



**Brotherhood of
Christian
Businessmen
and
Professionals**
Mactan Chapter

February 2014

Chapter Welcomes 23 New Members



The new members with their action-group and unit leaders

After a long and exciting wait, BCBP Mactan has now 23 new members. From BCLP20, the new members underwent a series of weekend retreats namely: Brotherhood of Christian Marriage Retreat (BCMR), Free to Follow the Lord,

Brotherhood of Christian Business Retreat (BCBR) and the Culture Talks. The year and a half long activity culminated in a Commitment Rite held last January 25, 2014 at ECOTECH Lahug, Cebu

Continued on page 2...

Inside this issue:

Teaching "The
Bible" 2

Relief—
Tacloban 2

Teaching: Fam-
ily 4

On Being a
Christian 5

Region Holds Regional Breakfast



The filled up venue



*The sharer:
Gov. Davide*

Chapters of Cebu region unite to start the new year with a grand Breakfast at the newly renovated Grand Convention Center of Cebu. The Breakfast was blessed with a

stirring sharing of the governor of Cebu, Hilario "Jun-Jun" Davide III who shared his experiences and challenges in keeping honesty in public service. His sharing was aptly responded and the message on honesty deepened by the

Continued on page 2...

Special points of interest:

- ◆ Training: 40 Days in the Word, Feb 8, 15, 22

Remember that heaven is not for people who are better than the rest, but for people who sincerely try to become better than they are.

Chapter Welcomes ... (continued from page 1)

City.

The Commitment Nite was unique and special. It was preceded by the Culture Talks delivered by an impressive list of speakers from different Cebu chapters. Jun Gula for Prayers, Scripture and Spiritual Gifts, Mars Díez for Speech and Wrongdoing, Boy Villanueva for Guidelines for Business Dealings, Jun Dumdum for Submission to Authority and Guy Ceniza for Our Way of Life.

God made His presence known during the whole proceedings, through the reading for the day which Fr. Ruben Dumaguit, OAD, explicitly expounded during the holy Mass. "Be filled with the Spirit...Serve in order to grow and not fall away..."

Gel Sanchez, BCLP 20 course director, formally turned over the new members to CH Guy Ceniza and FD William Cejas for their continuous care and formation.



A teaching session on BCBP Culture



The group discussion



Cebu Gov. Davide



Cebu Archbishop Palma

Region Holds ... (continued from page 1)

archbishop of Cebu, Most Rev. Jose Palma, D.D.

The Breakfast was also used as the occasion to honor two persons for their exemplary honest deeds. They are:

SPO2 Isagani Ceniza: He returned a belt bag containing almost P100,000 in dollar and peso bills and jewelry left by a balikba-

yan inside a taxicab.

Noel Jonathan Quinain: returned a big amount of money and some valuable documents to a Norwegian who left an envelope in a restroom in one of the malls in Mandaue City.

The Breakfast ended with Bishop Palma giving a blessing to all the attendees.



The presentation and honoring of the Honesty Awardees

A heart that has a firm faith will not be frightened with obstacles, for it knows well that God's love will not abandon those who trust in Him.

BCBP Central Hosts Teaching on “The Bible”



The speaker, Francis Ituralde

A special teaching on “Knowing Your Holy Bible” was given on January 24, 2014 at Sacred Heart Center, Cebu City.

ing was made in preparation for the roll out of the “40 Days in the Word” scheduled to begin this month.

After a short praise and worship led by Noel Fuentes of Cebu Central, Francis Ituralde of the Ligaya ng Panginoon Covenanted Community gave a very enlightening talk to the members of Cebu Cental and Mactan chapters.

This method of praying with the Scriptures was introduced to the BCBP leaders during the National Leaders Retreat in Tagaytay last year. Its intention is to deepen the prayer life of all members.



The attendees

The special teach-



BCBP Relief Operation in Leyte Continues

BCBP continues to send relief goods to the victims of super typhoon, Yolanda, in Leyte. The BCBP National thru Allan Timonera, chapter head of Parañaque, sent 500 boxes of medical plasters. These were promptly distributed to hospitals, medical centers, and community centers in Tacloban city and neighboring towns by BCBP Tacloban members.



Tacloban City Hospital



Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center



Mother of Mercy Hospital



City Fire Department

God gave us two awesome gifts. One is CHOICE and the other is CHANCE. The CHOICE of a good life and the CHANCE to make it the best we can have, enjoy both.

Teaching

The Family

Fr. Rev. Fr. Ramon Fred C. Ofredo



- GOD'S will is for us to be integrated into a FAMILY
- 3 Things that give us the needed emotional, psychological, and social security in life:
 1. We need a community
 2. We need friends
 3. We need a family
- FAMILY is the basic unit of a society
- Marriage is not a HUMAN INVENTION but a DIVINE INSTITUTION
- What God has joined together for life let no man separate.
- Marriage leads to forming a family
- Marriage is a
 - Permanent union
 - Male and female
 - Commitment for life
 - As husband and wife
- Relativism today redefines the nature of marriage...
 - Person + Person in love, decide to live together = Marriage
 - Being + Being in love, decide to live together = Marriage
 - Elements:
 - No longer male and female
 - No permanent union
 - No commitment for life
- Destroy marriage, you destroy a family, you destroy a home!
- Every family is a domestic church 



Just think of how rich you are, your family is priceless, your time is gold, your health is wealth and your Savior is your richest source of all.



On Being a Christian (Part1)

A Practical Process of Transformation Through the Sacraments and the Good News Preached by Jesus Christ

Fr. Martin Okafor-Ilozue CSSp - BCBP Mactan BCLP19

WHO IS A CHRISTIAN?

In our world today, it is easy to identify people as Christians based on their religious affiliation and sects. Even in the Philippines, Catholics are not usually referred to as Christians, since the choice is either you are a Catholic or a Christian (Born Again). It is important to begin this article by defining who a Christian is, what is expected of a Christian and how does one come to be and live as a true Christian (follower of Christ).

The word Christian was first used in the Acts of the Apostle in the bible to refer to those who follow the way and teaching of Christ after His ascension into heaven in Antioch, a pagan territory. By this, the people of Antioch recognized in the members, the life of Jesus Christ, living the life of love and unity Christ asked them to live in order to show that they were His disciples. Today, what was meant to be an insult has been tagged to over a billion people all over the world.

In the Catechism of the Catholic Church, a Christian is described as “he who was baptized, believing and practicing all the Christian teaching about Jesus Christ”. By this, it is clear that for one to be a Christian, he or she has to be baptized, hence the sacrament of Baptism became the channel in which one is born into the Christian family. This is followed by the learning about the teaching of the Church about Jesus, as that is what one is required and obliged to fulfill.

Being a Christian therefore, imposes belonging to a particular group or sect through baptism, an outward sign that signifies heavenly belongingness with the triune God one receives at baptism. This understanding led the Catholic Church in not delaying anyone from being a member of God’s household by baptizing children at infancy in perfect example of the family of Cornelius and the Jail warden’s family who repented and asked for baptism for their families in the Acts of the Apostle.

In his latest Apostolic Exhortation, The Joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis pointed out that “Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction”. From the words of the Holy Father, one can deduct that being a Christian or growing into Christian life is not a conditioned pattern of living like angels, but a conscious change of attitude undertaken solely to the following of our Lord Jesus Christ and this has to done decisively. Meaning that there were other ways of living in the world and Christ reminded us that we do not belong to the world, hence, a Christian should stand out in the things of the Spirit that is always opposed by the things of the world. This decisive direction is regarded by some theologians as fundamental option, which one achieves by giving one’s life to Jesus through baptism and action. *(to be continued)*

“Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction”

Pursue righteousness, a wrong thing is wrong even if everyone else is doing it; a right thing is right even if you’re the only person doing it.



CH Guy and Eden Ceniza

Chapter Head's Message

The past days of January I was troubled by family issues concerning my son. Still with troubled heart we went to church for our Sunday obligation.

On the feast of the Lord's presentation the officiating priest focused his reflection on "The Encounter" or "Panag-tagbo" (since it was a Cebuano mass). The homily centered on the encounter of Jesus and Simeon, Jesus and Anna and of course Jesus and the people. I came to realize that "**encounter**" has something to do with things that pre-occupy my mind these days to include my son's concern. It reminded me that I have not had 1on1 with him for quite sometime now. God in his infinite wisdom paved the way for my en-

counter with my son.

In the context of our community life, we need not just face the concerns but extend effort in achieving our goal of "114 in 2014". We can act on it on our own by: attending our regular activities as often as we can, give our tithes consistently, and sponsor 1st timer that will eventually attend the BCLP. With this vision, we hope other concerns of our community can be addressed.

As we celebrate the Love Month, it is my fervent hope that we can put LOVE in the realization of our community's vision, "114 in 2014".



Moments of Grace

While listening to Jun giving his talk on Prayers, Scriptures and Spiritual gifts for the nth time, I was touched and was inspired to make a prayer journal.

I made some attempts to do it in the past but I failed to sustain it. This time, with a new resolve, I am progressing quite well. Somehow I know the Lord is pleased with my effort. In one moment of grace I felt His presence very strongly during my prayer time. Tears just flowed after I praised and worshipped

Him.

Then I was led to few little wonders that help me to sustain this beautiful practice. I came across a beautiful prayer by Pope Francis that I now use for my opening prayer. I found a cute, red tote bag that I crocheted some years ago to contain my journal, the Daily Gospel 2014 booklet, the "Word among Us" reflection guide and my pen.

Really, God blesses sincere intentions. 



Nery Gula

There comes a time when counting the cost and paying the price isn't important. All that matters is the value of what you do.

February 2014 Activities, Birthday & Anniversary Celebrants

Unit of the Month	<i>Unit Calayag</i>				Man of the Month	<i>Rene Macasero</i>
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Willy Lozano Veron Potot	4	5 Precy Macasero	6	7 First Friday Mass & Teaching Nene Tamidles Jovy Sanchez	8 Breakfast - Joint Session 1 – 40 Days in the Word
9	10	11	12 Action Group Week Baby Atoc	13 Bingbong Lamayan	14 Valentine's Day Cyd Paalisbo	15 Breakfast - Joint Session 2– 40 Days in the Word Nene Tampus
16	17 Dodong Bugtong RhodaPenaso	18 Jojo & Titing Matheu	19 Felix Amores Jr. Arlene Mrcado	20 Tonton&Faith DelRosario	21 Assembly Felix Amores Sr Jessica Carbajal Troy Solon	22 Breakfast - Joint Session 3– 40 Days in the Word June Keith Ramirez
23	24 Marivic Cuizon	25 Dolor Yu Ed Cabatingan	26 Action Group Week Lito & Dolor Yu	27 Eton Apao	28 Jun Yap	

Please inform the Secretariat of missed names or corrections

Anniversaries	Birthdays	Activities
---------------	-----------	------------



“These days there is a lot of poverty in the world, and that’s a scandal when we have so many riches and resources to give to everyone. We all have to think about how we can become a little poorer.”

Pope Francis

Pray not for easier life but to be a stronger person, never tasks equal to your power but for power equal to conquer your task, not lighter rain but better umbrella.



Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals Mactan Chapter

BRINGING CHRIST INTO THE MARKETPLACE AND WINNING THE MARKETPLACE FOR CHRIST

The BCBP is a community of like-minded Christian businessmen and professionals who have consciously decided to band together to bring about the transformation of the marketplace

BREAKFAST

Venue: Crown Regency Suites

Weekly Schedule: Saturday, 7:30 - 10:00 AM

1st Wk: Men's 2nd Wk: Joint (Men's & Ladies)

3rd Wk: Men's 4th Wk: Simultaneous (Men's & Ladies)

Contact Person: Willy Lozano, Mobile: 09173114367



www.facebook.com/BCBPMactan

January 2014 Breakfast Sharers



Mory & Elsa Suralta (January 11)

BCBP Consolacion

"We thank God for the hardships and sufferings we encountered for they strengthened our faith"



Roger Laurente (January 18)

BCBP Talisay

"I was caught in between money and my family, I chose my family "



Noel & Che-Che Fuentes (January 25)

BCBP Central

"the Lord never failed me"

It is not the load that breaks us down, it's the way we carry it. The stress is not in the situation, but in the way we deal with it. Think about it.