

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 1 MARCH 2011



1976-2011

35th Anniversary of St. John Bosco Parish

On March 2, 2011, St. John Bosco Parish, Makati marks its 35th Foundation Anniversary as a Parish, the culmination of the Hi-5 @ 35 program which highlights the Parish Mission as distilled in 5 themes: Faith, Family, Formation, Filipino and Future. These themes represent the values, aspirations <mark>and advocacies cher</mark>ished by the community that the Parish has faithfully served in three and a half memorable decades.

ST. JOHN BOSCO PARISH MAKATI'S HITORY HIGHLIGHTS 1951-2011 1951 Salesian priests arrived in Makati and served 28,000 Catholics through St. Ildefonso Parish in Culiculi. Mar 2, 1976 St. John Bosco Parish was established with Fr. Godfrey Roozen, SDB as the first parish priest (1976 - 1988). Aug 15, 1977 Jaime Cardinal Sin officiated at the laying of the cornerstone of SJB Parish Church. Mar 4, 1978 Jaime Cardinal Sin also led in the dedication of the completed Parish Church. Architect: Jose Maria Zaragoza; Sculptor: Eduardo Castrillo 1982-1987 Sixteen Parish Organizations formed Fr. Remo Bati, SDB founded PUGAD (Parish Urchins Gathered at Don Bosco) 1988 1993 Fr. Rocky Evangelista, SDB established Tuloy sa Don Bosco Foundation. 1996-2003 Fr. Gerry Battad, SDB instituted confessions in all Masses and pro-poor projects including Balikatan Massage Clinic of the Blind. Fr. Gerry Battad, SDB initiated Gallery of Saints as conceptualized by the late Bro Hubert Bernales, SDB. 2003-2005 Fr. Bernie Carpio installed centralized air-conditioning in the Church. Started Novena to St. John Bosco and veneration of the saint's Relic every Thursday Jan-Apr 2006 Fr. Joey Paras, SDB installed as interim Parish Priest 2006-2009 Fr. Manny Domingo, SDB enhanced the Church sound system, acoustics and surrounding gardens; Instituted the Holy Hour after the 6:00 PM Thursday Mass and introduced Taize prayers, sign language Mass. 2009-present Fr. Ting Miciano, SDB continues to pursue SJB Makati's mission of being a church of the Poor. Instituted First Friday Vigil and adoration Daily Masses (four Masses on weekdays and 11 Masses on Sundays) attract massgoers from all over Metro Manila. Twelve Ministries and fourteen Parish organizations actively support SJB Parish's projects and advocacies.











March 4.1978-Dedication of the parish church

ST. JOHN BOSCO PARISH, MAKATI PASTORS







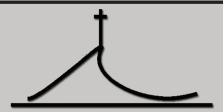












ST. JOHN BOSCO PARISH CHURCH, MAKATI

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Parish Priest

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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

Confessions are held 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



We have resumed the publication of our parish newsletter, *Simbahay*. The latter months of 2010 had been a struggle in producing the newsletter because of the unforeseen unavailability and the eventual resignation of the editorial staff. I was hard-pressed to find immediate substitutes, even on a temporary basis only, as the whole parish was so busy in preparing for the coming of the Relic of Don Bosco and the Christmas festivities.

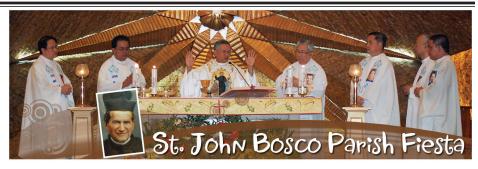
But as they say, the show must go on! Providentially, we found the right people to continue the work and so the beautiful Special February Issue came out immediately, featuring the arrival to our parish of the Pilgrim Relic of Don Bosco on December 23 and 24, 2010.

"Knowledge is power", according to that great management *guru*, Peter Drucker. Part of the mission of our newsletter is to afford timely and useful information for all parishioners, enabling them "to know" what is going on in our Faith and

in our parish and so "to empower" them, making them enlightened Christians and committed Catholics. Above all, we envision *Simbahay* to be a crucial instrument in the education to and the nourishment of the Faith of our parishioners and as an indispensible tool for evangelization. With these urgent reasons we made it a point to resume the newsletter at the earliest possible time. It is my fervent prayer and wish that our newsletter will continue to be an outstanding instrument and accomplish all that it is meant to accomplish.

This March Issue is devoted mainly to highlight the remaining activities of the parish as it celebrates its 35th Foundation Year on March 2. It will also feature, among the other events of the month, the activities of the revitalized Youth Ministry of our parish.

— Fr. Ting Miciano, SDB



January 29 - 31, 2011

This year SJB Makati held a three-day celebration from January 29 to 31 in honor of the feast of its patron saint, St. John Bosco.

January 29 (Saturday) Parish Parade

About 800 parishioners joined in the candlelit parade from the Parish Church, around the *banderitas*-decorated streets of the Pio Del Pilar and Washington area and back to the Church. Enlivening the parade were the Little Don Boscos, the

Lilies of the Altar, and the flag bearers from Pio Del Pilar High School who were dressed as they were a month before in the parade to welcome Don Bosco's relic on pilgrimage.

January 30 (Sunday) Fiesta Mass and Palaro

Fr. Eli Cruz, SDB, Provincial Superior of the Salesian Philippine North Province (FIN), delivered a wonderful homily during the 5:30pm Fiesta Mass. He talked about our patron saint, St. John Bosco and how the beatitudes can lead us to













heaven. Please see article below for a brief summary of his homily.

The Parish treated children and youth to a Fiesta *palaro*. Right after the 8:30am children's Mass, about 250 children and youth who usually attend catechism classes, proceeded instead to the parish gym for some fun and games. Most of them are Grade 1 to Grade 6 students at the Hen. Pio del Pilar School in Dulo.

McDonalds sponsored snacks and also facilitated some games for the children. The catechists, junior catechists and the

youth from the Don Bosco Youth Center (DBYC) helped make this event a funfilled and enjoyable one.

January 31 (Monday) Thanksgiving Dinner

On the actual feast day of St. John Bosco, the SJB Parish Community hosted a thanksgiving dinner for the clergy of the Vicariate of Sts. Peter and Paul and the surrounding Salesian Communities including the Don Bosco Press, the Provincial House Community and San Ildefonso Parish.

This tradition is observed in all Salesian houses during the Feast of Don Bosco to express their solidarity with each other and in appreciation for all the help that was extended to the Salesian Community host. This year, parish priests and their assistants from three parishes came to the thanksgiving dinner: Monsignor Dennis Odiver and Fr. Jeff Jamias of St. Andrew the Apostle, Fr. Vic Apacible of and Fr. Juanito Arocco of the National Shrine of the Sacred Heart and Fr. Andy de Guzman of Holy Cross Parish.



Gospel: Matthew 5: 1-12 The Beatitudes

DON BOSCO, SEE YOU IN HEAVEN!

(from the homily of **Fr. Eli Cruz, SDB**, Provincial Superior of the Salesian Philippine North Province (FIN) during the Fiesta Mass of SJB Makati Parish on January 30, 2011)

During the last Philippine stopover of St. John Bosco's relic in Palawan on January 16, 2011, as the chartered plane carrying the relic took off for Saigon, amidst the cries of "Viva Don Bosco" and "Mabuhay si Don Bosco", a most

profound farewell came from a little girl, "See you in heaven! ".

"It seems as though people who are greatly loved can never die." It's hard to believe that what is precious to us can be taken from us. But when Don Bosco was dying he said to his boys, some of whom even offered their lives for his sake, "Say (anything) but goodbye". He knew that in heaven he will be home.

Don Bosco is the only saint who can boast that he was surrounded with saints when he was alive: St. Dominic Savio, St. Luigi Versiglia, St. Luigi Orione, Blessed Michael Rua, Blessed Philip Rinaldi, Blessed Luigi Guanella, Blessed Augusto Czartoryski are but just a few. Don Bosco formed a unique chain of holiness and he spread and multiplied his holiness to his boys, with just one wish - to see them in heaven.

The Beatitudes are the secret to heaven. Although it may seem strange for us to find happiness in mourning, in being poor or persecuted, the beatitudes become meaningful because of the kingdom of God. Happiness comes from having Jesus in our hearts. Don Bosco always reminded his boys "Make Jesus your best friend".

Life can be filled with all miseries and pain yet we remain happy because we believe that Jesus is in control and we know that he has a plan, a purpose and a prayer for us. That's why we are happy even when we mourn, when we become poor, persecuted and insulted.

"Takot ka ba mamatay? Why? The answer is the same as what causes us to pamper our body and pollute our souls. What causes us to elevate the material and degrade the more spiritual things? We forget we have a destiny and our destiny is in heaven."

"Don Bosco, see you in heaven!"



PONDO NG PINOY VICARIATE ASSEMBLY - February 12, 2011

"ANU MANG MAGALING, KAHIT MALIIT, BASTA'T MALIMIT, AY PATUNGONG LANGIT"

Rachelle T. Rule

On February 12, 2011, the Vicariate of Sts. Peter and Paul, held a Vicariate Assembly for the Pondo ng Pinoy (PnP) program of the Archdiocese of Manila at the Joy Center of SJB Technical Institute in Makati. It was an upbeat celebration of PnP's aim towards social transformation through what is now referred to as the Theology of the Crumbs, symbolized by the plastic water bottle filled with loose change.

The celebration began at 8:00 AM with a concelebrated mass with The Most Reverend Bienvenido Cortez, D.D., Auxilliary Bishop of Manila as presider and the pastors of the Vicariate as concelebrants. Bishop Cortez spoke of

three marks of Christian stewardship – GRATITUDE, ACCOUNTABILITY and RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE FRUITFUL which are evident in the spirituality of the Pondo ng Pinoy program.

After the Mass, Dra. Gaines Rosario and Fr. Vic Apacible, Vicar Forane of the Vicariate of St.s Peter and Paul hosted the Program consisting of a PnP Audio Visual presentation and several talks to continually promote PnP.

At one point, after young people from SJB Makati animated the PnP Theme Song, they asked the two hundred plus attendees to join them in the dance, drawing a lot of chuckles from the audience as they swayed and swung to the song.

Sr. Mary Pilar Versoza, RGS, Pondo ng Pinoy Board member and Programs Committee member, reported on the progress of the PnP programs: notably the gains of its integrated feeding education and livelihood program - HAPAG-ASA amidst the drop in overall PnP collections. (n.b. Happily, SJB Makati's PnP collections are increasing again.) She encouraged everyone to offer their PnP bottles every last Sunday of the month, even if these are not yet filled up; this would help the Bangko Sentral manage and circulate its coin stocks better.

After the open forum, Sis Sol of Nuestra Señora de Gracia and Johanna of SJB Makati shared their experiences and reflections on PnP (see Johanna's testimony)

The program ended at noon with Monsignor Dennis Odiver leading in a prayer of gratitude and praise followed by the angelus.

SJB MAKATI PnP COLLECTIONS

2007	100,590.00
2008	52,488.65
2009	38,772.00
2010	92,983.75
2011 (to 2/16)	14,130.00



JAY-JAY'S STORY PONDO NG PINOY'S FIRST "SAINT"

Based on an article by Lisa Bueno as inspired by the Homily of Gaudencio B. Cardinal Rosales on the occasion of the 2nd Anniversary of Pondo ng Pinoy, June 17, 2006

Jay-jay was a 5th grader when he learned of, understood and embraced the theology of Pondo ng Pinoy – of how small things, given with great love and concern for others, can change the world for the better. Each day, he would gather all the 25-centavo coins he could find and slowly fill small, empty mineral water bottles as a small sacrifice for the sake of others.

Jay-jay suffered from a leukemia-like disease which spread quickly through his body. But in his deathbed, he was still concerned about his little bottle of coins which he was filling up for both Jesus and himself as a vessel of love and a symbol of compassion

Today Jay-jay's life continues to inspire those who through little, regular acts of kindness transform their community into one rooted in love of God and neighbor.





ANG PONDO NG PINOY AT AKO

Johanna Rodriguez

Magandang umaga po sa inyong lahat ako po si Johanna Rodriguez kasalukuyan po na nag-aaral sa Hen. Pio del Pilar Elementary School.

Nais ko pong ibahagi sa inyo ang aking karanasan sa pagbibigay halaga sa proyekto ng Pondo ng Pinoy. Noong una po, di ko po alam ang tungkol dito pero binigyan po kami ng katesismo ng aming katekista sa aming paaralan at pinaliwanag po nya sa amin kung gaano ito kahalaga at kung paano ito nakakatulong para sa mga kapwa kong mahihirap sinasabi nga po "anumang magaling kahit maliit, basta't malimit ay patungong langit".

Maganda po ang sinasabi ng mga salitang ito sa akin. Wala palang imposible sa atin kahit mahirap na kaya natin tumulong. Kami po ng aking pamilya ay hindi po pumapalya na maghulog ng bente singko sa isang bote hanggang ngayon. Tulong-tulong po kami naglalagay upang mapuno ang boteng ito.

Alam po namin na sa ganitong maliit na

halaga ay makatulong din kami sa pangangailangan ng iba. Iniisip ko po na masarap pala ang pakikiramay, nang sa maliit na halagang ito'y nakatulong ako sa mga kapwa kong kabataang hindi kayang pag-aralin ng kanilang mga magulang, mga may karadaman na nabigyan ko ng kaunting lunas, mga kapwa Pilipinong walang tirahan at walang mga hanap buhay.

Sabi nga po si Lazaro'y nagtiyaga at nagtiis na mamulot po ng mumo pero ito po pala ang magdadala sa kanya sa langit! Kaya, bawa't bente singko ay mahalaga po sa aking ipunin. Alam kong di po ito kabawasan sa baon ko arawaraw kundi ito po ang magiging daan upang matuto po akong dumamay at magpasaya ng aking kapwa.

Salamat po.

1st PUGAD HOMECOMING January 29, 2011

Pugad, the parish-based Home for Street Children and Migrant Youth held triple celebrations on January 29 – the first homecoming of Pugad's past pupils, "everybody's day" for Pugad pupils whose birthdays are in January, and the birthday of Pugad director, Fr. Dave Buenaventura.

Sixty pupils came to the homecoming for a night of bonding, good food, songs, dance and a raffle. Fr Richard Varela gave the opening address. The newly elected officers of the Past Pupils Association also took their oath of office that night.

The homecoming was an opportunity to

inspire the current Pugad pupils with the success stories of the past pupils and in turn, to remind the latter that they will always have a family in Pugad to return to and assist in whatever way they can.





CONTEMPLATIVE OUTREACH PHILIPPINES CELEBRATES ITS RECOMMITMENT DAY

Rachelle T. Rule

Contemplative Outreach Philippines (COP), one of our parish organizations and the sole entity tasked by the Archdiocese of Manila to teach Centering Prayer and Lectio Divina, celebrated its Recommitment Day last February 05.

Monsignor Atilano Oracion of the Diocese of Lucena presided in a

contemplative Mass which is celebrated in an atmosphere of silence and stillness. After Holy Communion, the COP members spent twenty minutes in Centering Prayer, a prayer of quiet and complete openness to God's presence and action in one's being.

Before the final blessing, the COP members recited the Recommitment Prayer, to renew their pledge to live the contemplative dimension of the Gospel, to be faithful to their daily practice of centering prayer, to be open to serving others, and to reaffirm their wholehearted support for COP.

After the Mass, the COP members went to Roozen Hall for a short program and some refreshments. Ms. Grace Padilla, one of the two ladies who brought Centering Prayer to the Philippines in the 1980's, gave an inspirational talk on "Contemplative Service".

The nine committee heads of the Circle of Service (COS), the group which

oversees COP's activities, duties and functions, then took turns explaining the functions of their committees and recruiting volunteers.

A touching farewell letter to the COP members from Ms. Lita Salinas, its former Director, and COP co-founder was read. Through the years, she has taught the prayers and conducted COP seminars on the Spiritual Journey program of Christian life, growth and transformation by Fr. Thomas Keating, O.C.S.O., the founder of Contemplative Outreach based in the United States.

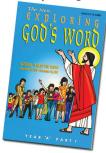
For more information on centering prayer lectio divina and COP activities, please visit www.cophil.org or contact the COP Secretariat at the SJB Parish Building.

COP Secretariat

Rm. 211, SJB Makati Parish Building Telephone no. 632-501-5231 [Manila] Office hours: 8AM to 5PM: Tues to Sat

SUNDAY MASS REFLECTIONS

Starting this issue, Simbahay features the Sunday Mass Readings' themes from Fr. Sal'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.

Visit <u>www.sjbmakati.com</u> for more detailed excerpts of the study notes for each week.



9TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

March 6, 2011 Readings

- *Dt 11: 18.26-28.32 Obedience to God's law attracts His blessings; disobedience, His punishments.
- *Rom 3:21-25.28- All have sinned and are justified by grace through Jesus Christ.
- *Mt 7:21-27 Only those who put into practice the teaching of Jesus will enter the Kingdom of God.

Theme: THE CALL TO BUILD OUR
LIVES ON THE SOLID ROCK
OF GOD'S WORD

Our life has a proper direction only if it is guided by God's Word and lived accordingly. In the Old Testament, such guidance was offered through the mediation of Moses and had its core in the Ten Commandments. In the New Testament, it is Jesus Christ who offers the infallible guidance, especially

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday which falls on March 9 this year marks the beginning of Lent, a special season for Christians to prepare for the celebration of the Paschal mystery of Christ's salvific passion, death and resurrection.

Lent lasts 40 days, excluding Sundays, recalling the 40 days that Jesus spent in the desert besieged by the harshness of the elements and the wiles of the devil before He began His public ministry.

But more than mere commemoration of the life of Christ, Lent is another chance to redouble our efforts to lead Christ-like lives, unachievable as this may seem.

If we resolve to spend the coming days till Holy Week (and beyond), faithfully and lovingly performing the very doable acts below:

- deepening our prayer life
- avoiding and making amends for sins
- sharing with the needy what we had saved through fasting and abstinence

we will indeed become more and more Christ-like and reap bountifully from this season of grace.

through the "Sermon on the Mount' which deepens, rather than replaces the Decalog.

Jesus did his share by teaching mankind the "Way of Life" and by showing with his example what that meant in concrete terms. It is now our turn to walk the "Way of Life" not by just listening to Jesus' words and "feeling good" about them, but by putting them into practice. At the conclusion of his "Sermon on the Mount," he warned his audience against the danger of failing to do so. The Kingdom of Heaven is reserved for those who DO the will of the Father. Only in this way will we make Jesus' teaching the rock foundation of our existence and we will build our lives on that rock through the daily faithfulness to his words.



ASH WEDNESDAY

Beginning of the Lenten Season March 9, 2011 Readings

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

- * 2 Cor 5:17-6:2 A plea to be reconciled with God
- * Mt 6:1-6.16-18 Good must be done with the right intention.

Theme: THE CALL TO AVOID HYPOCRISY AND OSTENTATION

The beginning of the Lenten season should mark the beginning of a new "Life in the Spirit." Guided by this special liturgical season, we undertake the journey of re-discovering the great truths that ground our faith, their moral implications, and the practical demands of our baptismal commitments in our daily life.

This is for us a unique opportunity to start waging a crusade against any-thing that has dragged us away from the Lord. A sincere conversion, penance, prayer rooted in faith, the rejection of ostentation and any form of superficiality. '...will constitute the very much needed "return to basics." The effort we exert will enable us to prepare ourselves for a lasting sharing in Christ's Resurrection.



1st SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

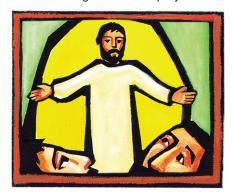
National Migrant's Sunday
March 13, 2011
Readings

- * **Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7 -** The creation of man and the first sin
- * Rom 5:12-19 The power of Christ's redemption is stronger than the destructive power of all sins
- * Mt 4:1-11 Jesus overcomes all temptations.

Theme: THE CALL TO REJECT THE DEVIL'S EMPTY PROMISES

On this First Sunday of Lent, we are given in the behavior of Jesus an encouraging example of how to overcome the devil's temptations. Trusting the truthfulness of God's Word and rejecting all that goes against His plan for us are the keys to sure victory. This is the clear difference between Jesus and the first human beings when they were tempted by the devil. This can also spell the difference in our lives. Jesus' good news is that temptation can be overcome if we follow his example. It all depends on us, for God always does His part.

Today is "Migrants' Sunday." This yearly observance offers us the opportunity to show a practical interest in the plight of millions of our brothers and sisters who have been forced by adverse economic circumstances to leave their province or country of origin and seek elsewhere a better life for themselves and their families. Let us include all mlgrants in our prayers.



2nd SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

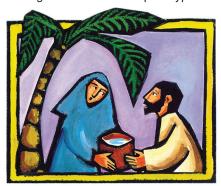
March 20, 2011 Readings

- * **Gn 12:1-4 -** The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.
- * 2 Tim 1:8-10 God saves us in Christ, out of sheer love.
- * Mt 17:1-9 Jesus is transfigured in the presence of his disciples.

Theme: THE CALL TO LET THE BEST IN US SHINE BRIGHTLY

Jesus transfiguration was meant to be not only an encouragement to his three "special disciples": Peter, James, and John, but also an *inspiration* and an *aspiration* for all those who would believe in him in the subsequent generations. And such it has been, over the centuries, for the great saints and even small people like us.

As our "inspiration," the transfiguration of Jesus should be for us an ideal that lifts us out of our defects, lower inclinations, and past faults. As an "aspiration," it should be the goal we strive to reach, at least in part, already in this life through our constant effort to improve our moral behavior. Our moral/spiritual "transfiguration" is also the goal we hope to attain in full in the life to come, for we are called to be part of the new heavens and the new earth, of which the transfigured Jesus is the prototype.



3rd SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

March 27, 2011 Readings

- * Ex 17:3-7 God provides water for His people in the desert.
- * Rom 5:1-2, 5-8 God's love for us has no limit.
- *Jn 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42 Jesus promises a spring of water welling up to eternal life.

Theme: THE CALL TO OPEN OUR HEARTS TO JESUS

The theme of LIFE-GIVING WATER is one of the topics which were presented for reflection of the catechumens during Lent as they prepared themselves for the baptism they would receive on Easter Vigil. These same themes are also proposed to us during this Lenten season as a help to rediscover the richness of our Baptism.

In the Biblical tradition, WATER is a symbol of LIFE (except in the case of the Flood). It is actually a symbol of GOD

Himself, the source of all life and the only One who can satisfy to the full the deepest aspirations of the human heart. To forsake God is to condemn ourselves to the worst form of drought and thirst. (See Jer 2:12-13 and 17:13.)

Today the Lord Jesus reminds us that only in him can our thirsty souls/hearts find the refreshment and solace they yearn for. From him alone, in fact, flow the stream of his Word, the Holy Spirit, and the Sacraments which are as many manifestations of the source of life-giving water that he is.

FR. SAL'S DASAL

Listen to Fr. Salvatore Putzu, SDB (General Manager and Editor, Word and Llfe) at Bisperas sa Veritas 846 AM, 6pm Saturday)

2nd Sunday of Lent Prayer

When darkness weighs my soul down and all that is in me is nothing but gloom, show me your face, Lord Jesus. Enable me to see in your countenance the splendor of the Father, the semblance of which He etched in me the day He called me to life. Reveal to me the love of the Spirit – The Spirit who dwells in me as in a temple; the divine Love no one can touch or see.

Remind me that I was not made to die but to live and give glory to the Blessed Trinity through a life patterned after yours. Remind me that I was not created to suffer but to enjoy for ever the love of the Triune God in the festal gathering of angels and saints in heaven.

When I feel threatened by the specter of discouragement and defeat, show me your face, that I may take heart and dare to move on. When I am tired and confused, and nothing seems to make sense, reveal your face to me, enlighten my soul and cheer up my heart that I may derive from you the meaning that brightens my path in the journey of life.

When I am drawn by the attractiveness of creatures and am tempted to cling to them as if they were my everything, show me the beauty of your face, Lord. Then will every other beauty flicker away as the light of candles pales when the sun is born from the womb of night.

When my last hour draws near and all that I have held dear eludes my grasp, and the dark claws of death grab my heart with their merciless grip, show me your face, Lord: the smiling face of the handsome and strong Son of Mary; the smiling face of the Risen One who dwells in heaven. Then will I fear no more the dark cloak of death, nor will I regret leaving this life, for that will be for me the moment to enter the gate that leads to the eternal bliss of heaven in your presence for ever — the happiness I have been dreaming of all of my days on earth.

Show me your wonderful face, O Lord: the face that all the saints behold and delight in. And in my seeing you, all yearning will be satisfied, and your peace will be mine – mine for evermore. Amen!

More of Fr. Sal's Dasal at www.sjbmakati.com

MARCH 2011 CALENDAR

02 Wed St. John Bosco Parish 35th **Anniversary**

04 Fri **Solemnity of the Dedication** of St. John Bosco Parish

05 Sat Benefactors' Night -**Thanksgiving Dinner**

06 Sun 9th Sunday in Ordinary Time

09 Wed ASH WEDNESDAY Masses: 6:30, 7:30, 10:00am 12:15, 4:00, 5:30, 7:00, 8:30pm

> Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence.

13 Sun 1st Sunday of Lent National Migrants' Sunday

19 Sat Solemnity of St. Joseph, **Husband of Mary**

20 Sun 2nd Sunday of Lent

23 Wed Parish Lenten Recollection I

25 Fri Solemnity of the **Annunciation of the Lord**

27 Sun 3rd Sunday of Lent

30 Wed Parish Lenten Recollection II

Sick Visitation - Thursdays 9am Holy Hour - Thursdays 6:30pm Medical & Dental - Sundays 2pm Street Mass - Saturdays 7:30pm Visit our website for the complete March 2011 Calendar

FORUM ON FAMILY & LIFE

In line with the Hi-5 @ 35 themes of Faith, Family, Formation, Filipino and Future, St. John Bosco Parish, sponsored a forum on Family and Life on February 23, 2011 at 7pm at the St. John Bosco Parish Church.

The speakers for the forum were Fr. Joel Jason who spoke on the "Church Teaching on Human Sexuality, Family, Life and the Plan of God for Family" and Dr. Lucille Montes. M.D., Ph.D. who presented the negative consequences of the current curriculum in "Perils of Compulsory Sex Education in Schools." Both talks touched on the Responsible Parenthood Bill, formerly, Reproductive Health Bill and its impact on our youth, family and our society.

The Forum was well attended by members of the different parish organizations, particularly those from the youth organizations and the AMPON scholars of the Parish. Representatives from other parishes and several educational institutions also attended with the intention of cascading the talks to their respective institutions.

The lively exchange of ideas during the Q & A indicated the high level of interest that the Forum has elicited.

Read more at www.sjbmakati.com.



Last February, our parish was blessed to have Carlos Ibay, a gifted and accomplished concert pianist and singer, proclaim God's Word and sing during several weekday and Sunday Masses.

Carlos or Chuckie, as he is fondly called, has a rich tenor voice and has performed solo concerts in numerous countries including the Phiippines, Italy, Australia, Israel, Brazil, Russia and USA. To add to his list of many talents is the fact that he is also fluent in 7 languages.

Anyone who hears him perform can not help but be amazed by his powerful voice; but what makes his accomplishments and talents even more impressive is the fact that Chuckie has been blind since birth. When asked about how he was able to discover and develop his talents in spite of the many challenges that he has had to overcome, his mother Menchie says, "lots and lots of love, love, love and prayers."

Although Chuckie and his family are now back in Virginia, USA he hopes to be able to return to the Philippines soon. For more information on his performances, please visit his website at

www.carlosibay.com

OUTH CORNER



YOUTH ASSEMBLY

The Youth Ministry held its first Youth Assembly last January 22, 2011 at the Roozen Hall. About 70 youth members of the different Parish organizations attended the event and were able to meet and get to know each other through games, songs and animations, reading of Scripture and fellowship.

Guest speakers included Rev. Fr. Richard Varela who gave a talk on the Don Bosco Youth Center and its goal of inviting new members into the ministry and Rev. Fr. Ting Miciano who gave an inspirational talk on the role and importance of the youth in the parish.

Welly Cuna

RENEWAL OF VOWS OF CONJUGAL LOVE VALENTINES DAY 2011

Some fifty couples made Valentine's Day 2011 more memorable by renewing their conjugal vows of love in simple rites within the 6:00 PM Mass.

In his homily, Fr. Ting reminded the assembly of the Christian dimension of the secular feast of Valentines Day -God's love and union with His people through the incarnation and death of His beloved Son, which Divine love and union has come down to bless and sustain the marriage bonds between man and woman.

Among the couples who came to renew their wedding day vows were newlyweds Vicente and Arras Saut who joined SJB's Mass wedding last November and Mr. Peter Jr. & Mrs. Filomena Chavez who in turn, are marking their golden jubilee.

This yearly event was sponsored by the Family Life ministry headed by Bro. Bert and Sis. Violy Magsakay who will be celebrating their 32nd anniversary.

Packed refreshments courtesy of Jollibee Makati Cinema Square and Jollibee Waltermart were served after the

