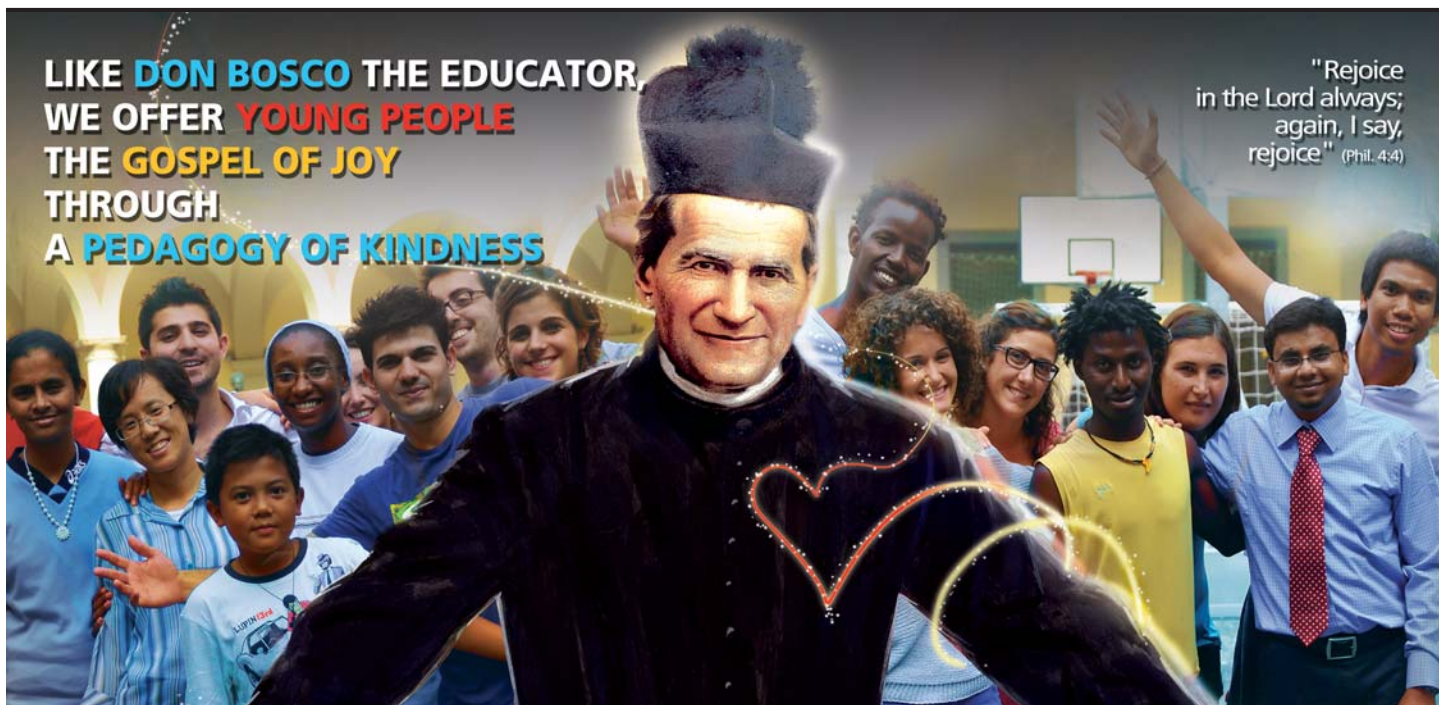


SIMBAHAY

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN BOSCO PARISH CHURCH, MAKATI CITY, PHILIPPINES

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2013



LIKE **DON BOSCO** THE EDUCATOR,
WE OFFER **YOUNG PEOPLE**
THE **GOSPEL OF JOY**
THROUGH
A **PEDAGOGY OF KINDNESS**

"Rejoice
in the Lord always;
again, I say,
rejoice" (Phil. 4:4)

A REASON TO CELEBRATE - SAINT JOHN BOSCO

By Fr. Ting Miciano, SDB

The Christmas Season has barely ended, and already we are gearing up for the next round of celebrations, starting this month. January is the month of Saint Giovanni Bosco, or the more familiar St. John Bosco whose feast day is on January 31. A week before that, on January 24, we also remember one of the outstanding influences in his life and ministry, the saint after whom he named his Salesian Congregation, St. Francis of Sales. And because St. John Bosco is our Parish's patron, Our Saint, we shall have our Parish Fiesta on the Sunday closest to his feast day, enabling more parishioners to join in the celebration.

There are a myriad reasons for celebrations – an important event, successes, anniversaries, milestones, unions and reunions, arrivals and departures, birthdays, even "deathdays" (our birthdays to eternal life), anything and everything else that involves things we enjoy and the persons we love. But in an age like ours when religion is considered close to nothing and spirituality is ridiculed or even abandoned, can holiness still be a cause of celebration? Nowadays, do saints offer the joy and love that attract people, especially the young? Is St. John Bosco a cause for celebration?

For those of us who know Don Bosco, as we fondly call Our Saint, there is something innately attractive in him that can easily be a cause for celebration! A man (and a saint) of multiple gifts, Don Bosco, could not be effectively summed up in one single reality. Some would cite his charisma, others would consider his love for souls, some, his faith and devotion to the Eucharist and Mary, and

still others, his unique achievements and place in the Church and society. Whatever it is that stirs our hearts for St. John Bosco, we cannot but rejoice and love the saint (and the man), whom many consider as one of the most charismatic saints in the history of the Church.

That's why we in St. John Bosco Parish wish to celebrate Don Bosco's feast day as our way of honoring him. We shall do so by gaining from the insights on "Don Bosco, as educator and evangelist" from the guest priest-celebrants during the Novena Masses starting January 25, by reading books and searching the web for materials about his fascinating life, dreams and teachings, by praying for his intercession often and kissing his relic every Thursday, by joining the Youth Ministry's *maka-Juan, maki-Juan* celebration on January 27 and the evening procession in his honor on February 2 and lastly, by taking part in the Parish Celebration of the Holy Mass to be presided by Bishop Precioso Cantillas of Maasin, Leyte.

To the questions on whether holiness is still a cause for celebration and if saints still attract people . . . YES – especially, Our St. John Bosco!

As part of the preparations for the 35th (Jade) Anniversary of the dedication of our Parish church, we humbly appeal to those who are willing to donate sacred vessels and other articles (chalice, ciborium, cruets, censer, procession cross, wash bowl) to be used during the Anniversary's Eucharistic Celebrations, to contact our Parish Priest, Fr. Ting Miciano, SDB. Thank you for your generosity.



ST. JOHN BOSCO PARISH CHURCH MAKATI

A. Arnaiz Avenue
Makati City, Philippines
Tel. (+632) 894-5932 to 34
sjbmakati@gmail.com
www.sjbmakati.com

EDITORIAL BOARD

Fr. Ting Miciano, SDB
Executive Editor

Fr. Chris Kennedy, SDB
Bro. Tony Caspellan, SDB

RESEARCH, INFORMATION & DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY

Vi P. Hernandez
Lynn & Mon Angeles
Mary Grace Gueriba

CONTRIBUTORS

Loudette Z. Banson
Rescy S. Bhagwani
Maris Katigbak-San Juan

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Monday to Friday:

6:30am • 7:30am • 12:15pm • 6:00pm

Holy Hour every Thursday after the
6:00 pm Mass

Saturday:

6:30am • 7:30am
6:00pm (Anticipated Mass)

Sunday:

6:00am • 7:15am • 8:30am • 10:00am*
11:15am • 12:30pm • 4:00pm • 5:30pm
7:00pm • 8:30pm

*with sign language interpreters

Confessions are available during all
the Masses

Adoration Chapel - open daily from
7:00am to 8:00pm

PARISH OFFICE & RELIGIOUS STORE HOURS

Monday to Friday (except Thursday)
8:00am - 11:30am • 12:30pm - 6:00pm

Thursday:
8:00am - 11:30am • 12:30pm - 4:00pm

Saturday:
8:00am - 12:00pm • 1:00pm - 5:00pm

JANUARY 2013

STRENNA 2013: A PEDAGOGY OF KINDNESS by Fr. Chris Kennedy, SDB

*[In the early days of the Salesian Congregation, Don Bosco was accustomed to give directions for the coming New Year in the form of a **Strenna or resolution**. These were, in the most part, practical guidelines to challenge the holiness of both confreres and boys. Nowadays, the **Strenna** has a much wider scope, as the Rector Major launches a new way of looking at Don Bosco.]*

On 31 December 2012 the Rector Major, Fr. Chavez, explained to members of the Salesian Family the **Strenna** for 2013. The wording goes like this: **Like Don Bosco the educator, we offer young people the Gospel of joy through a pedagogy¹ of kindness.** In presenting the **Strenna** he said, *"In 2013 our aim will be to study more deeply his (Don Bosco's) approach to education: what Don Bosco wanted to offer to the young and the method he used to open the doors of their hearts, in order to win their confidence and so to form strong personalities from the human and Christian points of view."*

If Don Bosco could open the hearts of the young of his time by his kind methods, surely today, these methods can help us, parents and pastors, to enter their world too. Fr. Chavez invites us to look both at the educator par excellence, and the method he used so successfully in his lifetime. He says, *"In the context of society nowadays, we are called to be holy educators as he was, giving our lives as he did, working with and for the young."* In line with this, we could do no better than to learn from the circumstances that gave rise to such a method. This will include how Don Bosco dealt with ordinary people, the Church, society and with religious life. There is a lot to learn in this regard. This will put us in touch with the "first Oratory" insights that were later developed in their humanistic-Christian implications.

The Preventive System represents the synthesis of Don Bosco's pedagogical wisdom and constitutes a prophetic message which he left to his heirs and to the whole Church. As the Rector Major states, *"it is a spiritual and educational experience which is based on*

reason, religion, and loving kindness."

The Rector Major presents three ways to approach this in our lives. We will only deal with the first in this issue of Simbahay and the rest in the coming issues.



UPRIGHT CITIZEN AND GOOD CHRISTIAN

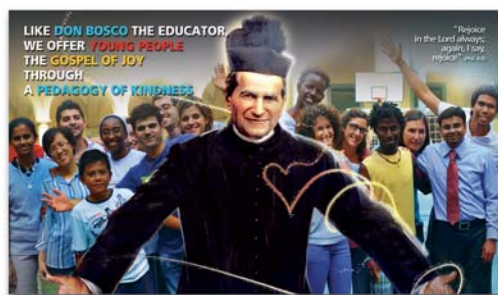
Firstly, we need "to relaunch 'upright citizen' and 'good Christian' which were central to Don Bosco's educational vision, "Should not the fact that nowadays hundreds of millions of people are living in conditions far removed from the 'civilization of love' hoped and prayed for by Pope Paul VI, and repeated by his successors, find in us 'a direct response' in our turning to the formula of Don Bosco, that of the 'upright citizen and the good Christian'"

In the area of "upright citizen" we need to think about everything related to development issues, while at the same time, paying attention to other factors in the world today. It means the **forming of a social and political conscience that leads to the making of one's life a mission for the common good. The inalienable human and Christian rights cannot be left out.**

The ideal of a "good Christian" is inspired by Don Bosco's zeal for souls. He always found new ways to combat evil despite his limited resources. For in Christ, the true nature of the individual person finds its total enlightenment. As Fr. Chavez says, "Jesus Christ opens an individual to the full understanding of himself and his destiny. **In Him, we become sons and daughters and are called to live as such in the contemporary world.**" *(to be continued)*

¹Pedagogy – the art, science, or profession of teaching; especially education

THE POSTER FOR THE STRENNA OF 2013



"The poster (see front cover) draws its inspiration from the large picture designed by Cosimo Musio, at the entrance to Valdocco²: Don Bosco with open arms followed by a crowd

of cheerful boys and girls. The new design presents Don Bosco with a group of young people from various countries in the world. It expresses the special concern for the young, and shows how the Salesian charism and educational system have reached every corner of the world.

A ray of light from above envelops the saint printing on his chest a heart – a sign of the loving kindness and the goodness that he embodied – and passing along his arm to his left hand as a sign of the practical daily effort that the educator has to make." (Reprinted from Salesian Info Agency site)

² Valdocco was the site of the rented shed, which housed Don Bosco's first Oratory.

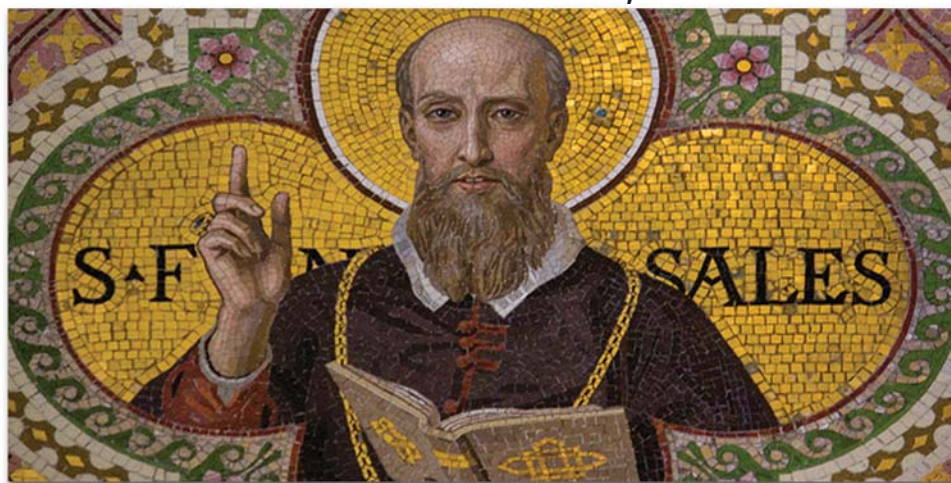
*Bishop of Geneva, Doctor of the Church
Patron Saint of Writers and Journalists*

Francis was a patient and gentle man³. Born to an old aristocratic family in France, he always wanted to be a priest, but dutifully obeyed his father who wanted him to become a senator: Francis obtained a doctorate in law, while secretly studying theology. After receiving a sign from God, he finally declared his desire to become a priest. His father objected at first, and then grudgingly consented, with Francis' gentle persuasion and upon learning that the Bishop of Geneva had appointed his son as Provost, the second highest position in the diocese. The following year, 1593, Francis was ordained a priest.

A year later, his legendary patience was severely tested, when Fr. Francis volunteered to win back 60,000 Calvinist converts in the Protestant stronghold of *Le Chablais* in Switzerland. After three years of enduring poverty and rejection, occasionally being stoned, and often having doors slammed in his face, Fr. Francis thought of an inspired idea to get his message across. He wrote down his sermons, made copies, by hand, and slipped these under the doors – the first known use of religious pamphlets! This novel way of preaching, his gentle persistence and his kind ways with children soon won over the people of *Le Chablais*. By the time he left, he had converted about 40,000 back to Catholicism.

When his superior died, Fr. Francis became

24 JANUARY – FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES, THE GENTLEMAN SAINT



the Bishop of Geneva at 35. While administering his diocese, he continued to listen to confessions, catechize children, preach spellbinding sermons and write many pamphlets and books, including, the famous *Introduction to the Devout Life* and *A Treatise on the Love of God*. He maintained a very busy schedule, yet he managed to remain patient, gentle, humble and affectionate, the same qualities, he encouraged in the Sisters of the Visitation, an order he co-founded with St. Jane Frances de Chantal. Bishop Francis died of a stroke at 57 in 1624. He was canonized in 1665 by Pope Alexander VII, and was declared a Doctor of the Church by Blessed Pope Pius IX in 1877.

Several congregations, founded in the 19th century, took St. Francis as their patron, and the spiritual directions found in his writings, as their guide. Among these are the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales, the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales and the Society of St. Francis de Sales, later renamed, as the Salesians of Don Bosco.

"You learn to speak by speaking, to study by studying, to run by running, to work by working; and just so, you learn to love God and man by loving. Begin as a mere apprentice and the very power of love will lead you on to become a master of the art."

– St. Francis De Sales

³ Francis claimed it took him 20 years to control his temper, a trait that very few even knew he had.



Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of the 40-day Season of Lent, falls on 13 February, this year. It is a time for reflection, penance, fasting and abstinence, as we prepare for the commemoration of his Passion and Death on Holy Week and his Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Christians (Catholics and mainline Protestant denominations) use ashes as a symbol of penance and mourning. Ashes re-

13 FEBRUARY ASH WEDNESDAY – HUMANITY CHECK

mind us of our humanity and our inevitable mortality. Ashes remind us that as future specks of dust, we have nothing to boast of, except that we have an all mighty and merciful God / Father who will never brush us off.

The ashes are applied with the priest's or minister's thumb in the form of a small cross on the forehead of each person with the words,

"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." (*Genesis 3:19*) or

"Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel." (*Mark 1:15*)

Ashes have been used as external marks of penitence, chronicled in Biblical passages:

1. Heeding the prophet Jonah's warning to repent or face destruction, the Ninevite King wore sackcloth, sat on ashes and

ordered his subjects to fast (*Jeremiah 3:5-9*).

2. Job asked forgiveness for questioning the Lord, by repenting in "dust and ashes" (*Job 42:6*).

3. Jesus rebuked the unrepentant towns, "For if the mighty deeds done in your midst had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would long ago have repented in sackcloth and ashes" (*Matthew 11:21*).

The ashes are prepared by burning the dried palms (*palaspas*) used in last year's Palm Sunday, christening the ashes with holy water and slightly scenting them through incensation (burning of incense).

Many choose to leave the ashes on their foreheads all day, not to show off their piety, but to remind themselves and others to let go of sin and "*cling fast to the Lord who holds souls secure*" (*Psalms 63:8*), long after their dust have rejoined the earth.

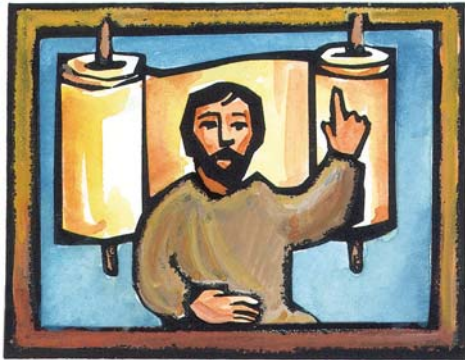
Even if Ash Wednesday is not a holy day of obligation, many parishes, including SJB Parish, encourage the faithful to attend Mass on that day; hence, the imposition of ashes is done within the Mass.

SUNDAY MASS REFLECTIONS

Simbahay features the Sunday Mass Readings' themes from Fr. Sal Putzu's *"Exploring God's Word"*.

These themes are part of a systematic approach to study and have a good knowledge of the Biblical passages which will be used in the coming Sunday Masses and to relate these readings to our lives.

Listen to Fr. Salvatore Putzu, SDB (General Manager and Editor, *Word and Life*) at *Bisperas sa Veritas* 846 AM, 5pm Saturday.



3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

National Bible Sunday
January 27, 2013 Readings

***Neh 8:2-4a.5-6.8-10** – Proclamation of the Law to all the people after the return from the Exile.

***1 Cor 12:12-31** – Paul explains that all the believers are members of the body of Christ and should behave accordingly.

***Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21** – Jesus reads and explains the text from the Scriptures in the synagogue of Nazareth.

Theme: A MISSION BLUEPRINTED IN GOD'S WORD

The Jews were a people with a mission – the mission to give the Messiah to the world that he might be the light of all nations. Unfortunately, at one point in their history, they lost sight of their Scriptures with the promises and demands they contained. The rediscovery of the Scriptures was the basis of their rebirth as a nation after the tragedy of the Exile. (See today's *First Reading*.)

We Christians also are "a people with a mission" – the mission to proclaim the Gospel to all nations and to work for the building up of God's Kingdom on earth. Our mission is in direct continuation of that of the people of Israel. Like theirs, our mission also is enshrined in the Scriptures. How sad to see that so many of us seem to be so little aware of such a great mission, mostly because of our lack of familiarity with the Holy Scripture . . . !



FEAST OF ST. JOHN BOSCO

February 3, 2013 Readings

***Sir 1:1-23; 2:1-6.10-11** – Trust God and make straight your ways.

***Phil 4:4-9** – Fill your minds with everything that is holy.

***Mt 18:1-5** – Whoever welcomes a child for my sake welcomes me.

Born in Turin in Northern Italy, on August 16, 1815, St. John Bosco exemplified himself by caring for the young people of his time. Don Bosco grew up in a poor family and decided to become a priest at the age of 9.

As a young man, John Bosco learned tricks from circus performers and repeated the homily he hears from church before young people. This combination of play and teaching served him well to attract the youth as industrialization set in Europe which brought with it the problems of theft and abandoned children.

John Bosco saw that even the worse of these boys, the filthiest, the hardened thief is still God's child. He talked to them and taught them about God. He also taught them skills for livelihood. He founded the Salesians of Don Bosco, the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (FMA) and later a lay movement called the Salesian Cooperators.

Today, as in St. John Bosco's time, may we foster the love and care for our neighbor especially the youth in our community by way of gentle kindness that they be brought closer to God through Mary, and thus live out St. John Bosco's motto – "Give me souls take away the rest."

– condensed from the *Proper Masses of the Salesian Family*

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 10, 2013 Readings

***Is 6:1-2a.3-8** – God's theophany in the Temple and the call of Isaiah to the prophetic ministry

***1 Cor 15:1-11** – Paul restates the essence of the Christian *Kerygma* (essential creed/proclamation).

***Lk 5:1-11** – The miraculous catch of fish and the call of the first disciples

Theme: CALLED TO BE GOD'S PARTNERS IN THE SALVATION OF THE WORLD

The God who created the universe single-handedly and holds it in His hands does not save it single-handedly. He seeks the collaboration of people. He wants the collaboration of all. But over and above this general cooperation, He also chooses, calls and sends some individuals to be the heralds of His messages, and the special instruments of His love.

We call these people "prophets" and "apostles". Their lives are a mixture of ordinary weakness and exceptional strength, of humiliating defeats and resounding victories, of temptations to sin and hard-conquered holiness. But in spite of such disconcerting contrasts, if they do their best, as Isaiah, Paul and Peter did, "the world will be better for this" and good will triumph over evil in all its forms.



ASH WEDNESDAY

February 13, 2013 Readings

***Jl 2:12-18** – Exhortation to conversion, trust and penance

***2 Cor 5:20-6:2** – A plea to be reconciled with God

***Mt 6:1-6, 16-18** – Good deeds must be done with the right intention.

Theme: LENT: AN OPPORTUNITY TO SET OUR PRIORITIES RIGHT

The beginning of the Lenten season should mark the beginning of a "New Life". Guided by the Spirit of the Lord, in this "Year of Faith," we undertake the journey not only of our spiritual/moral renewal, but also the journey of re-discovering the great truths that ground our faith, and the practical implications of our baptismal commitments in our daily life.

A sincere conversion, penance, and prayer rooted in faith, the rejection of superficiality and any form of ostentation . . . will constitute the "return to basics" which will enable us to prepare ourselves for a lasting sharing in Christ's Resurrection. This requires that we set our priorities right, should we realize that we have upset their proper order based on the teaching of Jesus. Such should be the fundamental disposition which should accompany us as we undertake the spiritual pilgrimage of the Lenten season.

11 FEBRUARY THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES AND THE WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

By Rescy S. Bhagwani

The veneration of Our Lady of Lourdes who appeared to Bernadette Soubirous, a 14-year old peasant girl, in a French town at the foot of the Pyrenees has been recognized by the Church since 1862. A famous Marian shrine complex now stands in the apparition site. One of the greatest pilgrimage shrines in the world, the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes houses a Basilica, several churches and chapels, the Grotto with its statue of Our Lady of Lourdes and a spring of fresh, reportedly, healing water. A number of healings in the Shrine have been investigated and authenticated by the Lourdes Medical Commission.

It is no wonder then, that a year after he was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, Pope John Paul II chose the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes as World Day of the Sick; it has been celebrated yearly since 11 February 1993. This Pope has written much on the salvific and redeeming process of suffering through Christ, in his apostolic letter *Salvifici Doloris*.

In his Message for the 21st World Day of the Sick for 2013, Pope Benedict XVI exhorts us to, "Reflect on the exemplary figure of the Good Samaritan", with the concluding words, "Go and do likewise" (*Luke 10:37*). "The Year of Faith, which we are celebrating, is a fitting occasion for intensifying the service of charity in our ecclesial communities, so that each one of us can be a Good Samaritan for others, for those close to us."

The Pope then cited some prominent



people who, through prayers, service and their own illness, have "helped the sick to appreciate the human and spiritual value of their suffering": Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus, who united her sufferings from illness with the Lord's Passion, Venerable Luigi Novarese, who accompanied sick and suffering pilgrims to Lourdes, Raoul Follereau, who worked with lepers, Blessed Teresa, who cared for the "discards" in the streets of Calcutta and St. Anna Schäffer, who consoled the sick from her own sick bed with counsels and letters.

You may read Pope Benedict XVI's message in the Vatican's website, <http://www.vatican.va>

A PRECIOUS GIFT FROM OUR LADY



Lucy Bueser (left) in front of the Basilica in the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes

It was an answered prayer!", exclaimed Lucy Bueser, when asked about her recent Marian pilgrimage. Every day, as she passed by the Gallery of Saints, she would ask the Blessed Mother to help her visit the Marian pilgrim sites, particularly, the shrine in Lourdes. When her former boss unexpectedly left her some money, she immediately saw this as God's special way of granting her heart's most cherished desire. She joined a Marian pilgrimage last November.

Since high school, Lucy has been a devotee of the Blessed Mother. While still an active Legion of Mary member, she wore the white dress with blue sash of the devotees of Our Lady of Lourdes, to whom she prayed for a good husband. When she married a kind widower with seven children who needed her attention, she chose to be an auxiliary member of the Legion, as she could no longer attend regular meetings. Then and now, she always prays the Ro-

FEBRUARY 2013 CALENDAR

- 02 Sat** **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candelaria)/** World Day of Consecrated/Religious Life
- 03 Sun** **PARISH FIESTA – Solemn Mass with Bishop Cantillas 5:30PM/** Mass Baptism 2 PM
- 05 Tue** St. Agatha
- 06 Wed** St. Pedro Bautista, St. Paul Miki and companions
- 09 Sat** **Fr. Faroni's 90th Birthday**
- 10 Sun** **5th Sunday in OT/** Pro-Life Sunday/ Parish Confirmation – Bishop Cortes
- 11 Mon** **Our Lady of Lourdes/** World Day of the Sick/ Mass & Anointing of the Sick and Elderly 2 PM
- 12 Tue** Adult Baptism & Confirmation c/o Fr. Lagaya 2 PM
- 13 Wed** **ASH WEDNESDAY (Masses: 6:30, 7:30, 10:00 AM, 12:15, 4:30, 6:00, 7:15, 8:30 PM)**
- 15 Fri** Way of the Cross 6:30 PM
- 17 Sun** **1st Sunday of Lent/** Migrants' Day
- 20 Wed** Start of Total Consecration (Our Lady of Mediatrix) – 5:30 PM Rosary, 6:00 PM Mass and Talk (Spirit of the World) up to 9 PM
- 21 Thu** Total Consecration (BSC 6:30-7:30 PM) up to March 25
- 22 Fri** **Feast of the Chair of St. Peter/** Way of the Cross 6:30 PM
- 24 Sun** **2nd Sunday of Lent**

Sick Visitation – Thursdays 9AM

Holy Hour – Thursdays 6:30PM

Medical & Dental – Sundays 2:00PM

Visit our website for the complete Jan 2013 Calendar <http://sjbmakati.com/parish-events.html>

sary and actively promotes the devotion to this prayer, which Our Lady, in most of her apparitions, has requested us to pray for the conversion of sinners and for world peace.

At Lourdes, she experienced a deeper intimacy with Our Lady. When she bathed in the waters from the miraculous spring, she asked the Lord to cleanse and heal her. She is grateful that despite her age, she was able to visit the wide expanse of the Shrine, with relative ease. Lucy recognizes that this world continues to challenge us in promoting Marian devotion, even within our own families, but we must remain faithful and committed to loving and praying for others.

TRIBUTES TO TWO GIANTS OF THE FAITH

FR. ANSCAR CHUPUNGCO, OSB, FILIPINO LITURGIST (1939 – 2013)



By Mon Angeles

Fr. Anscar Chupungco, OSB may not be as familiar to Filipino Catholics as: Cardinal Tagle, Archbishop Soc, Bishop Pabillo, Fr. Arevalo, and others. News of his sudden death from a heart attack last 9 January 2013 did not receive as extensive media coverage as that of the charismatic Jesuit, Fr. James Reuter, a week earlier. But here and abroad, the many who knew of Fr. Anscar's brilliant achievements and personal holiness deeply mourned the world's loss with his passing.

Who was Fr. Anscar? He was a Benedictine monk, a world-renowned authority on Liturgy (rites of Eucharistic Celebrations) and acknowledged dean of Filipino Liturgists. Born Jose Herminio Javier Chupungco, Fr. Anscar got his religious name from St. Ansgar, a great Benedictine missionary. He earned his doctorate degree in Sacred Theology, specializing in Liturgy, from the Pontifical Atheneum of St. Anselm in Rome where he would later become *Rector Magnificus*. He was the first Filipino to teach in the Pontifical Liturgical Institute

in Rome, of which he would later be President. He was also a consultant of the Congregation for Divine Worship which assists the Pope in matters on Sacred Liturgy and the Sacraments.

Here in the Philippines, he served as Rector in three San Beda Schools. Together with then Bishop of Malaybalay, later Cardinal Emeritus Gaudencio Rosales, he founded the Paul VI Institute of Liturgy in Malaybalay, Bukidnon, which serves as the formation center for Liturgists in the Asian region.

Being one of the world's brightest Liturgical luminaries, Fr. Anscar was much sought after as a speaker in local and international conferences. I was fortunate to have attended the Archdiocese of Manila's Liturgy Conferences where he was a regular guest speaker. Known for integrating local customs and traditions into the Catholic Mass, Fr. Anscar was able to make both ecclesiastical scholars and parish Liturgical Ministers appreciate the profound beauty of Liturgy.

He was a prolific writer. His books (*Litur-*

gies of the Future, What then is Liturgy? Musings and Memoirs, Meditations on the Mass, among others) and handbooks ("Handbook for Liturgical Studies", "The Eucharist", "Sacraments and Sacramentals", to name a few) are invaluable references for students of Liturgy and Liturgical Ministry all over the world. On the *Meditations on the Mass*, Archbishop Soc Villegas writes:

"The medium is truly the message. The messenger is indeed the message himself. Anybody can write his meditations on the Mass but only Fr. Anscar can do it the way Fr. Anscar does. The meditations are Fr. Anscar himself – very personal, very revealing, very wise, very deep, warming for the heart and touching the soul . . ."

Fr. Anscar was a member of the International Commission on English in the Liturgy tasked with the New English Translation of the Roman Missal which was implemented worldwide last Advent 2012. While he may have had personal reservations with the translation, he dutifully wrote "The New English Translation of the Roman Missal: A Catechetical Primer", which guided the gradual implementation of the new responses in English Masses.

For his impressive contributions to the development of Liturgy, Fr. Anscar received several prestigious awards including, the Outstanding Thomasian Alumni Award in 2000, the *Serviam* Award by Gaudencio Cardinal Emeritus Rosales, McManus Award by the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions of the United States in 2011. He was scheduled to receive on 26 January 2013, from Pope Benedict XVI the *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* Award in honor of Fr. Anscar's decades of distinguished service to the Church. It was awarded posthumously during his interment on 17 January 2013. He was 73.

 <p>JET SET 1774 EVANGELISTA ST, MAKATI</p> <p>843-8440 • 843-8691 843-2207 • 886-0931</p> <p>FAST DELIVERY AUTHORIZED PETRON DEALER IN MAKATI</p>	<p>Now Open!</p> <p>FIESTA GAS BRAND LPG</p> <p>4409 MONTJOJO ST., BRGY. TEJEROS, MAKATI CITY</p> <p>519-2454 0908-869-7350 897-9565 896-7650</p> <p>TAPAT SA KALIDAD, TAPAT SA TIMBANG</p> 
---	--



FR. JAMES B. REUTER, SJ (1916 - 2012)
HE BROUGHT ME JESUS (FIRST OF TWO PARTS)



By Loudette Z. Banson

Fr. Reuter had a special prayer which he recited before we began every rehearsal, meeting, recording and performance. It ended with, "And may all those who are involved in this play and all those who watch it become closer to You". I think God really listened to this prayer, all these years of working with *Tatang*, have reflected in my life.

I first met Fr. James B. Reuter, SJ, when I was sixteen years old. I was sent by my High School principal, Sr. Jude Mary Valdes, R.A. to participate in a play written by Fr. Horacio de la Costa on the Christianization of the Philippines. I was one of three of our school's representatives who joined those from two dozen other Catholic schools. We performed *The Woman of the House* more than 25 times. Each of us got to play more than one character and after all those performances, we all had mastered the play. That was my initiation into theatre – Reuter style. He taught us to be adaptable, resilient, and resourceful.

My comeback project came when he

needed a baby for one of his plays. I had just given birth to my eldest son. So, there I was backstage: tense, anxious and nearly in tears, as I watched my six-month old baby, clothed only in a diaper, all the spotlights on him, wailing and sweating onstage amidst strangers doting over him. I felt sorry for my son and a bit upset that I had so foolishly put my baby through this ordeal. I could not sleep for days thinking that perhaps I had traumatized my son, for life. I thought that my growing family would keep me away from *Tatang*. But soon after, I realized I could never say no to this charismatic priest, not just because the themes of the plays he presented were about holy men and women, but also because he was such a gentle, loving soul, who had so much passion for everything he said and did. He wanted to present reality in the most truthful way. Always.

In 1984, not knowing I was four to six weeks on the family way, I agreed to play the role of the co-foundress of the Pauline family. I was Mother Thecla in the life of Giacomo Alberione. I nearly had a miscarriage from all the dancing and movement onstage. My doctor recommended two weeks bed-rest.

I thought *Tatang* would replace me. On the contrary, he waited for me to recover; then, he modified my choreography and blocking and put me on stage as a religious sister. The prayers of the Sisters kept my baby and me well. *Tatang's* faith in me boosted my morale. Because of this experience, I wanted so badly to name my second child: *Giacomo*, James in Italian. My husband had difficulty pronouncing the name *Giacomo* so I settled for Jaime. My second child is a handsome, healthy and witty Jaime.

I remained a willing participant in *Tatang's* projects until I had my fifth child. Each of my five children managed to join me on stage at some point in their lives. I would eventually be typecast as the Virgin Mother. I resisted the role. I thought it was the farthest from challenging. I tried to sweet-talk him once into casting me in the role of the devil in the life of Joseph Marelllo, but *Tatang* refused ever so gently and told me with a twinkle in his eye, "If you were the devil, there would be no more angels." He often reminded us . . . "A play is as strong as its weakest link". There were no small parts in his productions, so I did my part as best I could. *(To be continued)*



SUPERSONIC SERVICES INC.

G/F Colonnade Residences Condominium
 Carlos Palanca St. Legaspi Village Makati City

Tel. No. 8183712 Fax No. 8195545

Cebu Pacific Reservation No.

8939607/08 or 8183712

ZestAir Reservation No. 8195546

Airphil Express Reservation No. 8402952

NEWS BRIEFS



24 DECEMBER – SJBP HOLDS TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS GIFT-GIVING

The day before Christmas, SJB Parish Priest, Fr. Ting Miciano distributed gift bags to 150 families, from the combined love offerings of all the Parish's organizations during the Simbang Gabi Masses. The gift bags contained canned goods, rice and other staples, as well as ingredients for the families' *Noche Buena*.

The Social Services Ministry under Aura La Chica has organized this annual Parish tradition for the past three years.

25 JANUARY TO 2 FEBRUARY – SJBP PREPARES FOR THE PARISH FIESTA WITH NOVENA MASSES

The nine-day Masses leading to the Parish Fiesta on 3 February 2013 began 25 January and will end on 2 February. Guest Salesian priests have been invited to celebrate the 6:00 PM masses. The Fiesta theme for this year, "To Evangelize is to Educate; to Educate is to Evangelize" is based on the 2013 *Strenna*.

The Most Rev. Precioso Cantillas, SDB, DD, Bishop of Maasin, Leyte will be the main celebrant in the Solemn Fiesta Mass at 5:30 PM.

YOUTH MINISTRY CELEBRATES SJB'S FEAST DAY

By Mary Grace Gueriba

On 27 January 2013, the Youth Ministry (YM) of St. John Bosco Parish will hold its first youth gathering for 2013. This activity dubbed, "*maka-Juan, maki-Juan!*" will serve as YM's celebration for the feast day of our Patron St. John Bosco. Drawing from this year's *Strenna*, the YM activities will highlight Don Bosco's "Preventive System", his well known educational system with its three pillars of reason, religion and loving kindness.

St. John Bosco Parish Youth Ministry

Inviting all youth!
JANUARY 27, 2013

3:00-3:45pm (SJB Parish Gym)
JUAN ON JUAN WITH JESUS
youth prayer experience

4:00-5:00pm (SJB Main Church)
JUAN (B) FOR ALL
youth holy mass

5:00-6:30pm (SJB Parish Gym)
ALL FOR JUAN (B)
youth "minute to win it"

maka JUAN! - maki JUAN!

The youth gathering at the Parish Gym will start at 3PM and end by 6:30PM. Events include: "Juan on Juan with Jesus" – a different youth prayer experience, the Youth Mass, and "All for Juan" – YM's version of "Minute to Win it".

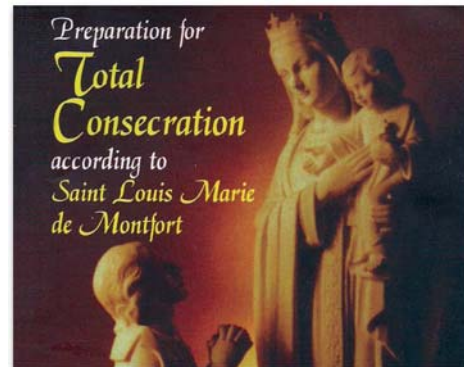
We invite all the youth, especially those belonging to parish organizations, to come and join us in "Juan" afternoon of fun and learning.

INVITATION TO YEAR OF FAITH BLOG

Do you have any questions on the Year of Faith? Ask Fr. Ting!

Visit <http://sjbmakati.com/wordpress/?p=201>

TOTAL CONSECRATION TO JESUS THROUGH MARY ACCORDING TO ST. LOUIS DE MONTFORT



SJB Parish will once again hold the 33-day preparation for Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary according to the method of St. Louis Marie de Montfort from 20 February to 24 March after the 6PM Mass.

Those who wish to know more of this devotion are invited to the orientation on the first day, 20 February.

- 5:00 PM – 5:30 PM Registration and distribution of materials
- 6:00 PM – 6:45 PM Holy Mass
- 7:00 PM – 7:50 PM Orientation on Total Consecration and the 33-day preparation by Fr. Paul Marquez, SSP
- 8:00 PM – 8:45 PM Talk on "Spirit of the World" by Fr. Ting Miciano, SDB

For more details, please consult the Bulletin Boards or get flyers from the Parish Office.



ONGOING CHURCH REPAIR AND RENOVATION

To prepare for the 35th anniversary of the Dedication of the Parish Church on 4 March 2013, simultaneous repair, refurbishing and reconstruction activities are in full swing inside and outside the Church. Most of the work is scheduled after church activities, to minimize disruption; still, the Parish apologizes for any inconvenience these preparations might cause.

Happy 90th Birthday,
Fr. Faroni! 9 February 2013

