



SIMBAHAY

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

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2012

LENT DRIVING OUT DEMONS

by *Dominicanis*

In the early days of the Catholic Church, many Church Fathers chose to live in the deserts of Egypt and Syria as ascetics. Back then, the desert was a scary place. It was the home of demons. Living there meant striving for a holy life by battling demons. Later, the Church Fathers would use the word "demon" to describe not just an evil spirit, but also exceptionally unchristian attitudes, needs and behaviors. Our Lenten practices help us recognize our demons, even showing us how we are "possessed" by them. To identify these demons, let us see them in the context of one of our Lenten Gospel stories – the Temptation of Jesus in the Desert (*Luke 4:1-13*).

The Demon of Security and Survival. Jesus was no doubt very hungry after his forty-day fast. Given the same situation, we probably would have changed stone to bread; never mind if we sold our soul to the Devil. Jesus ended the temptation there and then by valuing the Word of God above all. We remember how we compromised our good values because of our greed to increase and own, even if it is to our shame and to the scandal of others.

The Demon of Affection and Esteem. The devil dared Jesus to leap off the ledge of the Temple, anyway, his angels would be there to catch Him. Doing so would have won Jesus the popularity vote. Again, Jesus stymied him. We remember the times how we 'polished the apple', or used peer pressure in a selfish way, thus disadvantaging the others who are honestly striving to improve their lot.

The Demon of Power and Control. Here we have the devil handing Jesus all the kingdoms of the world on a silver platter, if only He would fall to His knees and worship the Father of Lies. Well, we know how Jesus answered that one, "You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test". In turn, we remember how we quarreled with people whose viewpoints ran contrary to ours, how we loved letting others know that we are "large and in-charge"? How we did everything (character assassination through gossiping is a favorite tactic) just to make sure we got positions of power at home, work, and school or even in church?

It is during Lent when we voluntarily undergo little deprivations so we could discover our demons. And it is also during Lent when we call on Jesus to help drive out our demons and prepare us for our own Easter resurrection.

The Lenten Season begins on Ash Wednesday which falls on February 22, this year. Ashes will be imposed on the foreheads of the faithful within the celebration of Masses at 6:30AM, 7:30AM, 10:00AM, 12:15PM, 4:30PM, 6:00PM and 7:30PM

*sjpg
So Alive @ 35!*

The St. John Bosco Parish will hold a launching activity for the one-year run-up preparations for the 35th Anniversary of the Parish Church on March 4, 2013. All are invited to attend the SJPB Family Day on March 3, 2012, Saturday, in the Parish gymnasium to launch "SJPB So Alive @ 35!", the anniversary theme.



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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

FEBRUARY 2012

THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST



There are only three things in life that we cannot escape from: taxes, death and love. I will not speak about taxes for which I have no experience. Death is mostly spoken of in a funeral homily! Let me touch on something about love in this month of love!

Alfred Lord Tennyson once wrote, *"It is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all."* This should be the mantra of all those who are love-stricken, love-infatuated or love-starved individuals in the world today. Somehow, somewhere, sometime in one's life, love inevitably comes around and it is the greatest loss in life "never to have loved at all". But before I go into details, let me direct your attention to one crucial point. Where does all this love begin? What is its main source? When we speak of genuine love, what are we really talking about?

One of my tried and tested formulas when I give the homily in weddings is to direct the couple's attention, not exclusively to the love they have for each other but on God's love for them. With vocal emphasis and matching serious look, I always remind the couples that they cannot love each other, much less devote their very selves to each other for the rest of their lives, if in the first place, they do not possess God's love in their hearts. The love they have for each other is simply their willing participation in the eternal and binding love of God for all of us. Without this initial and important realization, people, especially those getting married will never be able to grasp the sacredness and endurance of married love, a

love that is absolute and forever binding once they say their "Yes, I do."

And so now, when I mentioned I wish to talk about "love", will it appear that I'll be speaking only of a trivial, common and easily replaceable object? I recently saw in the preview of a forthcoming feature on Discovery Channel how a man developed an infatuation with his car, bordering on intimacy. This will definitely sound crazy to everybody's ears but that's the reality. Whether we say, *"I love my dog, or my Ipad, or my Boracay trip, or even my boyfriend"*, there will always remain something that is mysterious, hidden, out-of-this-world and uniquely sacred in any form of love. It is simply a calling for each of us to discover that love cannot be understood solely by itself. All genuine love has for its source, God, and must ultimately end in God.

For St. Paul, the only three inescapable things on earth are not those I mentioned at the beginning. Rather he says, *"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love, but the greatest of these is love."* (1 Cor 13:13) Why is love the greatest? Unlike faith and hope which indirectly lead us to God (faith IN God, hope IN God), love enables us directly to possess Him as our very object (love GOD). And this is the very meaning of love itself, that it leads us directly to God, who is love. All our other loves are but a participation in and a reflection of God's love.

— Fr. Ting Miciano, SDB

PHILIPPINE CATHOLIC CHURCHES PREPARE TO WELCOME THE NEW ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE ROMAN MISSAL

In January, 2011, the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) resolved that the New English Translation of the 3rd Edition of the Roman Missal will be **fully implemented** in the Philippines on the first Sunday of Advent, **December 2, 2012**, with a **partial implementation** on *Corpus Christi* Sunday, **June 10, 2012**. The new English Translation is faithful to the original Latin text and will replace the current version implemented forty years ago.

In the coming months, our Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Ting Miciano, will work, in close coordination with the Archdiocesan Liturgical Commission (ALC) and the SJBP Worship, Education and Information Ministries to conduct a series of catechetical sessions for the new translation, hand-in-hand with a concerted information campaign.



THE NEW ENGLISH TRANSLATION
OF THE **ROMAN MISSAL:**
A CATECHETICAL PRIMER



One of the best references on the New English Translation of the Roman Missal by Fr. Anscar J. Chupungco, OSB

A TRIBUTE TO REV. FR. ADOLF FARONI, SDB

by Alan and Jane Yap

"The mouth of the just murmurs wisdom" (Psalm 37:30).

Our family has always yearned and prayed earnestly to God to lead us to find a just and holy spiritual director while we are in this life of contradictions on earth. We had the privilege of being led spiritually by Fr. William L. Hayes, SJ until his death at age 88 in 2002. Then, we started searching for our shepherd again.

In 2005, God, in His mysterious ways and appointed time, led us to find Fr. Adolf Faroni, SDB who has since been our family's spiritual director and confessor.

Fr. Faroni taught us the great value of confession to safeguard our souls and to earn the eternal reward of happiness in heaven. He has implanted in our minds the horrors of sin, and the reality of the devil's preoccupation to steal everyone's soul. He also emphasized that genuine and true happiness can only be found within the family because that's where God plants love and joy. This advice has left an indelible mark in our children's minds and hearts and being family-centered has strengthened us individually.

Actually, Alan's first confession with Fr. Faroni in the early 90's was traumatic! "He impressed me as a very stern foreign priest who raised his voice and shuddered at the



horror and gravity of the sin I had confessed (which I honestly thought was not that horrible) such that after my confession, I promised myself to avoid him and look for a more lenient, less frightening priest." Fortunately, he didn't.

Years later we realized that, that was "The Fr. Faroni behind the confessional". Outside the confessional, he is a true and loving friend with a big, generous, humorous human heart who hates the sins but always loves the sinner. He said that when he dies he wanted it to be in his confessional box! One afternoon, we brought over our relatives for confession. He was so happy to see us because he said he just prayed to God to give him souls to save that day (it seemed he hadn't reached his quota yet)

and there we were with our souls! Every confession and encounter with Fr. Faroni leaves us with the profound feeling of hope and promise of heaven.

Our family will also never forget how Fr. Faroni was one with us during one of our family's greatest trials and how his fervent prayers to God helped us obtain that singular healing miracle for Jane in 2008.

Fr. Faroni does not only mouth the wisdom of the just, he also proclaims it clearly through the many books he tirelessly wrote, translated and edited.

Thank you, Fr. Faroni, for your love, genuine concern and prayers. Only God can see thru your generous and holy heart. HAPPY, HAPPY 89th BIRTHDAY, Fr. Faroni!!

WELCOME HOME, FR FARONI, AND TANTI AUGURI DI BUON COMPLEANNO!

by Maris-Katigbak San Juan

On February 8, after being away on holiday in Argentina and Italy for almost two months, Fr. Adolf Faroni, SDB, was warmly welcomed by his Salesian family, the Parish staff, several parishioners and friends. A few minutes after arriving from the airport and barely taking time to recover from his twenty-hour flight, Fr. Faroni headed straight for his office. When the red light turned on above the door of his newly refurbished confessional box, Fr. Adolf Faroni, SDB, beloved confessor, was finally back home.

Next day, his 89th birthday, Fr. Faroni was surprised with an Italian-inspired bienvenida cum birthday party (with *vino*, *formaggio*, *gelato*, and *O Sole Mio*, among others) which was organized by Rev. Fr. Tuy Hizon with the help of Maria Goolsby and yours truly. Many of Fr. Faroni's close friends and confreres came to celebrate with him. Fr. Rocky Evangelista, Tuloy Sa Don Bosco's President and Project Director, and clearly,



Fr. Faroni's well-wishers, along with two of the three event organizers, Ms. Maria Goolsby (third from left) and the author

one of Fr. Faroni's favorite former students, made the celebration even more heartwarming by raising pledges to finance the publication of Fr. Faroni's books. The

memorable night ended with Fr. Faroni personally distributing icons of St. Pio to his guests along with his blessings and a grateful hug.

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.

Visit www.sjbmakati.com for more detailed excerpts of the study notes for each week.

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



7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

February 19, 2012 Readings

***Is 43:18-19.21-22.24b-25** – The Lord promises to bring back the exiles and to forgive His people's sins.

***2 Cor 1:18-22** – Jesus is God's "yes" to us and our "yes" to God.

***Mk 2:1-12** – Jesus forgives the sins of a paralytic and frees him from his physical disability.

Theme: JESUS, THE "TOTAL HEALER"

We are afflicted by many forms of illness and weakness in all aspects of our existence. Sometimes, even though we are physically strong and healthy, we may feel totally crippled in our affectivity, our emotions and spiritual longings. If we are honest with ourselves, we must acknowledge that we are in dire need of a "total healing" which can come only from God.

And He does send it to us in the person of Jesus Christ, His Incarnate Son. He is the "global healer," the bearer of a salvation that sets free all aspects of our being and heals

all our wounds and ills. In fulfilling his mission, Jesus starts from the very core of all our ailments – our sinfulness. Once our souls and our hearts are healed, all the remaining aspects of our life begin to fall into place. We can dream again of becoming better persons.



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

Migrants' Sunday

February 26, 2012 Readings

***Gn 9:8-15** – God promises solemnly that He will never again destroy all living beings with a flood.

***1 Pt 3:18-22** – Christ died for all men to lead them to God.

***Mk 1:12-15** – Jesus begins his apostolate after having fasted for forty days.

Theme: THE CALL TO RISE AND MOVE FORWARD

We often experience the need to make a fresh start. This can happen after an unexpected and humiliating defeat, or after a period of sickness or prolonged fatigue. We want to bounce back with determination.

The beginning of Lent is for all of us a unique opportunity to renew and strengthen our spiritual life. We have past wounds to nurse and heal, defects to uproot, virtues to acquire or strengthen, strategies to map out against the devil who is always out to "ambush" and put us to shame.

The initiative taken by God with Noah and his family after the purifying flood and the call of Jesus to take the Gospel seriously in our lives greatly encourage us to proceed in earnest in our spiritual renewal.

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

March 4, 2012 Readings

***Gn 22:1-2.9a.10-13.15-18** – The faith of Abraham is put to the test and rewarded with a wonderful promise.

***Rom 8:31b-34** – If God is for us, who can

be against us?

***Mk 9:2-10** – Jesus is transfigured in the presence of Peter, James, and John.

Theme: INSPIRED BY CHRIST'S TRANSFIGURATION



The episode of Jesus' transfiguration is not just a memorable event in his life – an event that strengthened the faith of his disciples by revealing to them his divine identity and how they should relate to him ("Listen to him!"). It is also an inspiration to all of us to bring out the best in us. Deep within us there is a spark of divinity and goodness which God implanted when He created us and which He rekindled when He redeemed us. This is the "light within" which sin dims and can even snuff out, but which God's grace and our cooperation with it can rekindle to dazzling brightness.

We need to let the light of an authentic Christian life shine to its best in us. We owe it to ourselves and those around us. The dark world of corruption and sin in which we live needs to see such a light, too, for it expects no less than that from people who are challenged to be "the light of the world" in imitation of Jesus, their Master and Model.

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

March 11, 2012 Readings

***Ex 20:1-3.7-8.12-17** – God gives his people the code of the Alliance.

***1 Cor 1:22-25** – For those who believe, the folly of the cross is a manifestation of God's wisdom.

***Jn 2:13-25** – Jesus purifies the Temple and foretells his death and resurrection.

Theme: WE ARE GOD'S MOST PRECIOUS TEMPLES

Temples, shrines and churches must be kept clean and respected for they are "God's houses" or God's dwellings." God's most precious dwellings, however, are not the ones made of stones, cement or marble,



From January 20 to 29, 2012, guest Salesian priests celebrated Novena and Fiesta Masses in honor of the Parish's patron saint, St. John Bosco whose feast day was on January 31. In keeping with this year's *strenna*, "Let us make the young our life's mission by coming to know and imitate Don Bosco", (*strenna* – the mission order for the year from the Salesian Director General to all Salesians) the general theme for this year's fiesta was "Knowing and Imitating Don Bosco" with specific supporting themes for

each day of the Novena. On the day of the Parish Fiesta itself, a pontifical Mass was celebrated with His Excellency, Most Reverend Patrick Buzon, SDB, D.D. as celebrant, and members of the Parish Salesian Community, Rev. Fr. Richard Varela, Rev. Fr. Ting Miciano and Rev. Fr. Dennis Paez, as concelebrants.

Following is the synopsis of the homily of His Excellency Most Rev. Bishop Patrick Buzon, SDB, D.D. of the Diocese of Kabankalan, Negros Occidental during the SJB Parish Fiesta Mass on January 29, 2012:

In today's Gospel, when the Lord sent out his disciples to evangelize, on one hand, He ordered them to preach the Word, to proclaim the Good News, and on the other, He instructed them to heal the sick and provide for the total wellbeing of His people. We see that the Word of the Lord not only transforms hearts, but gives total healing, a sign of the coming of the Kingdom.

When Don Bosco was ordained, he asked for the gift of the "efficacy of the Word". The Lord not only made him an effective Preacher of the Word of God allowing him to convert even hardened criminals, masons and anti-clerical government officials, Don Bosco has also been hailed as a "Living Saint" to whom people throng for wellness and healing. In fact, healing miracles were reported during the historic visit of the Pilgrim Relic of Don Bosco to the Philippines in 2010.

Truly, the Ministry of the Word's so powerful, changing lives and bringing wholeness. "Let us ask Don Bosco to obtain for us this grace to encounter and come to know Christ in the Word and to experience the power of this Word in our own life as he had experienced it himself."

In the coming months, *Simbahay* shall be featuring the Novena Mass homilies cum tributes to Don Bosco by his priests-sons, allowing us to get to know this great saint more and imitate his many impressive

qualities.

The Novena Mass celebrants and themes:

Jan. 20 – **Fr. Renato de Guzman, SDB**
Don Bosco is the Educator of the Youth
Then and now, what makes Don Bosco's schools different from all the other schools?

Jan. 21 – **Fr. Alex Garcés, SDB**
Don Bosco Priest of the Holy Eucharist
How do Don Bosco's teachings on the Holy Eucharist differ from modern-day catechism on the Holy Mass and communion?

Jan. 22 – **Fr. Eliseo Santos, SDB**
Don Bosco is the priest of Confession
In what ways is Don Bosco a confessor?

Jan. 23 – **Fr. Noel Osial, SDB**
Don Bosco is a faithful Servant of the Church

What crucial role did Don Bosco play for the Church in the *il Risorgimento*, the birth of the Italian nation?

Jan. 24 – **Fr. Jose Antonio Paras, SDB**
Don Bosco is a Man of Prayer
Don Bosco's cause of beatification met several difficulties; one bone of contention was the lack of much prayer in his life. How were the censors, the devil's advocates proved wrong?

Jan. 25 – **Fr. Salvatore Putzu, SDB**
Don Bosco is a Builder of Churches and Communities

What did Don Bosco build even before he started building churches and communities?

Jan. 26 – **Fr. Renato Lagaya, SDB**
Don Bosco is a true Devotee and promoter of Mary

What does Don Bosco regret in his devotion to Mary Help of Christians?

Jan. 27 – **Fr. Eligio Santos, SDB**
Don Bosco is a Statesman - a man of peace
What was Don Bosco's "Our Father" politics which helped him broker peace between the Church and the Italian government?

Jan. 28 – **Fr. Gregorio Bicomong, SDB**
Don Bosco is a Saint
We all know that Don Bosco is a saint, but what made him a great saint?



but every human being, especially those who have been baptized. God wishes to dwell in them and no one should dare to desecrate them for, in each of them, He has imprinted His most sacred image.

Unfortunately, such desecrations take place whenever we commit sin or fail to respect the dignity of our brothers and sisters through scandals, torture, and oppression of whatever kind. When this happens, Jesus grows even more indignant than on the day he drove the traders out of the Temple of Jerusalem.

Whatever our situation today, let us reconsecrate ourselves to the Lord and renew our commitment never to profane His presence in our neighbour and ourselves.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Continued from page 8

BISHOP BRODERICK PABILLO OFFICIATES IN THE CONFIRMATION OF 148

by Beth Chai

His Excellency Most Rev. Broderick S. Pabillo D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Manila, officiated in the confirmation rites for 148 *confirmandi* during a Eucharistic Celebration concelebrated by Rev. Fr. Ting Miciano in the Parish Church last February 12. In his homily, Bishop Pabillo, exhorted all Christians present, specially those who will be confirmed, to allow the Holy Spirit's strength to enrich them by praying constantly, supporting their Parish Church and its works and by living a life of forgiveness and service to others.

Through special prayers, anointing with chrism (oil blessed on Holy Thursday during the Mass of the Holy Chrism), the imposition of Bishop's hands on the *confirmandi's* head and later, through a slight blow to his cheek, confirmation bestows the Holy Spirit on baptized Catholics and perfects their membership in the Catholic Church.

TEN COUPLES TIE THE KNOT ON V-DAY

by Bert Magsakay

Valentines Day was truly a red-letter day for 10 couples who got married in the SJB Parish church with Rev Fr. Ting Miciano celebrating the Parish's first mass wedding of the year, a joint project by the Family and Life Ministry and the Don Bosco Marriage Encounter Foundation.

Aside from providing the bride and groom's wedding outfits, the veil, arrhae and cord, the Parish generously treated the newlyweds with six of their guests to a catered wedding reception after the church ceremonies.



Paschal Triduum Recollection April 5 – 7, 2012

featuring Rev. Fr. Francis Gustilo, SDB,
Rev. Fr Catalino Arevalo, SJ and H.E.
Most Rev. Archbishop Chito Tagle, D.D.

Theme: Year of Faith

Erratum

Simbahay apologizes for incorrectly indicating the age and school details of Ms. Jeanelle Zablan in the January, 2012 issue of *Simbahay*.

Ms. Zablan who won the 1st Place in the 2011 SJBPC Christmas Art Competition is 14 years old and is a high school sophomore at Colegio San Agustin.

MARCH 2012 CALENDAR

- 02 Fri St. John Bosco Parish Anniversary (36 years) / 1st Friday Vigil Adoration
- 03 Sat Parish Family Day – Launching of Yearlong Preparation for 35th Anniversary of the Dedication of the Parish Church
- 04 Sun 2nd Sunday of Lent / 34th Anniversary of Dedication of Parish Church / Installation of new PPC
- 07 Wed Parish Lenten Recollection 7PM – Seminar on the New Roman Missal
- 11 Sun 3rd Sunday of Lent
- 14 Wed Parish Lenten Recollection 7PM – Seminar on the New Roman Missal
- 18 Sun 4th Sunday of Lent
- 19 Mon Solemnity of St. Joseph, Husband of Mary
- 21 Wed Parish Lenten Recollection 7PM – Seminar on the New Roman Missal
- 25 Sun 5th Sunday of Lent
- 26 Mon Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord
- 27 Tues Kumpisalang Bayan 7PM
- 28 Wed Parish Lenten Recollection 7PM – Seminar on the New Roman Missal

Note: Way of the Cross on all Fridays of March after the 6PM Mass

Sick Visitation – Thursdays 9AM
Holy Hour – Thursdays 6:30PM
Medical & Dental – Sundays 2:00PM
Street Mass – Saturdays 7:30PM

Visit our website for the complete Mar 2012 Calendars
<http://sjbmakati.com/parish-events.html>





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NEWS BRIEFS

SJBP YOUTH REENACT THE PANUNULUYAN

by Welly Cuna

Members of the St. John Bosco Parish Youth Ministry, under the supervision of Rev. Fr. Dennis Paez, SDB, organized a dramatization of the Gospel of the *Panunuluyan* during the Children's Christmas Vigil Mass last December 24, 2011. The *Panunuluyan* (from the word *tuloy* - meaning to come in) is a reenactment of St. Joseph's and the Blessed Mother's search for a place to stay in and give birth to the Child Jesus in Bethlehem. Children from the different organizations, including the SJB Children's Choir, participated in the event.

THE AMAZING RACE TO GET TO KNOW THE AMAZING DON BOSCO

by Frances Solinap

RUN, JUMP, MAKE NOISE, BUT DO NOT SIN – is a constant reminder in all Salesian settings of how our patron saint, Don Bosco, wants the young people to live their lives.



Knights of the Altar - 1st Place Winners

Bearing this in mind, the Youth Ministry led by Rev. Fr. Dennis Paez, SDB, organized "The Amazing Race to Get to Know the Amazing Don Bosco" last February 5, 2012. A total of 10 teams composed of members from the following groups participated: Knights of the Altar, Jr. Lectors and Commentators, Jr. Legion of Mary, Jr. Catechists, Icon Boys, Rondalla and Children's Choir. The activity was divided into two parts – Amazing Race and Don Bosco Trivia Contest. Each team had to work together to find and solve several clues

scattered all over the Parish compound to finish the race and later to answer as many trivia questions about Don Bosco as they can.

In the end, the following teams were declared as winners, first place – Knights of the Altar, second place – Icon Boys, and third place – Jr. Catechists.



SJBP CELEBRATES WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

by Frances Solinap

Last February 11, SJBP celebrated a healing mass in honor of the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and the 20th World Day of the Sick. After his homily where he talked on the Christian obligation to care for the sick who remain part of the Church as well as the most powerful intercession of Our Lady, Rev. Fr. Ting Miciano blessed the sick who were present and anointed them with holy oil. In attendance were parishioners along with members of the Sick Elderly and Differently Abled (SEDA) Ministry.



DBYC CELEBRATES ST. JOHN BOSCO'S FEAST DAY

by Mary Grace Gueriba

The Don Bosco Youth Center (DBYC), a major part of the Youth Ministry of the Parish, celebrated St. John Bosco's feast day by organizing two major activities – the DBYC one-day Basketball League on January 21 for boys, 15 years and below and the very successful *Palarong Pinoy* on January 28 with about 100 youth joining in various games: Sack Races, Touch the Dragon's Tail, *Putukan-lobo*, Dougie Dance

Showdown, Bring Me and a Question and Answer Competition on the Life of Don Bosco. A sumptuous *merienda* was served as an added treat.

Leading and assisting the Council are Rev. Fr. Richard N. Varela, SDB, the Rector and the DBYC Salesian Priest In-charge, and Salesian Brothers from the Seminario ng Don Bosco in Parañaque: Bro. Jeffrey Mangubat and Bro. Rafael with Bro. Ronnie Sison.



INTERNATIONAL PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA VISITS SJB by Beth Chai

From January 20 to 21, Marian devotees flocked to the SJBP Church to venerate the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue (IPVS) of Our Lady of Fatima from Portugal. Welcome ceremonies included a short procession, the installation of the statue and the praying of the rosary. The Statue was accompanied

by its custodian, Bro. Carl Malberg and Fr. Melvin Castro, CBCP Executive Secretary of Family and Life, who both gave short talks on the devotion to Our Lady of Fatima.

The 1st Fiesta Novena Mass was then celebrated by Rev. Fr. Renato de Guzman, SDB, followed by the Adoration Vigil of the

Blessed Sacrament until midnight which was, in turn, led by Rev. Fr. Ting Miciano and included the praying of all four mysteries of the rosary and singing of Marian songs between periods of silent adoration. The Statue left the Parish at 9:00AM the next day for its next stop at SM Megamall Chapel.