against showing partiality toward the rich over the poor. He also stated that pure and undefiled religion is one that cares for orphans and widows. Paul tells about raising funds for famine relief.

TWO EXTREMES

There are two extremes of thought that surface in any discussion of justice and mercy. The conservatives believe that justice is more important than mercy. Everyone should get what is coming to him. They view the death penalty as just punishment and believe that poverty can only be God's judgment and punishment for laziness.

The liberal school of thought on the other hand emphasizes mercy more than justice. This line of thinking requires us to provide for others if they cannot provide for themselves. Welfare programs that create dependency and deny personal responsibility for one's actions are a result of this kind of liberalism.

**BEGGARS
AND
BLESSINGS**

Time was when I was irritated by beggars, watch-your-car boys, carolers and solicitors for charity. "Freeloaders! Parasites!" I'd call them. But since I started reading Scripture and taking the words to my heart, especially Jesus' teaching in Matt. 25:34-40, I have come to be more sympathetic to people like them.

I think of praying every day for blessings of health, and wealth, and happiness -- and receiving all of these in abundance. Yet would I be so selfish as to refuse to give a few pesos for the association for the blind, or a few centavos for the beggar knocking on my car window, or one peso for the watch-your-car boy who does not really watch the car but really needs the peso?

Now, we buy sardines and instant noodles for the beggars who come to the house. Sometimes they would rather have old clothes and they get that, too. Street beggars and watch-your-car boys get that peso. And all charity patients referred to my clinic are never refused.

Compared to what the Lord has blessed me with, the things I give are like nothing.

Charisse Fortich
Cagayan de Oro Chapter

How should we reconcile these two extremes? Charles Colson, founder and chairman of Prison Fellowship Ministries in Washington, D.C.; put justice and mercy in their proper relationship when he said in an interview: "I've encountered a lot of surprise at my present calling. After all, I was considered one of Nixon's toughest 'law and order' men. Why am I troubling

cont. on p. 10

Borrow trouble for yourself, if that's your nature, but don't lend it to your neighbors. Kipling

JUSTICE VS. ... from p. 9

myself to care for those who have broken the law? Have I given up on justice in favor of mercy?"

"No," he answers. "At Prison Fellowship, we are committed to promoting true justice in the criminal justice system. We seek to exercise mercy by helping inmates to meet the demands of that justice." This they do through counseling, skills training, personal development seminars and similar programs to rehabilitate prisoners.

THE CALL FOR SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

The Second Plenary Council of the Philippines, PCP II, called for a spirituality of social transformation, for a living faith that leads directly to loving action. Loving action in turn then leads to transformation of self, neighbors, community and Church. This is the true social transformation.

PCP II documents discuss the necessity for an integrated spirituality as a basis for the development of a Christian social conscience. This becomes clear if we picture a camera on a tripod. Liturgy, catechesis and social action are the legs of the tripod on which the camera of our conscience rests while prayer and action are the battery and film that make the camera useful.

AN INTEGRATED SPIRITUALITY

Let us examine more closely the components of an integrated spirituality in the light of PCP II. In the area of liturgy, we, the faithful, are asked to participate more fully in the sacraments especially in the sacraments of the Eucharist and Reconciliation for these are considered the twin foundations of our liturgical and prayer life.

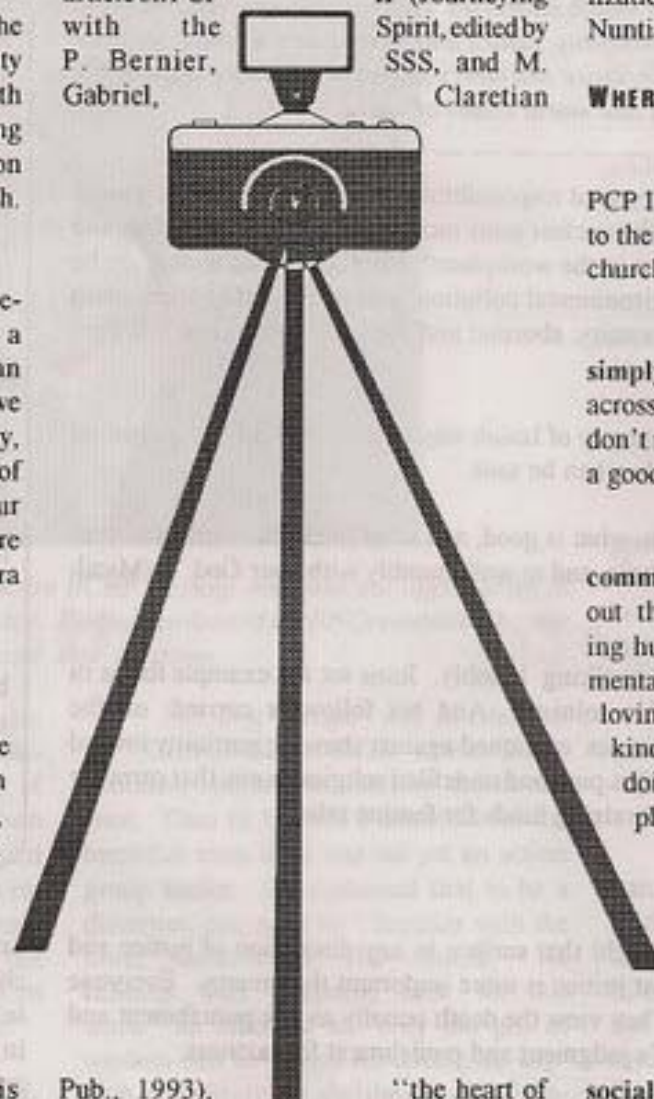
Sound and dynamic catechesis should be undertaken especially in the areas of social involvement (Art. 21, 3), the social character of spending and tithing (Art. 14) and the sacraments.

As Christians it becomes our social responsibility to reduce the gap between faith and practice, especially in the area of social justice (Art. 20, 1) with action taken in behalf of justice seen as a sign of witnessing to Christ and his teachings (Art. 20, 2).

Art. 37, 1 (PCP II) places the principle of an integrated spirituality right in the middle of the marketplace when it looks at the "formation of a work ethic characterized by commitment, diligence, rigorous honesty and Christian love."

LACK OF CHRISTIAN HEART

According to Joel Tabora, SJ, in an article on PCP II (Journeying with the Spirit, edited by P. Bernier, Gabriel, SSS, and M. Claretian



Pub., 1993), "the heart of this apparent failure [of the social apostolate] seems to lie in the lack of heart - Christian heart - in the church's social apostolate."

Some of this lack of heart can be traced to either ignorance or apathy on the part of the faithful in keeping abreast of the rich heritage of Catholic social teachings. In the last 30 years no less than seven major Church documents have been released that deal almost exclusively with matters of justice and peace.

These include the papal encyclicals "Christianity and Social Progress (Mater et Magistra)", "Peace On Earth (Pacem in Terris)", "The Development of Peoples (Populorum Progressio)", and "On Human Work (Laborem Exercens)". Other important documents are "Pastoral Constitution of the Church in the Modern World (Gaudium et Spes)", "A Call To Action (Octogesima Adveniens)", and "Evangelization in the Modern World (Evangelii Nuntiandi)".

WHERE DO WE BEGIN?

What then should our response be to PCP II's call for social transformation and to the issues of justice and mercy raised in church documents?

Firstly, I believe that we should live simply so others may simply live. I came across this statement some time ago (I don't remember where) and it strikes me as a good way to start practicing our faith.

Secondly we must strengthen our commitment as BCBP Christians to live out the threefold formula of Micah: walking humbly in our personal prayer, sacramental life and communion with Jesus, loving mercy through good deeds and kindnesses to others in community, and doing justice in our respective marketplaces.

A third response is to observe proper stewardship of the power, talent, wealth and possessions that the Lord has given us.

We need to cultivate a spirit of social generosity. There is a saying: "You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving." In other words, our

cont. on p. 11

JUSTICE VS. ... from p. 10

love for others may be measured by our generosity. And let us remember that giving does not only mean material things, it also refers to satisfying as best we can the emotional, spiritual and psychological needs of others.

Lastly, social transformation is a matter of empowerment. Although this term "empowerment" is currently used

*"live
simply
so others
may
simply
live..."*

and overused, it still expresses what must take place to make things happen. But instead of people empowerment to take power, we need to see people being empowered through Spirit empowerment. We need to be spiritually empowered.

THE BOTTOM LINE

When we get to the bottom line of all this talk and voluminous readings on social conscience, social responsibility and social transformation, the bottom line is this:

Are we allowing the Holy Spirit to empower us with a spirit of charity and Christian generosity, of love, of justice and mercy?

If our answer is hesitant or doubtful in any way, then the challenge of social transformation (within and without) lies before us. If we can answer a resounding "Yes!", then the process of social transformation has begun in our lives.

Nancy R. Catan

Helping Is A Chain Reaction

"You can be sure that whoever gives a drink of cold water to one of the least of these my followers because he is my follower ..." (Matt 10:42)

On our way home from the baptism of CLP 20 an owner type jeep overtook a long line of cars and suddenly swerved left at the intersection of Hemady and Aurora Blvd. ignoring the red light on our side of the intersection. Crash! There were flying bodies and cries for help. We brought those we could to the hospital and assisted as good Samaritans.

"... will certainly receive an award."

A month later we found ourselves victims off a death-defying head-on collision. A drunk group of young air force lieutenants slammed their car head on into ours along EDSA Cubao. Our whole family was in the car. A few minutes later an entire family of good Samaritans on board a Lite Ace took us to the nearest hospital where doctors found only minor bruises and released us a few hours later.

Our car was a total wreck. We immediately received payment from the insurance company and with a loan

from my husband's office, we were able to replace the old car with a new and better one.

"... You should have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had mercy on you ..." (Matt 18:33)

Weeks after our accident, the young driver of the other car and his commanding officer paid us a visit to express their concern and apologies for the incident. In response to my reading not long before that of Matt 18, the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant, we forgave him.

"... This is how my Father in heaven will treat every one of you unless you forgive your brother from the heart." (Matt 18:35)

Two months later my son got into a bad fight in school. I wrote my son's teacher and asked to meet with the parents of the other boy. Wonder of all wonders, the parents, understanding the ways of young boys, said that a meeting was not necessary thanking us for our concern.

I praise and thank the Lord for revealing His wisdom and truth to us. His Word can never be wrong.

Joy Villaluz, Greenhills Chapter

LOVE

your

NEIGHBOR

Here are a few practical tips on how to get to know - and love - your neighbors.

1. Exchange simple greetings. If you are consistently friendly when you meet people on the stairs, in the elevator, or walking the dog, eventually they'll smile back.

2. Pass along a compliment. Solomon wrote, "How good is a timely word!" (Prov. 15:23) A cheerful word can still open doors to relationships, even in our impersonal society. Comment on how your neighbor's flowers seem to brighten your day. Appreciate them for picking up the litter in front of their house.

3. Share. Sharing food with a neighbor is something we often do, especially during family celebrations. Have you considered sharing food for the mind? Lending books or magazines can open new avenues for conversations and sharing of ideas and opinions. Sharing a skill like fixing a car, landscaping or playing basketball is another neighbor-strengthening activity.

4. Ask for help. We all have strengths and weaknesses. One way of compensating for our weaknesses, and getting to know our neighbors better in the process, is to ask for advice and help. Nothing breaks the ice better than someone wanting help with a problem-causing situation.

5. Be active in community and church affairs. Know your community officials, attend meetings, respond out of loving concern for your neighbors - not for any personal gain or "hidden agenda". Be involved.

From an article by Stephen W. Sorenson published in "Discipleship Journal, Issue 78, 1993.

SOME KEY ASPECTS OF CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

1. Religious and Social dimensions of life are linked.

The "social" - human construction of the world - is not "secular" in the sense of being outside of God's plan, but is intimately involved with the dynamic of the Reign of God. Therefore faith and justice are linked closely together. (Church in the Modern World, #39)

2. Dignity of the Human Person.

Made in the image of God, women and men have preeminent place in the social order, with inalienable rights both political-legal and social-economic. The fundamental question to ask about social development is: what is happening to people? (Peace on Earth, 8-26)

3. Option for the Poor.

A preferential love should be shown to the poor, whose needs and rights are given special attention in God's eyes. "Poor" is understood to refer to the economically disadvantaged who, as a consequence of their status, suffer oppression and powerlessness. (Call to Action, #23)

4. Love and Justice Are Linked.

Love of neighbor is an absolute demand for justice, because charity manifests itself in actions and structures which respect human dignity, protect human rights, and facilitate human development. To promote justice is to transform structures which block love. (Justice in the World, 16 & 34)

5. Promotion of the Common Good.

The common good is the sum total of all those conditions of social living - economic, political, cultural - which make it possible for women and men to readily and fully achieve the perfection of their humanity. Individual rights are always experienced within the context of promotion of the common good. (Christianity and Social Progress, #65)

6. Political Participation.

Democratic participation in decision-making is the best way to respect the dignity and liberty of people. The government is the instrument by which people cooperate together in order to achieve the common good. (Christmas Message, 1944)

7. Economic Justice.

The economy is for the people and the resources of the earth are to be equitably shared by all. Human work is the key to contemporary social questions. Labor takes precedence over both capital and technology in the production process. Just wages and the right of workers to organize are to be respected. (On Human Labor)

9. Global Solidarity.

We belong to one human family and as such have mutual obligations to promote the development of all people across the world. In particular, the rich nations have responsibilities toward the poor nations and the structures of the international order must reflect justice. (Progress of Peoples)

10. Promotion of Peace.

Peace is the fruit of justice and is dependent upon right order among humans and among nations. The arms race must cease and progressive disarmament take place if the future is to be secure. In order to promote peace and the conditions of peace, an effective international authority is necessary. (Peace on Earth)

From "A Primer of Catholic Social Teaching" by Schultheis, DeBerri and Henriot of the Center of Concern (Cardinal Bea Institute, Loyola School of Theology, Ateneo de Manila University, Manila, 1985)



TROUBLE SHOOTING

Problem-Solving Approaches To Some Common Group Problems

Problems show up in even the best groups, whether larger groups like prayer assemblies and workshops or small groups like action groups. You can find some of these problems in office and business groups, too.

Here are some of the most common group problems, with symptoms and suggested approaches for solutions. Although addressed primarily to group leaders, everyone who is a member of a group can share in these valuable insights.

Symptom: Members come late.

Problem: Group meeting begins late and ends even later. Some members may not come next time, especially if they have other things to do than waste their time waiting.

Approaches: Set definite time, begin promptly. Discuss problem with the group. Explain that coming late is uncharitable and discourteous to the others.

Symptom: Quiet members.

Problems: Topic may not be interesting. If not announced ahead of time, members may not be prepared to discuss the topic. Lack of trust. Others may be talking too much.

Approaches: Plan topics and announce them ahead of time. Have quiet member read passage out loud. Allow time for people to reflect. Ask an application question and have each person in the group circle respond. Have a team-building or an ice-breaker game to build relationships.

cont. on p. 14

TROUBLE... from p. 13

Symptom: Overly talkative member.

Problems: Dominates the discussion. Outgoing, doesn't like silence. May make others feel inadequate.

Approaches: Talk to member privately. Explain that we need periods of silence in which to reflect. Ask for his/her help in getting the quieter ones to share and speak out.

Symptom: Issue causing disagreement.

Problems: Breaks down relationships and trust. Creates conflicts. Members don't accept their differences.

Approaches: State ground rules. Try to stick to the subject at hand. Suggest they discuss the problem after the meeting. Acknowledge that there may be differences of opinion, but look for areas of agreement instead of areas of argument.

Symptom: Always-right member.

Problems: Knows right way for everything. Insists on his/her interpretation as the correct one.

Approaches: Avoid arguing right and wrong. Clarify facts. Emphasize tolerance and love as necessary in building Christian relationships. Concentrate on personal, experiential sharing; that way, everyone is right and no one is wrong.

Symptom: Disagreeing member.

Problems: "But" is favorite word. Discouragement rather than encouragement prevails. May hold group back from action or growing. May cause group to stagnate.

Approaches: Ask, "What exactly do you disagree with? Why?" Then confront the group with choice of holding back (no risk) or

going ahead (with risk but also growth): "How can we get around this objection?"

Symptom: Conversational prayer stifled. Little use of spiritual gifts during meetings.

Problems: Lack of trust. Lack of knowledge in use of gifts. Format is too rigid.

Approaches: Spend more time building community and praying for needs. Discuss use of spiritual gifts and allow time for exercising the gifts. Encourage, don't criticize those attempting to allow the Spirit to work. Keep meeting format fluid enough so members do not feel restricted.

Symptom: Superficial sharing.

Problems: Leader not setting example. Members want to show off their knowledge rather than open up their lives to others. Lack of trust among members.

Approaches: Plan topics for sharing carefully. Be open and specific in your own sharing. Hold one-to-one sessions with members for sharing and prayer. Emphasize sharing of experiences not intellect.

Symptom: Members are lukewarm.

Problems: Meetings not well-planned. Leader does not involve members in planning activities. Little interaction among members.

Approaches: More member involvement. Set up a prayer relay with each member praying for another member daily. Pray, intercede for each other and report on answered prayers during each meeting. Have more group activities that help build relationships.

Adapted from "Good Things Come in Small Groups", by Ron Nicholas, et al. (InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, U.S.A., 1985).



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QUESTION AND ANSWER CORNER

Fernando de Larrazabal

QUITTER?

Dear Eddie,

Q. I have an AGL (action group leader) who is an — hole. He thinks he knows everything and expects all to jump to what he says. If he doesn't get off my back, I will quit the BCBP. Any suggestions?

Eddie

Your letter was full of generalities without specifying a particular issue or problem. The Brotherhood is not blind to what happens in cases like yours, but cannot correct them if they are not brought out into the open. From what I gather from your letter, this problem has been going on for some time. You should have brought it up to your Unit Leader or Chapter Head; otherwise, if kept under wraps, no solution will ever be found.

We choose leaders after a thorough investigation, but sometimes we err. We choose by first going over the prospective leader's qualifications. Then we interview the person's previous AGL, inquire about his BCBP activities, his seniority. He is further tested as a DGL in a BCLP. This almost always works.

Let me, however, point out that there are always two sides to a problem and it's only fair to hear out both sides before any action is taken. Quitting the BCBP is running away from the problem and that makes you a quitter. My advice is to bring this issue to your Unit Leader for resolution.

SHARING VS. DISCUSSION

During action group meetings (AGMs) and other group meetings sharing is encouraged, discussion is discouraged. What is the difference? We are listing several significant differences here hoping you will be able to improve the quality of sharings in your next AGM.

Sharing

1. lean in to talk
2. sit close together
3. low, friendly voice
4. no answer to sharer
5. all listen to one
6. reverence, respect
7. reluctant to break up
8. first person speech
9. lived experience
10. personally challenged
11. no right/wrong answers
12. self-discovery
13. deep and personal
14. acceptance
15. builds relationships

Discussion

1. lean back
2. spread out
3. louder, argumentative voice
4. talking back and forth
5. several talking at same time
6. try to correct or change
7. often lose interest
8. he/she/they/you never "I"
9. principles/ideas/stories
10. impersonal concepts/programs
11. taking a position
12. pointing fingers
13. jokes, chit-chat
14. analyze, rationalize
15. may cause dissention, disunity

Anything worth doing is worth starting.

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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: Boli'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: Diplomat Hotel,
F. Ramos St.

DAVAO: Sunburst Restaurant
(1st & 3rd Sat.)

DUMAGUETE: OK Pensione
House (1st & 3rd Sat.)

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

ILOILO: Amigo Terraces Hotel

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

LAPULAPU: Cesar's Mansion
(2nd & 4th Sat.)

MAASIN: Tomas Oppus Pilot
Elem. Sch. (1st Sat,
3rd Sun)

PARAÑAQUÉ: Nayong Silangan
Sucat, Parañaque

PUERTO PRINCESSA: Kamayan
Restaurant

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

TACLOBAN: Don's Cabin (2nd
& 4th Sat.)

TAGBILARAN: Mel's Kainan
(2nd & 4th Sat.)

MEN'S LUNCHEON (12 NN)

Saturdays

DAGUPAN: Pinkie's Restaurant.

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: Diplomat Hotel (3rd
Sat.)

ILOILO: Amigo Terraces Hotel
(last Sat.)

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

QUEZON CITY: Terrace Grill
(2nd Sat.)

Wednesday

MAKATI: Makati Sports Club
(2nd Wednesday)

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: Phil. Fleet
Multipurpose Hall,
Sangley (Sat. afternoon
merienda)

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

MANILA: Chateau 1771 (1st Sat.)



Clockwise: Art and Lally de la Cruz (QC) share at Manila Joint Breakfast; BCBP Joint Breakfast in Cagayan de Oro; First Legaspi Men's Breakfast (1st Saturdays, Joint); 3rd Sat.)



They always talk who never think. Matthew Prior



Get Into The Meat.



THE CROSS WE ALL MUST BEAR... from p. 6

There is a story told that Mahatma Gandhi was once asked to describe the greatest strength of the Christian faith. To this, he quickly answered: "Jesus -- Jesus is its greatest strength."

Then he was asked what was Christianity's greatest weakness, and he replied: "Christians."

This perception of Christianity from a man of another faith will disturb and pain some of us. Yet, we also have to concede its accuracy and insight. As the Catholic Governor Mario Cuomo of New York has said, "It is all too easy to claim Christ's name and patronage, and yet deny His cross."

As Christians, we all have to bear the cross of Christ. But I believe that each of us is called upon to bear it in his own way, according to his respective calling and station in life.

As your president, I see only too well the nature of the burden that I must bear. You could say that I am the Chief Executive Officer of Philippines, Incorporated, and I must look after the welfare and well-being of 65 million Filipinos. And I must make sure that our company does not go down into bankruptcy. In a much larger sense, my job is to restore our beloved Philippines to its rightful place in the community of progressive nations where every Filipino can hold his head high.

The task is not for me to discharge alone, but the buck stops with me. The cross is not to be borne successfully unless I am able to rally our countrymen to meet the many cares of national life and the challenges of development and modernization.

In some ways, we have been fortunate during the past two years in that we have achieved many of the targets we set for ourselves. Our country, by and large, is at peace today; before it was wracked by constant confrontation and conflict.

Our economy is stirring to life; before it was pervasively in crisis and decline. Most of our people are beginning to be engaged in productive labor; before many seemed passive and uninvolved.

Yet our achievements notwithstanding, the cross remains heavy for us. There never seems to be an end to the problems that we must confront. Ugly and grim realities of poverty intrude upon the more cheerful stories of growth and reform. Crime and criminal forces, in spite of all our efforts to control and put down, still bedevil us. And we must struggle each day to protect the gains that we have made.

But as our pastors, priests and spiritual guides have always reminded us, this is in the nature of the Christian journey -- that from one problem solved, our compassion passes on to embrace another. In a similar way, you in business and the professions have your own challenges to face -- beyond merely the tasks of making your companies competitive, productive and financially profitable. You must bear Christ's cross within your corner of the world.

Your covenant as the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals expresses in a vivid way how you propose to meet your burden. You have chosen to serve as living symbols of Filipinism and the Christian way. This Brotherhood goes to the basics as it zeros in on the realities of daily living -- being fair and just in all your business dealings.

All of you have pledged that you will give your employers or employees, as the case may be, what is due them. You pledge to be fair, and you will not misrepresent your products and services to customers. You will relate with your peers and subordinates with justice and respect. You will pay the proper taxes to the government and your financial obligations to private creditors. And you will strive to the best of your ability to help lift up the common life of our people by giving them jobs and providing assistance.

If our country is now moving decisively forward, I believe it is largely because groups like you -- and many others in their respective sectors throughout our country -- have begun to meet your respective responsibilities by lifting Christ's cross.

Many of our Muslim brothers and sisters are also doing their part, in their own way, of uplifting and carrying the burden. And so are our indigenous cultural communities -- the "Katutubong Pilipino" -- who provide the best kind of protection to our forests and mountain environment.

If we keep to this path of productive and earnest labor, if we do not rend our country again with our enmities and our selfish interests, each year henceforth could be a milestone of achievement for our people and our country. There are no heights we cannot attain. And there is no one among our millions of poor countrymen that progress and development cannot touch and lift up.

To say this is to believe not only in ourselves but also in the great mercy of Divine Providence for those who have faith in the Almighty and in themselves.

Mabuhay ang "BCBP 2000"

Mabuhay ang "PHILIPPINES 2000 !!!"

Thank you.



Where boasting ends, there dignity begins. Edward Young

They came from all over the country,,,

to partake of the spiritual

*as well as
physical nourishment.*

Performing solo,,



*,,,or with
the whole family.*

And they raised their hands in praise!!!

He who sows thorns should never go barefoot.



From ethnic to modern dances.



Displaying the magic of electronics and the Filipino musical ingenuity.



And their voices filtered through the din of monsoon rains covering Manila at the time.



They gave honor and glory,

...worship and thanks to the LORD!!!

Make tomorrow another day and not today's sequel.

Chapter, Outreach Heads Review Year's Activities

As part of the 14th Anniversary celebration of the Brotherhood, several meetings and workshops were held on the Sunday morning following Saturday's evening Anniversary Mass and Program. Simultaneous meetings were held at the DAP, Ortigas Center, Pasig, for chapter and outreach heads, mission directors, chapter life directors and music ministry heads. Members of the National Council also participated in the sessions.

In the chapter, outreach heads meeting after the opening worship led by Joey Estagle, Las Pinas chapter head, and five-minute reports by each of the chapters and outreaches represented, Council president Manny Banigan discussed the need for accurate membership listing and more systematic reporting to the Council.

The National Secretariat shall organize and coordinate the information system with the KAPATIRAN Magazine being used as a conduit for sharing such information. KAPATIRAN editor Nancy Catan distributed Kits and Writer's Manuals to all chapters and outreaches clarifying the magazine's requirements and objectives.

Various questions were answered by Banigan regarding teaching tracks of the BCBP and their use. The group pointed out the need for more guidance on youth, young adults and similar formation programs.

For purposes of organized planning, the 1994 reports should be submitted to the Secretariat by end of January or early February 1995. The Luzon chapters and outreaches shall meet quarterly like the southern chapters and outreaches are doing beginning the quarter ending September. This practice shall promote closer coordination and synchronization of BCBP programs.



BCBP Pres. Manny Banigan discusses the need for better communication during the Chapter Heads meeting.

The importance of regular tithes and the remittance of the 25% to the National Council was emphasized. It was clarified that chapters in training are also covered by this policy.

On membership matters, Banigan requested the chapters and outreaches to put only active BCBP members on their membership lists. Non Catholics who wish to join the BCBP are welcome, although it must be made clear that the BCBP culture is definitely Catholic.

Banigan pointed out that the BCBP must be run by its members and enjoined everyone to actively participate and cooperate to ensure the steady and dynamic growth of the organization. #

1st BCBP Nat'l Golf Tourney Held

Prayers and strong faith kept the rain away as the BCBP's first national golf tournament participants teed off on July 8 at the Fort Bonifacio Golf and Country Club, Makati, at 11:00 a.m. Welcoming the 30 participants were Q.C. chapter head Roy Calleja and BCBP President Manny Banigan.

Tournament winners were awarded elegant trophies by Roy Calleja, tournament chairman, after the afternoon's merienda. Winners were Jose F. Sano, low gross champion with gross score of 78; J. Bantug, low net champion with net score of 77; Chino Reyes, 1st runner-up, and Johnny Calixto, second runner-up. Las Pinas Chapter won the team championship. Scoring was based on the Modified Callaway method of computation.

Louie Morales (Ala), Jess Manalo (Mkti), Rolly Aberion (GH), Joey Estagle (LP), and Teddy Siapno (Dagupan) led the participants: from Bacolod, J. Bantug, Toti Diaz, Tony Diaz, Vic Araneta; from Q.C., JRLioanag and Jun Valencia; from Alabang, Jose Gana; from La Naval Cavite, Tony Ylanan, Mike Sunga, Pros Fernandez, Ferdie Dimawala and Nilo Vidal.

Greenhills participants included Steve del Rosario, Punch Ma Mon Luk, Jun Puno, Jansen Bautista, Jay Sison and Hernane Arabelo. Makati was represented by Alex Espiritu, Johnny Calixto and Dante Madriaga, while Abing de Venecia carried Dagupan's name. Jose Sano, Milo Panlilio and Chino Reyes formed the Las Pinas group.

The Golf Tournament Committee wishes to acknowledge with thanks the cash donation of Emil Morales of Q.C., and the giveaways of towels and golf caps donated by Charlie Carballo (Ala) and Art de la Cruz (QC).

The team championship trophy can be ultimately and permanently won by any chapter golf team which will be able to win for three years. For 1994 the trophy will be kept by the winning golf team, Las Pinas, until the next tournament. #

14th Anniversary Workshop Participants

Date: July 10, 1994

Venue: Development Academy of the Philippines, Ortigas Center

Chapter and Outreach Heads Meeting: Las Pinas - Joey Estagle. Makati - Jess Manalo. Q.C. - Roy Calleja, JR Lioanag. Greenhills - Rolly Aberion. Cebu - Larry Veloso. Paranaque - Rem Gopez. Dagupan - Ted Siapno, Botong Aguinaldo. Cebu - Larry Veloso. Palawan - Fuji Rodriguez. Tuguegarao - Peping/Lucy Taguba, Totie Arao, Rodolfo/Jean Amisad. Cavite - Nancy Catan. Tagbilaran - Peter Dejaresco. Iloilo - Gau Arancillo. Iligan - Bebung Yanez. and, Workers of Christ - Gus Leonardo and Romy Tocjayao.

Mission Directors Meeting: Alabang - Orly Neri, Bobby Attendido, Rey Feria, Willi Vergara, Louie Morales. Las Pinas - Lito Pardo. Paranaque - Angel Sabas, Ferdie Baena. Makati - Ronnie Caballero. Greenhills - Danny Lazo. Quezon City - Cenen Sambalido. Dagupan - Teddy Fernandez. Bacolod - Digoy Montalvo. Cebu - Ed Lising, Ed Banaag, Sadi Saguisag. Iloilo - J.T. Barrera. Mactan - Kit Garcia.

Chapter Life Directors Meeting: Las Pinas - Mon Malinao. Greenhills - Marite Lavina. Makati - Rolly Ona, Art Olarte. Cagayan de Oro - Peping Coruna. Cebu - Casi Nadela, Jeff Villa, Amando Suzara. Iligan - Buddy Gerona. Tagbilaran - Sarah Dejaresco, Albert Uy. Bacolod - Art Legarde. Palawan - Ed Tan. Dagupan - Berns Jimenez. Quezon City - Gil Beltran.

Music Ministry Meeting: Alabang - Buddy Dimacali, Dannie Perez, Boyett Paredes. Las Pinas - Oggie Hachang. Greenhills - Sammy Ulanday, Ronnie Peterson, Ruben Aganon, Bobby Lavina. Q.C. - Nic Tolentino, Rayben Mague, Chito Masayon. Iligan - Leo Guino-o. Bacolod - Jun Vargas, Nel Pingcong. Cebu - Rene Congmon. Cagayan de Oro - Newel Sison. Palawan - Abe Celzo, Glenn Miguel. Dagupan - Chito Non. #



Prayers are offered during the blessing of the office of the National Secretariat on June 9. From l to r: Pete Bertis, Fernando de Larrazabal, Pete Padre, Roy Calleja, Rolly Aberion, Fr. Herb Schneider, Rolly Ona, Danny Lazo and Joey Estagle.



Music Ministry Heads listen intently to Bobby Laviña during the Music ministry workshop.

Tribute

Arturo "Taca" Marco of Alabang chapter, passed away last August 9 due to cancer of the prostate at the San Juan de Dios Hospital. He was 72. "Taca" is among the "originals" of the Makati CLP #3. He is survived by wife Bibelot and three children. He was formerly connected with Soriamont Shipping. Taca's first Acción Group Leader was Fernando de Larrazabal.

Greenhills Strengthens Chapter Life

Greenhills chapter life director Manolet Siojo is implementing four main programs to enhance members' formation and to strengthen the chapter's spiritual life. These are monthly training sessions for action group leaders, bible teachings given by Fr. Gerry Tapiador during First Friday sectoral assemblies, Christian service talks for all members on the fourth Friday of every month, and the BETP.

The Brotherhood Evangelization Training Program (BETP), organized by Siojo and Cesar Liza of the mission team, is a 2 days live-in seminar with CLAYE master trainers as speakers. Unit and action group leaders attended the first course on June 25-26 at the Nuestra Sra. de la Paz Retreat Center in Antipolo, Rizal. Subsequent BETP weekends are now being planned. #

GREENHILLS Service Ministries Set Up

Unit leader Willie Pelino, the chapter's service ministry director, has set up a liturgical service team, a fellowship promotions team and an intercessory ministry team in line with the chapter's goal to involve every member in active service.

Pelino appointed Raymond Bienvenida to head the liturgical service team. Members of this team will be trained as mass commentators, lectors, acolytes and lay ministers.

The fellowship promotions team, headed by AV Beley, holds a sports activity once a month. The golf fellowship coordinated by Cocoy Perez tees off every 3rd Wednesday. Bowling fellowship coordinator Chito Valenzuela gathers bowling enthusiasts together on the Saturday after First Fridays. #

6 Units Now In Greenhills

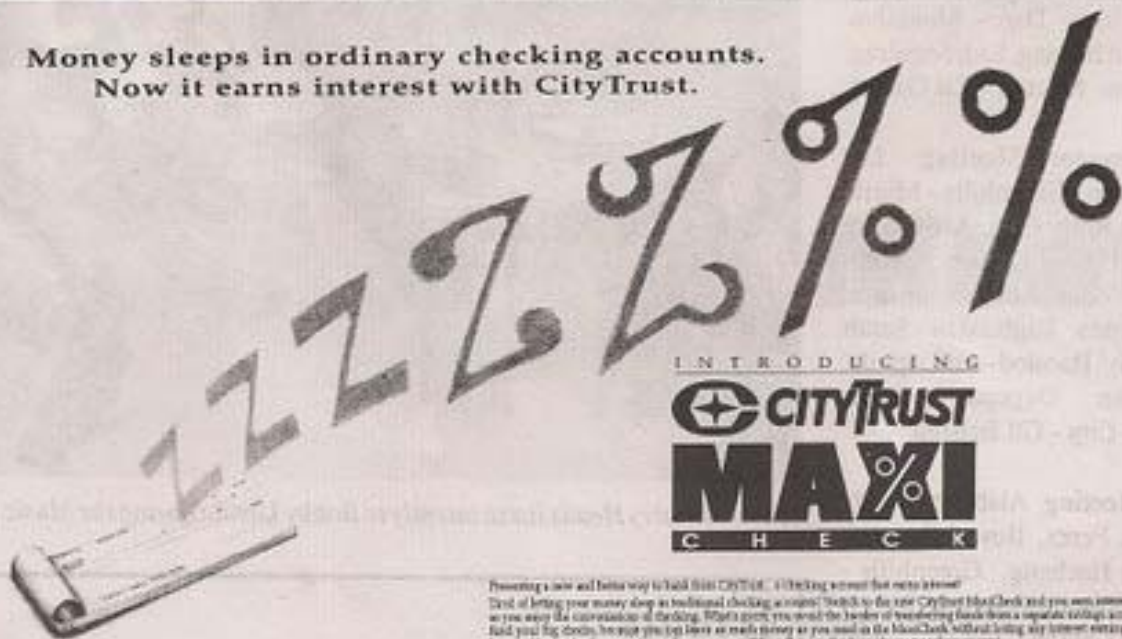
Chapter head Rolly Aberion recently announced the appointments of Gil/Letty Abejo and Ping/Nits Ramirez as new unit leaders bringing the total number of units in the chapter to six. The other four units are headed by Sonny/Charis Marquez, Eddie/Daisy Mendoza, Willie/Sarah Pelino and Romy/Thelma Tocjayao.

The two units were added as a result of the addition of new members from BCLP 22 and Cainta BCLP 1. Total chapter membership is now 379 members.

Ramirez' unit and the unit of Tocjayao form the nucleus of the Cainta outreach with Tocjayao concurrently serving as the Cainta outreach head.

Francis Adriano serves as coordinator of the prayer warriors who come together to pray and intercede for others at least once every month. #

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Most of us know how to say nothing, but few of us know when.

CAGAYAN DE ORO

Activities Update

Father-Son Camping. BCBP Cagayan de Oro held its first Father and Son camping activities last April 30-May 1, 1994 at Bobby Cabrera's farm in Laguitao, Bukidnon, some 1-1/2 hours drive from Cagayan de Oro City. 18 fathers and 28 sons participated in the tent pitching, mountain biking, horseback riding, hiking the trails and swimming that the site offered.

The evening began with worship and singing around the campfire. Fathers prayed over their sons and some walked away in pairs for more intimate one-on-ones with each other. The younger children remained near the bonfire and continued singing. And of course there were the hotdogs sizzling over the fire for hungry appetites.

Sunday saw the group attending mass at the Benedictine Monastery, then they were off to Nasuli lake for more swimming, a lunch of lechon "kawayan" style, and back to Cagayan de Oro. -Bobby Cabrera

Children's Formation Launched. On May 7 the chapter launched its children's formation program at the Pelaez residential yard in Carmen, Cagayan de Oro City. 54 children and 10 parents participated in the games, Bible stories and quizzes, prayer and group singing.

Coordinators for the children's activities are Tata and Maya Malferrari. Formation meetings are regularly held every last Saturday of the month and are open to BCBP children ages 3 through 13.

BCMR 2. The newly installed chapter of BCBP Cagayan de Oro got moving by holding BCMR 2 with the help of BCBP Cebu, on May 13, 1994 at the St. John Vianney Seminary. 14 brothers and sisters from Cebu headed by Raymond and Daisy Koksing were the speakers. Jun and Jing Villaraza served as head couple. 36 couples participated in the renewal weekend, 11 of them from the BCBP Iligan outreach.



Before going to their respective homes, BCMR Batch 2 brothers and sisters plant and adopt a tree in the surrounding vicinity of St. John Vianney Seminary. Bro. Monching & Sis. Joy Tabor plant their tree while the Sisons look on.

Fellowship. Literally spent physically, mentally and financially after their mid-May BCMR, the Cagayan de Oro BCBP members opted for a mini fellowship on May 28 as their chapter's Family Day. After a 7 a.m. mass at Xavier University, the families spilled out into the playground behind the chapel.

Ann Fernandez, in charge of the chapter's children formation, and Susan Canlas entertained the children with games so that the parents were free to get better acquainted with one another. The occasion also served as the first chapter fellowship for CLP 6 graduates.

Fr. Mariano Varela, S.J., spiritual director of the archdiocesan charismatic renewal, was pleasantly surprised and roundly praised the parent-children get-together. He then accepted the invitation to be the chaplain of the BCBP Cagayan de Oro chapter. #

July Activities

BCBP Anniversary. More than 45 members of the Cagayan de Oro chapter attended the 14th anniversary of the Brotherhood. Their presentation of how the BCBP brought Christ to their city was one of the evening's highlights.

Building Relationships. National president Manny Banigan gave a lecture/workshop on Building Relationships in the BCBP on July 18 at Paolo's Ristorante.

Joint Breakfasts. Bro. Rommel Tila was the sharer at the chapter's joint breakfast on July 23 at Silver Court. Another joint breakfast was held on July 30 with the BCBP secretary general "Tatang" Willi Guzman as sharer. After the breakfast "Tatang" Larry de Larrazabal gave a lecture and workshop on Action Groups.

BCLP 7 Planned. Various committee meetings were held throughout the month of July finalizing plans for BCLP 7 which started on August 4 with Bro. Tito Mora as course leader. #

LA NAVAL CAVITE

Evangelization Sets Stage for BCLP4

For three Saturday afternoons in June and July members of the La Naval outreach in Cavite went door to door in Sangley Point introducing Jesus and the BCBP's outreach to air force and navy officers and their wives.

More than 20 couples signed up for BCLP 4 as a result of this evangelization activity which culminated the outreach's series of talks on Catholic evangelization given by Jun and Nancy Catan, Makati's mission team to the outreach.

BCLP 4 Underway at Philippine Fleet

July 30 saw the beginning orientation session of La Naval outreach's BCLP 4 held at a new venue, the Philippine Fleet Multi-Purpose Hall at Sangley Point. 20 couples signed up for the course as a result of the intensive evangelization activities held during the past few months. Sessions are held every Saturday afternoon from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Course leader Zotico Rex is assisted by Bernie Bautista with Rod Banico taking the responsibility of head servant. Raffy Bolivar is in charge of physical facilities, Emma Banico handles the registration table and Tita Taraya heads the book table

"All the members were so awed with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit among us," enthused Tony Ylanan, outreach head, as he recounted some of the experiences they had had. "We prayed for courage to knock on the doors and the Holy Spirit not only answered but opened the doors and welcomed us in!"

Nine teams of three to five members each participated in the activity. Jun and Nancy Catan, Vic Cuna and Chito Gonzales from the Makati chapter also joined the teams. #

team. Daisy Fernandez is team head of the intercessory prayer group. Wil Turalde and Eying Abad lead the music ministry team. More than 60 regular members of the La Naval outreach are actively in service for this BCLP helping on the various teams.

All discussion group leaders and their assistant group leaders are from the outreach as are the speakers. It is only for some of the culture talks that the outreach will get speakers from Makati chapter. Baptism in the Holy Spirit is scheduled for October 8 with commitment following after the culture talks on December 10. #



A La Naval discussion group enjoys some lively moments sharing with each other the reasons for attending the BCLP 4.

DAGUPAN

Changes

Dagupan chapter has seen changes during 1994. Teddy Siapno was appointed as chapter head with former chapter head Berns Jimenez assuming the post of chapter life director. Teddy Fernandez was tapped as mission director and Rudy Fernandez as outreach head. The husband-wife team of Abing and Doris de Venecia were designated as the chapter's secretary and treasurer, respectively. Fr. Deny Lucas, SVD, is the chapter's spiritual director.

The biweekly Saturday breakfast meetings were reset to lunchtime and are now held weekly. The venue is Pinkies Restaurant with the third Saturday designated as a joint luncheon for men and women. Prayer assemblies and the first Friday mass are held at the St. Therese Church/DWAD complex every first and third Fridays of the month. #

Activities Update

BCLP 7. The Dagupan chapter's seventh Christian Life Program under the auspices of the Alabang chapter, was headed by Tex Espiritu. 45 participants joined the BCBP during the commitment ceremonies.

BCMR In Baguio. After the successful BCLP 7, members of the Dagupan servants' team proceeded to the Holy Spirit Convent in Baguio for the BCMR. Louie Morales, Willie Vergara and Rey and Lyn Feria led the weekend with Fr. Richard Antonio of the Foyer de Charite as retreat master.

Pugaro Apostolate. A BCBP mission team led by Joanne Siapno assisted Archbishop Oscar Cruz (Dagupan-Lingayen) in baptizing thirty babies in the island barangay of Pugaro. Twenty of the children had BCBP Dagupan members as ninongs and ninangs.

National Events. Despite stormy weather and lahar hazards, 29 brave souls from Dagupan attended the 14th BCBP anniversary celebration. Nine others journeyed to join the National Men's Breakfast on July 13. #

QUEZON CITY

New Sked for
BCLPs

The schedule of the BCLP 23 - 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. every Saturday - could have been a factor in the relatively big number of participants reports Q.C. BCLP coordinator Cito Villaflores. 21 couples and 4 singles completed the course and joined the chapter. The course was held during the months of April, May and June at the Ateneo Social Development Center in Quezon City.

Since most of the participants hold office on Saturday, they did not find it difficult to attend the early evening sessions, unlike before when the sessions were being held from 2:00 to 5:00 in the afternoon, said Villaflores. #

New Q.C.
Secretariat
Appointed,
KAPATIRAN
Staffer
Designated

Frank and Lina De Paz, graduates of Quezon City chapter's BCLP 20, have replaced Emy Magdangal in handling the chapter's secretariat. Ver Sagun, also of BCLP 20, has taken over Emy's post at the KAPATIRAN Magazine. Emy gave up his twin posts to devote his time in the Ligaya ng Panginoon community. #

3-Day
BCMR Set
In September

The Q.C. chapter will hold a Brotherhood Christian Marriage Retreat on the weekend of Sept. 9, 10 and 11 at the Maryknoll Retreat Center, Ortigas Ave. Extension, Taytay, Rizal. #



Q.C. couples pose during the 14th BCBP Anniversary evening.

Dream Come True

To have a 100 per cent attendance during an action group meeting is the dream of every AGL (action group leader).

And to AGL Jojo Odina and his wife Weng, this dream came true on June 11 when all the five couples were present at the meeting held at the residence of Ding/Leny Mortel. The happy occasion celebrated the arrival of action group member Cris Ignacio who had just returned from two year's stay in the US. Welcome home, Cris!

A PROFILE OF
THE INSURANCE PROFESSIONALS

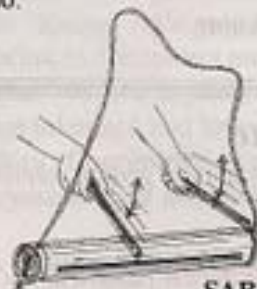
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PALAWAN

Ethnic Music Goes To Valle Verde

One of the unique presentations during the 14th anniversary celebration of the BCBP held on July 9 at Valle Verde, Pasig, Metro Manila, was the rendition of ethnic music by the BCBP Palawan outreach. Not only did the group use authentic Palawan instruments but they played original compositions of BCBP member Nonoy Lanzanas, a true-blue Cuyuno.



SABAGANG

Nonoy created both the words and music to "Aeeee, Aeoo (Kasaysayan ng Paglikha)" and adapted Psalm 125 to produce "Manalig Ka". The group's third number was a Cuyuno medley of children's folk songs.



TURUNGGAN

To intensify the ethnic mood authentic Palawan instruments were played. The "Gimbal" is a native tambour of wood, Palawan bearskin, tied together by rattan; wooden pegs adjust the tone. The "Tuganggang" is a split-bamboo instrument that resonates as it is hit on the palm of the hand.



ARUDING

The "Aruding" is a single, narrow bamboo piece that is clamped between the lips and strummed like a "Jaw's Harp". The "Sabagang" is a one foot, rectangular bamboo piece hung around the neck with a string, it is played by hitting it with two wooden sticks. To complement these native instruments the guitar and harmonica, instruments of Spanish influence, added to the harmony.



GIMBAL



GUT-GUT

MAKATI

Makati Activities

Homecoming. The Makati Ladies Breakfast moved back home to the Makati Sports Club, Magallanes Function Room, beginning with their August meeting, every second Wednesday of the month. This coincides with the Men's Breakfast which meets on Wednesdays but in the main dining room, says Beth Ginete, newly installed ladies' breakfast service head.

Joint BCMR. On the weekend of August 19-21, a BCMR was held at the SVD Retreat House in Tagaytay with 30 couples from the Las Pinas and Makati chapters attending. Jun/Beth Ginete headed the service team with support from Art/Susan Olarte, Danny/Tess Silbor, Nelson/Annie Salvador and Eric/Karen Tinio.

Talk Is Test-Marketed. Last June 25 the unit of Jun and Beth Ginete met to "test market" a talk developed by Rex Resurreccion, one-time president of the Toastmasters Club and member of BCBP Makati. The talk entitled Public Speaking and the Mechanics of Delivering a Sharing as delivered by Rex was captivating and witty and instructive. The talk will be finalized for delivery to the entire chapter preparatory to setting up a Makati Speakers Bureau.

BCLP 23 Ongoing. BCLP 23 was launched June 30 with 32 participants. Meetings are every Thursday evening at the Makati Sports Club. Andy/Odette Nanagas serve as the course leader with Rudy/Cora Flores as their assistants. Oscar/Floren Ballares serve as chief servants with Alex/Esther Uychoco in charge of the music ministry.

Discussion leaders and their assistants are Manny/Lei Bade, Litong/Teresa Limcauco, Tani/Tess Kampitan, Ray/Arlene Sanchez, Jun/Maan Tripon, Aaron/Ching Azarcon, Larry/Ellen De Vera, Paquito/Amy Puno. #

LAS PIÑAS

Las Piñas Gov'nce
Team Appointed

Las Piñas chapter now has a reorganized governance team due to the spin-off of some of its members and leaders to the Paranaque chapter. The new governance team is composed of: chapter head Joey Estagle, chapter life director Mon Malinao, mission director Lito Pardo, formation director Rey/Lyn Feria, men's breakfast head Bong Loderero and ladies breakfast head Ludy Pardo.

Pete Bertis heads the secretariat with Pons Fallarme handling the treasury. Bong Loderero remains KAPATIRAN coordinator. Unit leaders are Jimmy Porciuncula and Ric Gloria. #

Joint Venture
BCLP Underway

A joint venture BCLP 23 is presently ongoing at the Franciscan Sisters Handmaid of the Immaculate, B.F. Resort, Las Piñas with 35 participants. The joint enterprise of Las Piñas and Paranaque chapters opened July 23 with the mini-sharing of Tonton and Marissa Allarey of the Paranaque chapter.

Angel/Charito Garcia of Las Piñas act as course leaders and Tonton/Marissa Allarey of Paranaque as assistant course leaders. Jun/Mina Obra head the service team. Graduates will form a unit for the Las Piñas chapter. #



PARAÑAQUE

Governance Team
Set Up

With around 300 members to serve initially, the new chapter's hands are immediately full of service work to do. Rem Gopez, new chapter head, recently announced the chapter's governance team that will assume this task of caring for the chapter.

Heading the team are Rem/Rose Gopez. Team members are: Ferdie/Jojo Baena, mission life director; Lito/Chic Francisco, chapter life coordinator; Perry/Beth Domingo, formation ministry coordinators; Manny Dacayan, service group and teaching ministry coordinator; Gary Mendoza, men's breakfast head; Tess Mendoza, ladies' breakfast head; Boy Javier, speakers bureau head and men's breakfast coordinator; Rommel Tillah, BEST coordinator; Johny Avila, outreach coordinator. Unit leaders are Chuck/Rufie Colayco, Bill/Dindy Gamboa, Rene/Lulu Leandro and Romy/Nel Oller.

The expanded governance team includes the 20 action group leaders. They are: Tonton/Marissa Allarey; Boy/Baby Aurelio; Jun/Erlin Avelino; Danny/Alma Balili; Concepcion, Rufie; Lito/Babie Dulay; Bobby/Khelle Gaerlan; Alex/Odette Guiiao; Omar/Lot Guzman; Esser/Sylvia Ingente; Boy/Marilu Martinez; Gary/Tess Mendoza;

cont. on p. 40

Participants of the BCLP 23 of Las Piñas get to know each other. A joint venture of Las Piñas and Paranaque chapters.

Inaugural B'fast
Attracts 450

July 9, 1994 was a momentous day for the new Paranaque chapter. 450 BCBP brothers and sisters gathered together for the chapter's inaugural breakfast held at the Elorde Sports Center in Sucat to celebrate the birth of the BCBP Paranaque chapter. Fr. Herb Schneider, BCBP's spiritual director, shared before the SRO crowd coming from BCBP's Alabang, Cebu, Las Piñas and Palawan chapters, Tuguegarao outreach and the Ligaya ng Panginoon Partners In Mission.

The weekly men's breakfasts continue every Saturday at the Elorde Sports Center while the regular venue, Nayong Silangan, is under renovation. #

Garden Breakfast,
Common AG
Meeting Held

Over a hundred brothers and sisters from the Alabang and Las Piñas chapters flocked to the Tropical Palace gardens in BF Homes last July 2 for a breakfast fellowship. This was the beginning of a series of "getting-to-know-you" exercises for BCBP's new offspring - the Paranaque chapter.

The second Fridays of each month from August to November have been designated as "Common Action Group Meeting Days". This step is expected to promote community life and foster growth in the spirit, explains Rem Gopez, chapter head of the "baby" chapter.

On these days all action groups proceed to a designated venue to listen to a talk. Following the talk, there are cross groupings among the action groups to pray together and discuss the talk's theme. As in regular AG meetings, the assigned hosts take care of refreshments; however, some

cont. on p. 40

PHILOSOPHO TO BUSINESSMAN TO CHRISTIAN

Business Interview



Boy Javier comes from a very colorful background with parents who were a study of contrasts. His father's family was well-read, sensitive, idealistic and closely knit. His mother's family was a family of "free living adventurers" with the family's history littered with intrigues and escapades that would put Knots Landing, Dallas and Maricel Soriano Drama Specials to shame. Hence, he sometimes refers to himself as "Indy" - short for Indiana Jones.

At fourteen Boy devoured the books of Whitman, Thoreau, Kazantsakis and Dostoevsky. In college while pursuing knowledge and sophistry on one hand, on the other he pursued flesh and alcohol. In his early twenties he married Tet, a Batangas lass and classmate of his sister, who had helped nurse him after he had accidentally shot his foot on a hunting trip.

But the responsibilities of marriage did not halt his life of contrasts and hardships. "For many years," Boy relates, "I struggled with the fundamentals of my philosophy. I felt successful. Vice president at 29, executive vice president before 35, president at 39 of a top ten multi-national advertising agency. I felt

Boy Javier, a successful executive of a prominent multi-national advertising agency, shares with us his search for meaning in life - a search that led him from Dostoevsky to Jean Paul Sartre to Jesus Christ. Boy presently is happily married, has two children, and serves as breakfast coordinator of the newly formed BCBP Parañaque chapter.

so self-sufficient, but deep in my thoughts were fundamental issues that remained unanswered."

"When my wife and I got married with only P600 to our name, we implored a God we did not know to see us through. When we lived separately for months, she in Batangas and I in Manila, we prayed to a God we did not want to serve for strength."

"I was the center of the universe, solely responsible for my actions ... but when our only son almost died of pneumonia at three months old, I cried out to a God I did not care to love for help."

But God knew who Boy was and He heard his cries. Some five years ago God sent his messenger, a 300 lb. Bisoy (short for Bisayang Kastilaloy) named Charlie Carballo with an invitation to the BCBP men's breakfast in Alabang, an invitation that Boy could not refuse due to favors owed Charlie. It then was only a

matter of time before Boy and Tet became active members of that organization.

When asked about how the BCBP had made a difference in his life, Boy replied, "Even before joining the BCBP I refused to steal or take bribes and I think I was sensitive to the feelings of others. But still, I was living more of a personal life-ethic believing strongly in my capacity for achievement, in my own personal sense of right and wrong, in a universe of my creation. For almost twenty years, I did not go to church except to weddings and baptisms. I did not need God."

Boy continues, "But God never did forget me. Having a personal relationship with Him has given my life a fuller meaning. Being a BCBP member did not take away my problems ... even the Brotherhood cannot give us sanctuary. But what the Brotherhood has taught me is this: it is not so much our feelings that are important but what we do with

cont. on p. 31

PILOSOPO... from p. 30

them that matters. Did the problems and trials that we went through make us bitter or better? Did my inadequacies make me desperate or inspire me to greater heights?"

The Brotherhood also taught Boy to see Christ in every person he encounters. Many times he finds this still a struggle. "To succeed, oftentimes, you have to look not with your eyes, but with your heart for the heart has a powerful way of eliminating the blemishes that the eyes see," he says.

When confronted with people making mistakes and those trying to take advantage of your goodness, he used to find it easy to mete out penalties or "neutralize" those stepping on his toes. Now he seeks ways to build their lives and character instead of ways to

destroy them. He admits it is a difficult balance. "You do not want to empower their weakness. Instead you want to build trust and competence."

"Seeing Christ in people ... when you look with your heart, it is easier to deal with life's harsh issues. That is because you are not just their leader, you are their servant as well."

"Life for me?" he reflects. "Well, every minute is a new challenge, a new problem, perhaps a time of pain and suffering but also of joy and laughter. With the resolution of each new challenge or problem comes a fresh way of experiencing life in all the glory and sweetness that God intended it to be. And I'm always ready for the next sequel to the story...just like Indiana Jones."

Nancy R. Catan

*"When
you look
with
your heart,
it is
easier to
deal with
life's harsh
issues."*

"I have considered the task which God has appointed for men to be busied about.

... And I saw that there is nothing better for a man than to rejoice in his work, for this is his lot."

Ecclesiastes 3:10,22



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DEVELOPER OF

SOLAR HOMES DASMARIÑAS

Business Interview

DISGUISED *as a* BUSINESSSMAN



In our walk with the Lord in the BCBP we may not have the opportunity to evangelize the people in our work place. Eddie Mendoza of BCBP Greenhills Chapter recounts what happened when he faced this situation.

In 1986 Eddie Mendoza was invited by his father to join the 11th Christian Life Program of the Greenhills chapter of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals. "I didn't think I needed any salvation or sanctification," Eddie remembers saying skeptically at that time. After the CLP, however, he found that the course "...gave me the chance to reflect on my priorities and family, and to repent."

In fact, Eddie believes that the greatest thing that he learned upon joining the BCBP was the "...basic knowledge of God's plan - relatively intimate knowledge of God's place in my life." God simply made him realize that He has a plan for him.

His first service was as emcee of the Greenhills breakfast which, Eddie confided, taught him humility and obedience. Then he became a discerner for the breakfast even if he was not yet an action group leader. He explained that to be a discerner, one must be "familiar with the Lord, sensitive to His words." He believes God prepared him for this when he received not only the gift of wisdom that he prayed for during his baptism in the Spirit but also the gift of discernment.

From this service, Eddie moved on to his present responsibilities as a Unit Leader and the chapter's Guilds Director.

Fired with the zeal to bring Christ into his workplace, he found very little opportunity to do so because his work environment was one where God had already been given the presidential seat over all business dealings. Eddie, who is vice president and head of Corporate Planning of Phinma, explained that another reason why he could not actively evangelize was that most of the work done in his office involves a lot of thinking and is not very transactional or relational. And most of his people had good personal relationships with the Lord.

To counter this lack of venue to proclaim God's goodness in his own office, Eddie believes that the Holy Spirit lead him to a wider, larger and more complex realm to promote Christian business values.

Amidst his preparation for forming guilds for the chapter, Eddie realized that the BCBP lacked sufficient teachings in the area of Christian business practice. He saw a need for setting up a clear cut business values formation series for he felt that if there was none, "We might open up a can of worms where everybody will have his own interpretation on how to deal with problematic business situations."

"Being Christian businessmen and professionals as we call ourselves, we should be the first ones to come up with Christian business virtues and values and/or standards," Eddie stressed. So he suggested setting up an opportunity where people could start to talk about business values, ask questions and share their own marketplace experiences.

Thus came the birth of the "Christian Business Reflections" series which Eddie has been writing and sharing during the Men's Breakfast every Thursday at Club Filipino in Greenhills. Eddie emphasizes that the work is not totally his. In fact, he says, what he writes are basic teachings of the Lord, the doings of the Holy Spirit, interspersed with experiential knowledge he has acquired from his work, readings and experiences.

cont. on p. 33

A lot of us would like to move mountains, but few of us are willing to practice on small hills.

In the Marketplace E. A. Mendoza, Greenhills Chapter

Don't you think it would have been great to be the business manager of this superstar named Jesus? I'm sure I could have made a lot of money, and gained a lot of power simply by using some basic management and marketing techniques. The key, of course, would be the person of Jesus himself. Imagine, he could turn water into wine. I could have the exclusive rights of this process, and perhaps even franchise it.

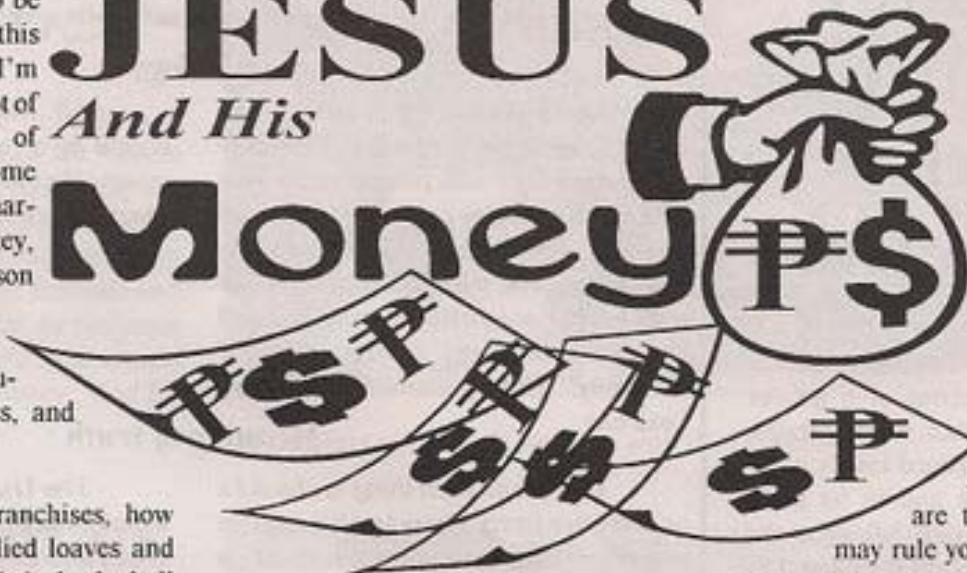
Talking about franchises, how about the time he multiplied loaves and fishes. We would be a hit in basketball games, rock concerts, or political rallies. He could heal the sick, and even bring back the dead. Wow! Imagine the power we (Jesus and I, of course) could wield over the insurance and the health industry.

Then we could dominate the fishing industry; remember the boatload of catch in the middle of the day? Not once, but twice recorded at least. From fishing, we could move easily into shipping, what with Jesus' power to calm the seas. I suppose he could use the same power to make it rough for the competition. We could even go into sports recreation; teaching people how to walk on water. That would be a splash!

JESUS

And His

Money



"No man can serve two masters."

I guess Jesus and his disciples could have been so successful, in financial terms at least. But in all His wisdom, Jesus knew that building up treasures here on earth was not the point of His life.

For most of us businessmen, money is the measure of success. The more of it you have, the more successful you are considered to be. It is the bottom line that gets most attention and the most scrutiny in our businesses.

is very much aware of his faults, tries to avoid being judgmental in his writings, and admits the danger of complacency. To combat this, he turns his decision process toward God and only then the true and the good shall arise.

Eddie hopes that his "Christian Business Reflections" series can establish a mechanism that will produce better Christian business understanding and practice for the good of everyone. He said that he will see the completion of his mission when actions in any form, shall be taken as a result of what he has started.

In Matthew 6:24, Jesus says: "No man can serve two masters." That sounds logical enough. You can't be completely loyal to one person, while serving another. Sooner or later, there is bound to develop a conflict of interest.

Jesus does not stop there. Almost in the same breath, he says: "You cannot give yourself to God and money," as if to say that these are the two masters that may rule your life. And so Jesus says, you cannot, no way, no-no-no-no-no, you cannot serve God and money at the same time. He did not say "you should not" as if this is the right thing to do, but he simply stated a fact, a principle, a law of nature. What goes up must come down; you cannot breathe in water; you cannot serve God and money at the same time.

Don't you just wish that we had the tenacity, the wisdom, and the zealous love of Jesus for God, our father? As a matter of fact, we do, because Jesus is with us. Only He can save us from our avarice, our greedy appetite, our selfish ambitions. Only He can conquer the evil power of money, and turn it into a wonderful gift, a most useful tool for building God's kingdom.#

Next time when we think that the place where we stand appears to offer an unwelcome reception for our evangelization, we need to look beyond, far beyond -- for God may be leading us to another place, a place of His own choice, not ours.

Sammy Ulanday

The KAPATIRAN is happy to announce that Eddie Mendoza's Christian Business Reflections series starts in this issue on this page as a regular business column of the magazine. Eddie's column is entitled "In The Marketplace".

The right to do something does not mean that doing it is right.

Is Masonry Compatible With Catholicism?

Even though Freemasonry has undergone a change in terms of a greater openness towards other social groups, nevertheless, it has remained totally unaltered in its outlook and in its basic convictions. No one can belong at the same time to the Catholic Church and to Freemasonry. This was the finding of the German Bishops Conference Study in the early 1980's into the question of compatibility of membership in the Catholic Church and in Masonic lodges.

As Masonry in the Philippines is substantially identical to German Masonry, therefore it is not possible for a Filipino Catholic to be at the same time a member of the Masons.

This also holds true of members of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals according to BCBP Managing Director for Luzon Fernando de Larrazabal. "Being a member of the BCBP is just not compatible with being a member of the Masons," he avers.

The in-depth study by the German bishops arose out of the change in attitude and approach of some Masonic lodges especially in areas of humanitarian concern and charity for suffering people. Masonry is often presented to the public as a practical undertaking of men of good will. It is in the spirit of respect for the utmost freedom of everyone to hold on to his own beliefs that this "brotherhood of men" seeks to attain its humanitarian goals.

cont. on p. 35

SOME FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES

FREEMASONRY

Ideology

No fixed ideology binding members. "Freemasonry is probably the only association that was permanently able to keep its ideology mostly free of all dogmas. FM can be understood as an association that tries to bring together people that are relativistically inclined for the promotion of the ideals of humanity." (International Freemasonry Lexicon)

Meaning of truth

There is no such thing as absolute or objective truth. Every truth is relative and subjective. Every member must be a free man who knows no subjection of himself to dogmas or passion.

Concept of God

In Freemason rituals, the center place is occupied by "the Great Master Builder of all worlds." The Great Master Builder is a neutral "it", without further definition. Each member is free to add his own personal understanding of God. There is no objective knowledge of God; human nature and human reason guide the member in all things.

Religion and Religious Matters

Although not a religion per se, Masonry tends to become a practical religion which offers its own moral code and rites, supplanting other religious rites, morals and sacraments. If a conflict arises between FM and the member's religion, it is expected that the member will adhere to the Masonic principle of utmost freedom and thereby turn away from his "partisan" religious beliefs. Masonic rituals seek to instill ethical perfection and illumination through symbols and words; justification and grace in the Christian sense are disregarded. As one progresses in levels or degrees, the rites are clothed in secrecy with the member swearing not to reveal anything to the uninitiated.

CATHOLICISM

All Catholics believe and are bound by a revealed and authentically interpreted Word of God, through the Magisterium of the Church.

The Truth is found in Jesus Christ who Himself said, "I am the Way, the Truth and Life." John 14:6

Catholicism has a well-defined theology. God is a revealed God, revealed throughout the ages through His Word, His creation, His prophets, holy men and women, His Church. God is the centerpoint of Catholic belief and all Catholics seek to know and to follow His Will for them. God is a Divine Being in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Church is apostolic, holy, universal and united as a people in the Body of Christ. The Catholic faith is open, ecumenical, dynamic and revealed, adhering to the teachings of Jesus Christ and the repository of Christian tradition in the Magisterium of the Church. The sacraments are recognized as an important source of God's grace. Everyone is encouraged to study the faith, read the Word of God and share it with others.

IS MASONRY... from p. 34

But Catholics must not be deceived by vague, relative terminologies and expressions of good will. The German bishops pointed out seven areas of incompatibility of Masonic ideology with the Catholic faith. These are: total rejection of dogma and objective Revelation, rejection of any type of magisterial authority, relativism and indifferentism in religious and ideological matters. Freemasonry observes a certain deism in their conception of God as the Supreme Architect and Master Builder.

Whereas the Catholic Faith respects the person who sins but not the sin as such, Masons tolerate all ideas and beliefs, even contradictory ones, since they are indifferent to their truth or falsity. Their humanistic approach to their

Can A Mason Join The BCBP?

Several BCBP chapters have inquired as to whether they may accept BCLP participants who belong to the Masons. "Yes, we can accept them as participants in the BCLP but on the basis that they have to have an open mind about leaving the Masons should they decide to join the BCBP," answers Fernando de Larrazabal, Managing Director for Luzon.

endeavors tends to glorify themselves and leaves no room for the action of grace on the soul.

Total commitment is demanded from Masons and the sect claims exclusivity in the right of formation of conscience and character of its members. Other significant incompatibilities are shown on page 34.#

"It should be clearly explained to them in the beginning and during the first one-on-one that they must make a choice," he continues. "If by the second one-on-one, they still do not want to leave the Masons, then the BCLP course leader has no other recourse than to let them go as they cannot be both a Mason and a member of the BCBP." de Larrazabal explains that this approach is necessary to avoid existing problems that have arisen with Masons in the BCBP organization. #

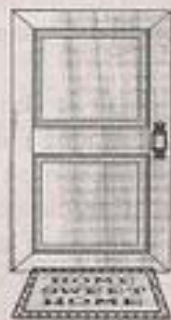
"Being a member of the BCBP is just not compatible with being a member of the Masons."

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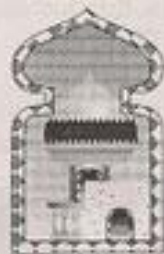
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How Well Do You Know Your Action Group Members?



On a sheet of paper without looking at your notes, list down the names of five couples in your action group. Fill in as much of the following information about each family as you can. Then give yourself the number of points designated for each answer and add up your score.

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. Family name | (1 point each) |
| 2. First name of each adult in the family | (1 point each) |
| 3. First names of children | (1 point each) |
| 4. Occupation of each adult | (2 points each) |
| 5. Age or grade in school of each child | (2 points each) |
| 6. Where do they live? | (5 points) |
| 7. Province in which each adult grew up | (3 points each) |
| 8. A favorite activity for each adult | (3 points each) |
| 9. A favorite family activity | (3 points each) |
| 10. CLP number and year they joined the BCBP? | (4 points) |

Bonus: Add 5 points for each home you have entered.
Add 15 points for each family you have invited to your home for a meal (excluding action group meetings).

Penalty: Subtract 10 points for not being able to remember the first name of any adult. That's 10 pts. per adult!
Subtract 3 points for not being able to remember the name of any of the children. That's 3 pts. per name forgotten.

.....

Your Score:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 1-25 | You've made a start, but you have a long way to go toward knowing and loving your AG members. |
| 26-100 | You know more than the basics, but it's time to learn more if you want to really become brothers and sisters. |
| 101-200 | You're well on your way to forming good relationships. Keep it up! |
| 201 & up | Congratulations! Relationships have been formed, now is the time to practice "Love" |

How many of these BCBP Personalities can you name?

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THE GOLDEN RULE

Christianity: Treat others the way you would have them treat you.

Confucianism: Do not do unto others what you would not like them to do unto you.

Buddhism: In five ways should clansman minister to his finds and familiar - by generosity, courtesy and benevolence, by treating them as he treats himself, and by being as good as his word.

Hinduism: Do not do to others, which if done to thee, would cause thee pain.

Islam: No one of you is a believer until he loves for his brother what he loves for himself.

Judaism: What is hurtful to yourself, do not do to your fellowmen.

One Minute Meditations
by F. de Larrazabal

We Must Please God In All Things

(1)

"Do what is right and good in the sight of the Lord." Deuteronomy 6:18

God wants all to do what is right. We should do it, not because of fear, but because we wish to please him. Knowing what is right is sometimes difficult; we have to contend with ignorance and superstition. A good number of crimes are committed mostly by decent people who, in a moment of weakness or desperation, fail to control themselves. To determine the seriousness of the crime may require knowing the circumstances and reasons behind the crime. We have to contend with the situations prevailing at the time the crime was committed.

Many will not agree with these statements. But we cannot judge clearly what drove a person to commit a crime, nor can we read the mind and the heart of the perpetrator. We are poor judges of men. God, who sees what is in the hearts of men, judges with justice and love. In the meantime, society must judge in accordance with their laws.

(2)

"Tell those who are rich in this world's goods not to be proud, and not to rely on so uncertain a thing as wealth." 1 Timothy 6:7

There is nothing wrong with wealth, the danger lies in what you do to get it and how you use it. Wealth can be a blessing if used for good - or a curse if used unrighteously. To begin with, it does not belong to us, it belongs to God, and we are appointed managers to manage his wealth. We will have to account to God how it has been used.

People have been known to pawn their honesty and integrity to accumulate wealth. They have discarded justice and fairness, using the power of wealth to step on the little people. They fail to realize that they cannot take their wealth with them when they die. Wealth can lift you up to the heavens or weigh you down to hell. It all depends on how you manage God's wealth.

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GOVERNANCE TEAM... from p. 29

by Noli Lopez, Greenhills Chapter



ACROSS

- 3. Reveal (Gal. 1:12)(Rev. 1:1)
- 8. Garden (Gen. 2:8) (Eze. 28:3)
- 9. Remuneration (Mt. 5:12)
- 11. Supernatural Event (Mt. 11:20)
- 13. King of Judah 1KI 15:8-24)
- 14. Plant Seed (Job 4:8)
- 16. Deprive Self-confidence (Jos. 1:9)
- 19. Male child (Pro. 10:1)
- 20. Jacob's Twin (Gen. 25:21-26)
- 23. Together in Unity (Ps. 133:1)
- 25. Father (Pro. 23:22)
- 26. High, elevated (Ps 92:1)
- 29. Wicked (Gen. (3:22)
- 30. Forbidden (Lev. 18:1-18)

DOWN

- 1. Manager (Jer.12:5)
- 2. A Prophet (Isam 9:9)
- 4. Generic Word for God (Gen. 1:1)
- 5. Mother of all living (Ge. 2:20-24)
- 6. Mankind (Gen. 1:26, 2:25)
- 7. Town in Galilee (Lk. 2:39)
- 9. Back to Life after death (Jn. 11:25)
- 10. Thrown into the Lion's Den (Dan. 1:6)
- 12. Inscription on the Cross (Mk. 15:26)
- 15. To reflect upon (Ps. 64:9)
- 16. Follower (Lk. 14:27)
- 17. Dispatched (Mt. 10: 40)
- 18. Spiritual Gift (Jn. 1:17)
- 21. To do (Isa. 28:21)
- 22. A spirit, Soul (Ps. 31:5-7)
- 23. False gods (1Ki. 18: 25)
- 24. To Excavate (Pro. 26:27)
- 27. One-tenth of your earnings (Mal. 7:8)

Bible Reference: *Devotional Study Bible*



Answer to previous Bible Cross Word

Milton/Marilou Mendoza; Boy/Elma Mirasol; Emil/Mariette Paz; Caloy/Irma Pineda; Butch/Elsie Quizon; Rally/Bing Ramirez; Monching/Fe Sunga; and Rommel/Cathy Tillah.

Lydia Figueroa has been designated chapter secretary. She works hand-in-hand with the secretariat headed by Kytt Mier. By virtue of their special situation, spouses of unit heads have been designated as their respective units' secretaries. The chapter secretary and unit secretaries form the "operating arms" of the secretariat which plays a crucial role in intra-chapter communications. #

GARDEN BREAKFAST... from p. 29

groups have pot-luck refreshments that add to the spirit of community sharing.

The August 12 AG Meeting Day saw the action groups coming together at the Virgin Mary Immaculate School, Ayala Alabang, for the talk "BCBP - A Christian Community" delivered by Boy Javier. #

There is none like You
among the gods,
O Lord, and there are no works like Yours.
All the nations You have made shall come
and worship You,
O Lord and glorify Your name,
For You are great,
and You do wondrous
deeds; You alone
are God.

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MINISTERING TO JESUS

Dorothy Day (1897-1980) was a journalist, social activist and co-founder of the Catholic Worker movement. Though she rejected religion as a young woman, she became a Christian at the age of 30 and spent her life serving the poor. We share with you excerpts from her writings. -Editor

It is no use saying that we are born two thousand years too late to give room to Christ. Nor will those who live at the end of the world be born too late. Christ is always with us, always asking for room in our hearts.



But now it is with the voice of our contemporaries that He speaks, with the eyes of store clerks, factory workers, and children that He gazes; with the hands of office workers, slum dwellers, and suburban housewives that He gives. It is with the feet of soldiers and tramps that He walks, and with the heart of anyone in need that He longs for shelter. And giving shelter or food to anyone who asks for it, or needs it, is giving it to Christ



If we hadn't got Christ's own words for it, it would seem raving lunacy to believe that if I offer a bed and food and hospitality to some man or woman or child, I am

replaying the part of Lazarus or Martha or Mary, and that my guest is Christ. There is nothing to show it, perhaps. There are no halos already glowing round their heads -- at least none that human eyes can see ... To see how far one realizes this reality, it is a good thing to ask honestly what you would do, or have done, when a beggar asked at your house for food. Would you -- or did you -- give it on an old, cracked plate, thinking that was good enough? Do you think Martha and Mary thought that the old and chipped dish was good enough for their guest?



For a total Christian, the goad of duty is not needed -- always prodding one to perform this or that good deed. It is not a duty to help Christ; it is a privilege. Is it likely that Martha and Mary sat back and considered that they had done all that was expected of them -- is it likely that Peter's mother-in-law grudgingly served the chicken she had meant to keep till Sunday because she thought it was her "duty"? She did it gladly; she would have served ten chickens if she had had them.

If that is the way they gave hospitality to Christ, it is certain that that is the way it should still be given.



YOU

Do you know how wonderful you are?

*The power that is within you
to do good?*

*The wonderful, hidden rivers of
spontaneous joy;*

The mountains of inspiration;

The green valleys that are peace?

*Have you glimpsed the delicate, soaring
architecture of your thoughts,*

*Or understood the wise industry of
your cells,*

*Or heard the glorious overtones
of prayer?*

*You are a whole country, a world,
a cosmos*

Still unexplored.

Great things are in you, because

God is in you.

Wonderful YOU!

R. H. Grenville