Newsletter of
BCBP
PASAY CITY
CHAPTER

. . . with hearts burning inside

Emmaus

JULY 2014

EVENT HIGH-LIGHTS

- 7th Chapter Anniversary
- Family Day
- 34th NAC

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Breakfast Sharing	4
Treasurer's Report	7
The Value of Each Mass	7
Reflections	8

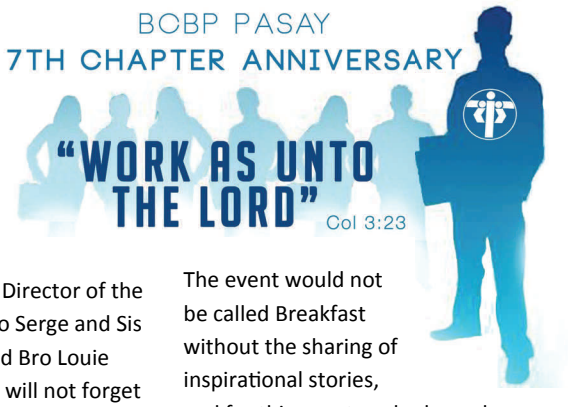
7th Chapter Anniversary

"Work as unto the Lord." Truly a great theme for the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals – Pasay City Chapter's 7th year Anniversary; it was a remarkable event, abundant of prayers and gratitude.

The anniversary was held last June 7, 2014, at the Microtel Hotel and Resorts, Mall of Asia, Pasay City. Spearheaded and led by no other than the energetic and never tiring couple Bro. Paul and Sis. Menchie Marcelo, Chapter Head. It was a blessed morning since it was attended by our brothers and sisters, graced by the Regional Director of the South Metro Manila Bro Serge and Sis Paching dela Fuente and Bro Louie Morales. Of course, we will not forget the presence of our pillars that made BCBP Pasay City Chapter what it is at present – Bro. Benru Macairap, Bro. Boy Lopez, and Bro. Manny Tecson.

It started with a Thanksgiving Mass presided by Rev. Fr. Norman Jesson Lago from the Domus Josephi Formation Centre, Pasay City with the reflection about faith in relation with the chapter's anniversary as the chapter embodied for 7 years the same faith and commitment.

After this, we had the breakfast proper starting with some ice-breaker games. All of us went for a sumptuous buffet and the food was really amazing and tasty. *"Thank You Lord, for the meal that we received and partaken that morning! ANG SARAP!"* The chapter's anniversary was full of abundance, not just with the food but with the first timers, **TREMENDOUS!** The whole hall was full of first time participants and it seemed like the number of first timers was more than the number of our regular members. **ISN'T THAT AMAZING?!**



The event would not be called Breakfast without the sharing of inspirational stories, and for this event we had couple sharers, Regional Mission Coordinator for Central Luzon and the Mission Director of BCBP Bulacan North Outreach Bro Jun & Sis Nancy Saret. I was left in tears and awe after their inspirational sharing, and I thank God that they gave us this couple to inspire everyone in that event.

Anniversary celebrations continued with a look back of the happenings, events and fun days that happened during the year of 2012. Not to forget, the intermission number that entertained our brothers and sisters, the talented music lovers - the Marcelo Kids: Jed, Leah, Joem, and Janelle. They sang "Rude" by the Canadian band MAGIC! They were great and I was amazed by their 4-part harmony singing act. Our Chapter Head's kids are like our own version of the Von Trapp Family Singers, ***GALING!***

Another highlight was recognizing our brothers and sisters who contributed and have given their commitment and love to BCBP Pasay Chapter. This year's **STAR** Awards were given to:
Service— Bro Alex Macalanda
Tithe— Sis Mimi Nolledo
Attendance— Sis Lolit Riego
Recruitment— Bro Emil & Sis Dory Macalanda

It was a wonderful celebration of commitment, abundant blessings and gratitude. Understanding the meaning of this year's theme, **"Work as unto the Lord"** the BCBP Pasay Chapter did not stand up by itself, **it was because of the members who never failed to give their commitment for change, unselfish giving, and faith**, just like what Fr. Norman said in his homily. It is the **"faith in love made BCBP Pasay Chapter strong for seven years, love that is unselfish, love that is very open, love that is faithful and love that is GOD"** I can tell you now that the Pasay Chapter will stand through the test of time.

10 years? 20 years? 50 years? It's all about faith, commitment, gratitude. **It's all about LOVE! ONE LOVE!**

By Sis. Dory Macalanda

Chapter Head Anniversary Message Excerpts

"Work As Unto The Lord"

This is the theme of our 7th Chapter Anniversary.

St Paul exhorted the young church in Colossae with these words: "whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ"

Reflecting on this message, three important points came to mind.

One: We must work from the heart.

One researcher said that only one-fourth of employees give their best on the job and that around 20-percent of the average worker's time is wasted (Kent Hughes, The Disciplines of a Godly Man)

The typical attitude of most people is to be boss-pleasers, to please top management even if it means sacrificing principles in the process. The motivation may be for a pat on the back, a raise, a promotion, or bragging rights. In the work relationship it may involve doing underhanded things to put oneself in a better position. Or it can mean walking over others to make one look good in the eyes of an employer.

But the power of the gospel must generate a new attitude in us towards our work.

St Paul tells us to work diligently even when the boss is not around. To do otherwise reveal that the desire to work is not present; instead there is only the longing to keep in the good graces of the employer.

Paul's command is to do our work instead "with sincerity of heart," Such a command contemplates a right motive for work. The word implies that the Christian is so intent on pleasing the Lord in all that he does, that he pursues his work diligently, with the aim of honoring Christ by his efforts and accomplishments. By this attitude, he is being sanctified such that the peace of Christ rules in his heart and the word of Christ richly dwells within him.

Two: A work done honestly for the purpose of pleasing God is holy.

One may argue, "How can I do that?" Again, St Paul reminds us that "It is the Lord Christ whom you serve." This statement turns secular work into sacred work. Hence, our attitude toward work is to see it as a sacred duty in service to the Lord. It may have nothing to do with gospel ministry, but it has everything to do with representing Christ and the gospel in the marketplace. Hence, you become Christ's ambassadors in your workplace.

Here, the secular/sacred distinction of work disappears, All honest work done for the Lord, whatever they may be, big or small, great or insignificant, routine or special, is sacred in God's eyes.

Three: Assured Expectation. Working as unto the Lord will bring assured expectation. There are unfortunate employees who face the problem of "cheapskate" boss who uses every possible means to keep from paying them a fair wage or of companies with obscure promotion programs. As mere employees, people often were left at the mercy of the company's desires. But the Christian employee should have a different view. The Lord Christ is the one he is serving, so the Christian is assured that the Lord will one day reward his diligence "knowing that from the Lord he will receive the reward of inheritance."

It is a fact that many people are not satisfied with their jobs. And I will not surprised if anyone of you have something bad to say about your company, about your boss, about pay, your work, or your working conditions. But you know what? When people see someone working diligently with a sense of enthusiasm and thankfulness for the work despite of the seemingly dismal conditions, they see something out of the ordinary. This supernatural joy attracts attention to the power of the Gospel.

All of life is to be under the submission to the Lordship of Christ. The Christian's work life, through this attitude of doing all unto the Lord, can help demonstrate the gospel's power in fallen men.

The Scripture commands, work hard so that the world will know whom you are working for. This is our ultimate motivation.

Brothers and Sisters, allow me to end with a point of reflection: Does our attitude in our work manifest the reality of Jesus Christ as Lord in our life?

As we close this anniversary celebration and look forward to another fruitful year, let us work diligently, whether in the workplace, serving in the BCBP community, or serving our family and friends. We are working for the glory of God!

Happy 7th Chapter Anniversary to all! Thank you and God bless.

By Paul Marcelo

Family Day

May 31, 2014. It was the 5th saturday of May and it was our Family Day, the opportune day given to us to gather the family and have some fun. Naval Base Bonifacio Swimming Pool, BNS, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City was the chosen venue. The place was very near, has a large pavilion, a kiddie swimming pool and a large pool. There was no better time and place to unwind and spend leisure time with family and friends.

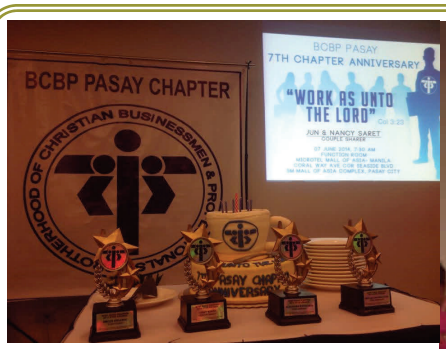
As soon as we got there, the videoke machine was already set. While the kids browsed through the song list to find their songs, Bro Arnel Diego was busy preparing the tables for the arrival of the members and their food.

Food and drinks were assigned out to each Action Group. The nice thing about it was that while some families cook or buy food, other families and friends could relax and just join. Each action group was also assigned shirt colors to display group solidarity. The Governance team wore white, Abad Action Group dressed in yellow, Awat Action Group came in red, Fernandez Action Group wore blue, and the Basitao Action Group came in green.

Everybody relished the home-cooked meals and refreshments while delightfully listened to the songs of our talented children. Not to be outdone, the adults soon joined in to display their singing ability. The toddlers loved the kiddie pool, which was refreshing that sunny afternoon. They were fun to watch.

For our enjoyment, Sis Peya devised another fun raffle gift-giving vis-a-vis question and answer game fitted for celebrating Family Day. The brothers however, suspected that the game was rigged because only the men were pulled out of the ballot for the question and answer.

Thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers, singers, and organizers for making this Family Day such an enjoyable and positive celebration of the BCBP Family. Thank you also to the Officers and Men of Bonifacio Naval Station for allowing us to use their facility. Thank you to all who gave their support. We are already looking forward to Family Day 2015.



Congratulations!

STAR Awards

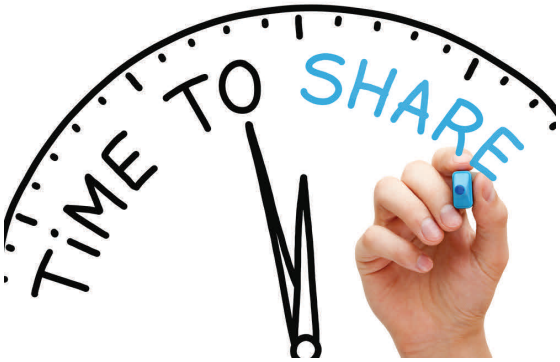
The BCBP Vision and Breakfast Sharing

"Bringing Christ into the marketplace and winning the marketplace for Christ." This is the two fold mission of the BCBP, a commitment that all members try to live up to in the conduct of their daily walk with the Lord. A vision gives direction, strengthens, and sustains the beliefs and activities of individuals and groups. The BCBP is no different. Awareness and living out the vision of the brotherhood fulfills the unique, peculiar path that has been chosen for us to serve and grow in the Lord.

This vision co-exists with a mission which gives a practical framework to accomplishing the vision:

We are a community of business people and professionals, committed to living out Christian values and being change agents in the marketplace. We accomplish this through a process of on-going personal conversion, a commitment to professional excellence, community and nation building, practice of justice and integrity, and responsible care for all entrusted to us.

From our vision and mission we all know about the call to be change agents in the marketplace, to live out lives of excellence and integrity in our business and professions, so as to witness to the gospel and bring others to Christ. Our very lives, the way we conduct ourselves, the way we think, speak and most importantly act, are our means of realizing the BCBP vision.



Having said so, it is worthwhile to note that an integral part of achieving our vision and accomplishing our mission is to share in the BCBP breakfast.

It is not without significance that the BCBP started with a breakfast, and that the BCBP breakfast remains to be the enduring unique activity of the brotherhood. It is the only gathering of brothers and sisters that happens on a weekly basis. It is the first engagement of chapters when new missions and outreaches are being established. In fact it can be said that the breakfast embodies the aspirations and efforts of the BCBP.

And we can not have breakfasts without committed brothers and sisters who share their faith stories to the brotherhood. Without sharers our breakfasts will become mere social events, distant from the mission and vision of the BCBP.

Sharing in the breakfast is one direct and immediate way for us to contribute to the BCBP vision. We evangelize with our life stories. We bring the wisdom, fidelity and love of God to our brothers and sisters, reflected in our experiences. We encourage one another to fight the good fight, making the life we share a proof and guarantee of how worthwhile it is to walk with the Lord. And when we share we do all these in many places, meeting new friends, all of whom are touched and inspired, through God's grace, by means of our sharing. There is then a continuously expanding circle of influence and grace that starts with our sharing.

Every brother and sister is called to share in the BCBP breakfast. Everyone. A sharing is meant to be what it is – an honest story about how God has moved in our lives. The story can be in any language, can be in any shape or form, because God moves in our lives in different ways for each of us. And as God promised, it the Holy Spirit that will guide and inspire us as our stories unfold.

Sharing in the breakfast is a mission that we should all embrace. It is good for the community, it is even better for us. To share is to celebrate God's goodness. It is a chance to worship and praise our Maker that we should not pass on.

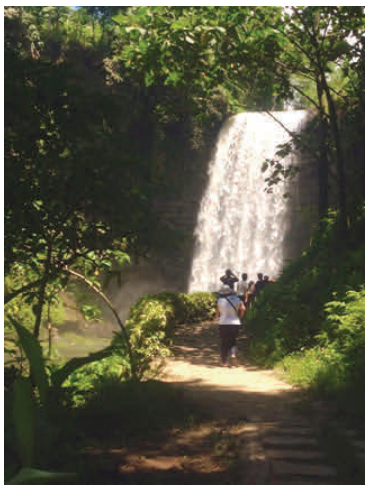
By Dama Cid

34th National Anniversary Celebrations

It has become a yearly pilgrimage, this national anniversary celebration of ours. This year 2014, the BCBP NAC 34 was held in the heart of General Santos City on April 25-26. In the midst of magandang Gensan and neighboring towns, the BCBP faithful once renewed ties with the Lord and with one another, basking in the glory of nature's abundance and in the comfort and warmth of brotherhood.

More than 20 members of BCBP Pasay joined the celebrations held in the SMX Convention of this bustling metropolis which is the southernmost city in the country. The brothers and sisters arrived in the city on April 24 after a 2 hour flight from Manila.

Adventurous and fun loving as they are, they had dinner that night at the renowned Tuna Grill restaurant, where they feasted on all forms of tuna, being the signature product of Gen San. Everyone left filled and fulfilled.



The group then spent the following day on a day tour of South Cotabato . Miles and miles of a blessed land was shown to them. They enjoyed the sweet pineapples of the huge Dole plantation in Polomoloc. They were again treated to a feast for lunch and Tiboli cultural dances and songs as they cruised Lake Sebu, and capped off the tour with a photo op session with one of the 7 majestic falls of Sebu. And for the young and adventurous, there was a thrilling zip line ride.

The NAC activities proper then started with the Praise and Worship night, led by National President Manny Jimenez. The spirit-filled gathering was once again a source of blessing for the BCBP faithful, through communal songs of praise and meditation on gratitude and thanksgiving to the Lord. The brotherhood was also encouraged to put into practice the theme of NAC 34 – Change the Face of Business with Honesty, Integrity and Excellence. The session ended with the pray-over in small groups between brothers and sisters.

The grand breakfast followed on Saturday morning, and as expected the sharings were inspiring stories of faith and encouragement to be with the Lord. In his first time to be a sharer for a breakfast gathering, BCBP Founder and Spiritual Director Fr. Herb Schneider, SJ, revealed to the brotherhood his life with his special life long Friend, who has guided and strengthened him through the years, from his days as a German immigrant in Brooklyn, to a young Jesuit priest in the east coast, up to the time he was led by the Lord to form the BCBP and other renewal groups in the Philippines. It was delivered as if he was engaged in casual conversation for such an enlightening mes-

sage. Later in the day, some of us chanced upon him in the hotel elevator, and being congratulated for such an amazing impromptu performance, he said with a twinkle in his eyes that nobody can speak impromptu for that long.

Judge Gilbert Moises of Cebu and Zamboanga del Norte governor Roberto Uy likewise shared their triumphs and challenges as servants of Christ in a society filled with graft, corruption and malicious political power. Their stories were inspiring examples of courage and conviction to stand for God and His way of life, no matter what the cost in the face of a hostile world in need of conversion.

The traditional Thanksgiving Mass and Fellowship Night concluded the anniversary celebration. The next venue was also announced to be held in Quezon City under the North Manila region.

The following day, prior to the flight back to Manila, the BCBP Pasay members went into a brief tour of the city, capped with a shopping spree at the Tuna Fish Port Complex.

Anniversaries are always fun and encouraging, especially the BCBP NAC variety. Once again brothers and sisters around the country were renewed in the faith, revisited old acquaintances, and saw new lands and new cultures. All are looking forward to the next gathering.

By Dama Cid

Celebration Memories

June Birthdays

Golden Wedding Anniversary of Bro Manny and Sis Edith

Treasurer's Report

Collection:	
January Tithes	40,800.00
February Tithes	31,000.00
March Tithes	46,200.00
April Tithes	29,200.00
Love Offering	4,000.00
Sale of Rosaries	2,500.00
Lent Recollection (Lunch collection)	7,100.00
TOTAL	**160,800.00**
Disbursements:	
NOF for December 2013	5,550.00
NOF for January 2014	10,200.00
NOF for February 2014	7,750.00
NOF for March 2014	11,550.00
NOF for April 2014	7,025.00
Calendar/ Roadmap Ring binding	2,605.00
Day of Thanksgiving (Mass Offering)	1,500.00
Day of Thanksgiving (food)	5,300.00
Donation to Sis Onor's mom	3,000.00
Formation Petty Cash	5,000.00
Assembly	2,248.80
Anawim	9,360.00
NAC 34 Souvenir Program	5,000.00
Singapore Mission Contribution (Feb)	4,000.00
Singapore Mission Contribution (Mar)	4,000.00
Singapore Mission Contribution (Apr)	4,000.00
Breakfast (Off-site)	13,900.00
Ladies Breakfast	2,250.00
Formation Expenses	6,209.19
Free to Follow Seminar Expenses	6,000.00
Lenten Recollector	5,000.00
Confessor and Mass Presider	2,500.00
Emmaus Newsletter	3,150.00
Unli Text Load (Jan and Feb)	745.00
Gift Certificate for Honesty Award	2,000.00
Meals for Lent Recollection	9,000.00
Payment of Rosaries	4,000.00
SLT Expenses	6,650.00
Sis Charie	3,000.00
flowers for Sis Charie	1,000.00
TOTAL	**153,492.99**
Receivables:	
Sale of Rosaries	1,500.00
Airfare NAC 34	40,000.00

Dishonest money dwindles away, but he who gathers money little by little makes it grow. - Proverbs 13:11

The Value of Each Mass

Although all of Christ's acts are redeeming acts, there is however one event that stands out above the rest. This is the moment where Jesus summoned all His courage, strength, obedience and love to offer to the Father on Calvary a sacrifice that knows no bounds. This boundlessness is due to the dignity of the Offering and of the Priest to whom He offered Himself on the altar of the cross as a sacrifice of infinite and immense value that we can never fully understand. As St. Jean Vianney, The Cure d'Ars explains, "It causes the whole heavenly court to rejoice. It alleviates the pain of the souls in purgatory. It draws down all types of blessings upon earth, and gives more glory to God than all the sufferings of all the martyrs together, more glory than the penance of the saints, than all the tears shed by them since the beginning of the world and all that they may do until the end of time."

In each one-hour Mass offered by the Church all over the world, there are infallible adoration, reparation and thanksgiving of limitless value, because it is Christ Himself who offers the Mass and in it offers Himself. Thus, it is impossible to adore God in a better way, or to give greater recognition of His sovereign dominion over all things and all men. It is impossible to make a more perfect reparation to God for the daily faults we commit than by offering or participating with devotion in the Holy Sacrifice of the altar. It is also impossible to offer Him greater thanks for the gifts we have received through the Holy Mass. "What shall I render to the Lord for all His bounty to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord" (Ps 115:12). Indeed, what a greater honor it is for priests to lend Christ their voice and their hands in the Eucharistic Sacrifice and what grandeur of privilege is that of the faithful who are able to take part in such a great Mystery! The Mass is the most complete fulfillment of the precept: You shall worship the Lord your God and Him only shall you serve (Matt 4:10).

"Tell our Lord that from now on, every time you celebrate or attend Mass, and every time you administer or receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist, you will do so with greater faith, with a more burning love, just as if it were to be the last time in your life. And be sorry for the carelessness of your past life", say St. Josemaria Escriva. With the same disposition of Our Lady on Calvary, we should realize that we are in the presence of the true and living God Himself and are present at the enactment of the very same sacrifice Jesus performed with great love for mankind.

By Paul Marcelo

Reflections

On Being Patient

I am not a patient person. Whenever there is a problem, I want to find the solution immediately, or at least know what direction I need to focus on in order to eventually arrive at action steps that would solve the problem. Most people are like this. The anxiety of not knowing what to do, and fear of having to experience the consequences of making the wrong decision, are enough to bring people to a state of trepidation.

Being in a constant state of worry is exhausting. It can have a multiple negative impact as it can affect the different areas of a person's life. A problem at the office may have an impact at home if the person brings with him the worries at work to his home. His family will feel the effect of this work stress through his bad moods, inability to concentrate and lack of focus on family matters.

Some problems can be solved easily. However, some take time. This is where patience becomes an important value to possess. Having the faith that things will work out at the end, the drive to persevere in finding the solution, and continue to live a Godly life will need a huge dose of patience—the kind that is based on strong faith, based on a deep spirituality and constant prayer, will bring the much sought after peace of mind and joy.

This kind of patience needs to be developed and God gives us a lot of challenges in our lives so we can practice. We need to learn to trust in Him, even through the difficulties that seemingly are endless, through our prayers that may appear to fall upon God's deaf ears, through the tears that we shed because the pain feels too tough to handle.

The bible shares stories of patience. One example can be found in Genesis 29:20 which says "*So Jacob served seven years to get Rachel, but they seemed like only a few days to him because of his love for her.*" And who can forget the story of Job who had to experience so much physical pain and emotional anguish, yet he offered all these to God, even though he did not understand the reasons for these. Then there is the story of Joseph who was sold by his brothers and waited for a long time in prison before he was summoned by the king to interpret his dreams.

The bible also talks about the need to be patient in waiting for God's coming. James 5:7 says "*Be patient therefore, brothers, to the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, and has long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.*"

Therefore, be positive and know that God is there. He will never forsake us. Let us remain patient through it all. "*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.*" Proverbs 3:5-6

By Mimi Nolledo

Prayer for Patience

Dear Heavenly Father, I pray for patience in my life. Help me to trust You and to know that You have everything under control. Help me to stay steady and not overreact to people or situations but to be patient in all things. When life is hetic, demanding, and busy, help me to not let frustration and anxiety steal patience out of my heart.

Help me, Lord, to trust the work that You are doing in me. Help me to not strive for personal perfection but to allow You to be perfected in me. Lord, help me to run the race that is before me with patience, not to run too fast and not to make things happen in my future, but to let Your will be worked out in my life.

Help me to be patient in prayer. When it seems as if You are not answering my prayers as quickly as I desire, help me to patiently wait for Your deliverance. Instead of always wanting everything my way, let me be patient and see what You have for me.

Your Word says to let patience have her perfect work. Lord, let that perfect work begin in me. Help me to not be anxious, worried, or fretful, but to trust in, lean on, and rely upon You, knowing that You will work all things together for my good if I remain patient. Help me to realize that change and challenges are a normal part of life and to be patient during those times of tests and trials.

Lord, I pray for patience concerning my family. Let me see in them what You see in them. Help me to be a model of patience in my responses to them that I might see the manifestation of patience in their lives as well.

Let Your peace now guard over my heart and Your patience have its perfect work in me. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Taken from the book "Scriptural Prayers for the Praying Woman"

BCBP PASAY CITY CHAPTER COMMUNITY LEADERS

Chapter Head	Paul and Menchie Marcelo
Mission Director	Emil and Dory Macalanda
Formation Director	Mario Racho
Programs & Services Director	Arnel Diego
Treasurer	Nette Canalita
Unit Leaders	Jack and Monique Ricaplaza Dwight and Lorna Penson
Outreach Coordinator, Pasay North	Benru Macairap
Breakfast Head	Dama and Peya Cid
Music Ministry Head	Dory Macalanda
Secretariat	Mimi Nolledo and Lolit Riego

EDITORIAL

Paul Marcelo
Mimi Nolledo
Arnel Diego
Dama and Peya Cid