



## Parish Celebrates 11th Anniversary of Stewardship as a Way of Life

September 4, 2016 saw Christ the King Parish Greenmeadows celebrate its 11th anniversary of the parish Stewardship Program, begun by Bishop Honesto Ongtioco in 2005, Diocese of Cubao, when he temporarily took over as parish priest of CTK.



'Stewardship As A Way Of Life' has now become well-entrenched in the parish, with over a hundred regular 'stewardship donors' donating their 'treasure', and over a thousand volunteers in the various ministries,

mandated organizations, renewal movements, basic ecclesiastical communities, and prayer groups regularly donating their 'time' and 'talent'.

The highlight of the stewardship celebration was the pastoral visit of Bishop Honesto 'Ness' Ongtioco, DD, Bishop of the Diocese of Cubao.

Bishop Ness officiated the 5 pm mass, concelebrating with CTK parish priest Fr. Bong Tupino and Fr. Serge Maniba. Serving as commentator for the special mass was Worship Ministry head Leila Banico with readers Pido and Abby Banico. In his memorable homily, Bishop Ness related the stewardship program to the life of Mother Teresa who had been canonized just a few hours earlier. It will be recalled that one of Mother Teresa's most memorable quote was 'Give till it hurts'. Bishop Ongtioco then proceeded to bless the parish's picture frame of Mother Teresa before giving the final mass blessing.



## CTK Mounts Workshop on Seven Habits of Highly Successful Families



Father Bong Tupino greets the 23 couples who signed up for the 7 Habits workshop

In celebration of the 11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Parish's Stewardship Program in September, Christ the King conducted the seminar-workshop on 'The Seven Habits of Highly Successful Families' over two full Saturdays, September 17 and September 24. Facilitators for the workshop were CTK parishioners Rene and Consy Montemayor of the Center for Leadership and Change, Inc. (CLCI), the authorized partner of

continued on page 17

## What's Inside

### First Page: Stewardship . . . . .

- 1 Stewardship's 11th Anniversary
- 1 Habits of Highly Successful Families Workshop

### Messages . . . . .

- 2 From Our Parish Priest
- 2 From the Editor

### Worship Ministry . . . . .

- 3 New Lectors-Commentators
- 3 New Greeters-Collectors
- 4 Reorganizing the Worship Ministry
- 5 New Eucharistic Ministers

### Family and Life Ministry . . . . .

- 6 Mantarings Awarded Huwarang Katolikong Pamilya
- 6 Profile of a Model Parish Family
- 7 Fr. Jerry Orbos on Family
- 7 Book Review: Journey Moments
- 8 Cyn Gavino on Strong Marital Bonds

### Youth Ministry . . . . .

- 9 World Youth Day Vigil at CTK
- 10 Filipino Pilgrims in Krakow, Poland
- 10 Pope Francis' Visit to Krakow
- 11 History of World Youth Day
- 12 CTK Sponsors 'de Loyola' Screening
- 13 Behind the Scenes: Loyola

### Formation Ministry . . . . .

- 14 Fr. Yacub on Works of Mercy
- 15 Fr. Montesclaros on Psalms of Mercy

### Vocation Ministry . . . . .

- 16 Vocation Sunday at CTK

### BEC . . . . .

- 18 BEC Jubilee Celebration

### Public Affairs Ministry . . . . .

- 18 Innovative Partnership with the PBA

### Parish-Diocese News . . . . .

- 19 Meet CTK's Guest Priest Fr. Serge
- 19 CTK Choir Launches New Album
- 20 Hosting the Parochial Teachers
- 21 We Will Miss You, Mel Ortiz
- 21 The PPC Welcomes Edith Cadion
- 22 Bp. Ongtioco Promotes Village Stewardship
- 22 Fr. Dan's 30th Sacerdotal Mass
- 23 Other Parish News in Pictures
- 24 Parish Hosts Catechists

continued on page 17

# Message From Our Parish Priest

## STEWARDSHIP OF THE POOR



Fr. Bong Tupino III

When the deacon Saint Lawrence, in the year 258, was commanded by the Roman prefect to surrender the treasures of the Church, he gathered the poor to whom he had

distributed the riches of the Church and presented them to the prefect. Pointing at them, he said, "This is the treasure of the Church!" In anger, the prefect ordered him to be roasted alive on a gridiron.

When the Church seemed to forget the poor, God never failed to remind her by calling great men and women to heroically embrace a life devoted to love and serve the poor. Until today the Lord continues to inspire us with wonderful saints like Mother Teresa to imitate the love of Jesus for the poor and to dedicate our lives in their service.

Saint Paul says, "you are stewards of the mysteries of the Kingdom" (1 Cor 4,1). The presence of the poor among us, I believe, is a mystery we can never fully fathom. We can of course intelligently explain poverty in its sociological, economic, cultural, psychological, and even religious aspects, but no matter how we attempt to solve and overcome it, it just continues to persistently stay with us. Did not Jesus himself say, "The poor you will always have with

you" (Mt 26, 11). The poor indeed has a special place in the kingdom of God. The very beatitudes of Jesus revealed this most clearly, "Blessed are the poor for the kingdom of heaven is theirs" (Lk 6, 20).

The call to stewardship is a call to love and serve the Lord in the poor among us. The poor has been entrusted to us to be taken care of, to comfort and console, to strengthen and empower, to share with them the light of faith, the light of Jesus.

Let me share with you this moving story of Mother Teresa herself and allow it to speak to us as Jesus would speak to us calling us to be his stewards:

"I will never forget the first time I came to Bourke [Australia] and visited the sisters. We went to the outskirts of Bourke. There was a big reserve where all the Aborigines were living in those little small shacks made of tin and old cardboard and so on. Then I entered one of those little rooms. I call it a house but it's only one room, and inside the room everything. So I told the man living there, "Please allow me to make your bed, to wash your clothes, to clean your room." And he kept on saying, "I'm alright, I'm alright." And I said to him, "But you will be more alright if you allow me to do it." Then at the end he allowed me. He allowed me in such a way that, at the end, he pulled out from his pocket an old envelope, and one more envelope, and one more envelope. He started opening one after the other, and right

inside there was a photograph of his father and he gave me that to look at. I looked at the photo and I looked at him and I said, "You, you are so like your father." He was so overjoyed that I could see the resemblance of his father on his face. I blessed the picture and I gave it back to him, and again one envelope, second envelope, third envelope, and the photo went back again in the pocket near his heart. After I cleaned the room I found in the corner of the room a big lamp full of dirt and I said, "Don't you light this lamp, such a beautiful lamp. Don't you light it?" He replied "For whom? Months and months and months nobody has ever come to me. For whom will I light it?" So I said "Won't you light it if the Sisters come to you?" And he said "Yes."

So the sisters started going to him for only about 5 to 10 minutes a day, but they started lighting that lamp. After some time he got into the habit of lighting. Slowly, slowly, slowly, the Sisters stopped going to him. But they used to go in the morning and see him. Then I forgot completely about that, and then after two years he sent word - "Tell Mother, my friend, the light she lit in my life is still burning."

In this extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, we ask God our merciful Father to give us the grace to see in the poor the face of Jesus, to desire to love and care for them, to be for them a light radiating the merciful presence of the Lord and to hear Jesus calling, "Come, be my light for the poor."

**FROM THE EDITOR:** So many parish events and not enough pages to do them justice. This issue includes - the parish's stewardship anniversary; World Youth Day and Pope Francis in Krakow with the local parish youth vigil; the recognition of the parish's model family and conduct of the 'Habits of Highly Successful Families' workshop; commissioning of new lectors, greeters and eucharistic ministers; Vocation Sunday; and celebrating the parish's jubilee months for parochial teachers (August) and catechists (September). We're also including a photo gallery page for pictures of events that don't need the full news treatment. And here's really great news - the parish website has been given a new look. It was 'under construction' for nearly two months and has now just been relaunched. We're very excited and we hope everyone can visit the CTK website soon. Just go to [christthekingparish.ph](http://christthekingparish.ph).

To alert the Parish Pastoral Council newsletter staff on upcoming events that might merit inclusion in The Herald, please call or text the Parish Office at 633-0280 and ask for Ms. Edith Cadion, the PPC executive assistant.



## New Lectors-Commentators Commissioned

Ten new Lectors and Commentators were commissioned during the 9 am mass on August 14, 2016 after completing their whole day Basic Formation for New Lectors and Commentators in the Diocese of

comply with the renewal seminar requirement, plus two who were not able to comply with the renewal requirement in 2015 but will do so this year, less two retirements due in November 2016, the Worship Ministry projects a new total of 153 members.



Above, Fr. Bong blesses the ten new lectors. Below, The assembly is enjoined to 'lay hands' on those called to serve.



Above, the ten new lectors-commentators pose after the mass with parish priest Fr. Bong Tupino, Lectors & Commentators Coordinator Mel Novales and Worship Ministry head Leila Banico. Back row, L to R: Sullian Naval; Minerva Cornelio, Mel Novales; Camille San Diego; Sofia Coronel; and Martina Kagaoan. Middle row: Shirley Chua. Front row, L to R: Dennis Choa; Joseph Mundo; Merceditas Tuazon; Fr. Bong Tupino; Elizabeth Monedero; and Leila Banico.

Cubao, Lantana, Cubao, QC on August 13, 2016.

The parish's ten new lectors-commentators join the current number of 145 in the LeCom group. Assuming that all 145 are able to

Of the 153, White Plains provides the largest number of LeComs with 35, followed by St. Ignatius with 27. Acropolis, Corinthian Gardens, and Greenmeadows provide 15, 13, and 11, respectively. Enclave provides a further 3 and the Libis community an additional 4. Interestingly, 37 of the 153 are coming from Quezon City but outside the parish, as well as Pasig, Marikina, and Cainta.

Female lectors & commentators dramatically outnumber the men, 132 to 21.

And in terms of age distribution, the 60 to 75 year olds (a.k.a. senior citizens, with 75 as the retirement age as mandated by the Cubao Diocese) account for 81 of the 153, or over 50%. This makes sense since retirees and semi-retirees tend to have a bit more free time or have more control of their schedules and therefore more willing to volunteer. The next biggest age range is in the 40-60 year old bracket, with 50 members - specifically, 15 in the 55-59 year old category; 18 in the 50-54 year old group; 10 in the 45-49 age range; and 7 in the 40-44 year old category. We only have 15 lectors-commentators in the 16 (the allowed entry age) to 39 age group.

## New Greeters-Collectors Commissioned

Last September 11, 2016, at the 9:00 am Sunday mass, five new Greeters and Collectors were commissioned by Fr. Bong Tupino. These included: Ma. Luisa M. Bathan, Catherine A. Botero, Asuncion P. De Leon, Grace Marie S. Nario, and Wilma D. Pepito.



Front Row L-R: Catherine A. Botero, Asuncion P. De Leon, Malu Noda Cataldi (Coordinator, Ministry of Greeters and Collectors), Rev. Fr. Jose S. Tupino III, Ma. Luisa M. Bathan & Wilma D. Pepito. Back Row: Grace Marie S. Nario

With the addition of the five new members, the Ministry of Greeters and Collectors now has a total of twenty-six (26) members.

Twenty-two (22) of the 26 are from Barangay Libis, and one each from Bagumbayan, Pasig, Morong and Bulacan.

CTK's greeters-collectors widely range in age - two are in their 20s; one is in her 30s, three are in their 40s; 10 are in their 50s, eight are in their 60s, and two are in their early 70s.

CTK's greeters and collectors are tasked with welcoming everyone to the masses on the weekends, ushering people to their seats, distributing and collecting the collection boxes, prompting for Holy Communion, and providing scarves to the female parishioners who may need one.



## Worship Ministry Gets Reorganized: Meeting the New Coordinator for Lectors & Commentators

The Parish Group of Lectors & Commentators (LeCom) had its second General Assembly last June 25, Saturday, as outgoing LeCom Coordinator Leila Banico (who with husband Peter will be incoming

Secretary Joy Cuadrante, Treasurer Ellen Manansala, and Auditor Bet Montecillo. Leila then introduced the various mass time slot coordinators: Leony dela Llana for daily 6 am, Sheryl Coronel for daily 7 am,

Linda Guanzon for Corinthian Gardens, Fe Flores and Lita Sembrano for Arcadia, Paul and Dinah Uy for Corinthian Hills, and Ching Botero and Jo Piyaw for Libis.



Lector-Commentators just before their general assembly last June 25

Worship Ministry head) introduced the new group in-charges, mass time slot coordinators, village mass coordinators (for Corinthian

Monette Najar for daily 6 pm, Buh Malonzo for Saturday 6 pm, Lei Abando for the Saturday 7:30 pm, Mel Novales for Sunday 6 am, Rolet Rosell for Sunday 7:30 am, Malu Cataldi for Sunday 9 am, Nadine Navarro for Sunday 10:30 am, Leila Banico for Sunday 12 nn, Jops Padrinao for Sunday 5 pm, Annavi Taamor for Sunday 6:30 pm, and Alma Horn for Sunday 8 pm.

Other Worship Ministry team leaders included, aside from Mel Novales for LeComs: Albert Cuadrante for Eucharistic Ministers for Holy Communion (EMHC), Malu Cataldi for Greeters & Collectors, Benjie Mirasol for Music, Louie Laudico for Altar Servers, Patty Soriano for Mother Butler Mission Guild (MBMG), and Wanda Reyes for Apostleship of Prayer (AP).

Leila Banico thanked everyone for making her coordination work over the past six years relatively painless and then turned over the floor to incoming LeCom in-charge Mel Novales.

It was Mel's responsibility to talk about the schedule for the annual half-day LeCom Renewal Seminar, scheduled for September 24 afternoon in Lantana, Cubao. Failure to attend the diocese renewal seminar means having to take a leave from the service starting January 1, 2017 until attendance in next year's renewal, more or less in the September 2017 timeframe. Those who do attend the renewal seminar also need to be 'commissioned' during the designated mass celebration date. Again, those failing to attend during the designated commissioning date will need to take leave from the service. In addition, lectors & commentators need to have attended at least one LeCom General Assembly during the year and sat in on at least one Parish Formation talk from the period February to October 2016. Not complying with these hurdles automatically mean not being eligible for the Renewal Seminar.

The rest of the meeting was spent on a review of rules during the processional and recessional; and agreeing on the protocol when there's a lector no-show.



LeCom Head Mel Novales takes over from Leila Banico

Gardens, White Plains, St. Ignatius and Acropolis, all of which have village masses), and village coordinators for all other parish activities.

Also introduced were the four village LeCom Coordinators (for the four villages with regular weekly masses): Maan del Rosario for Acropolis, Alfred Contreras for White Plains, Fe Reyes and Cora Nolasco for St. Ignatius, and Vangie Yam and Leni Sto. Domingo for Corinthian Gardens. Fr. Bong Tupino had also appointed village coordinators to coordinate with parishioners from the respective villages all parish activities. These included: Irene Robles for Acropolis, Joey & Irene Sto. Domingo for Enclave, Regie Nolido for Ivory Court, Mel Novales and Jane Duque for White Plains, Eileen de Leon and Dulce Baretto for Greenmeadows, Baby Banal and Tiny Perfecto for St. Ignatius, Fe Pery and

Introduced to the large group were Overall Coordinator for Lectors & Commentators Mel Novales, Assistant Coordinator Trix Delena,



# New Extraordinary Ministers Commissioned

by Robert Locsin

The Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, or EMHC, will again increase its ranks with the commissioning of new lay ministers last August 28, 2016. In a ceremony which is done yearly, befitting the honorable vocation and privilege of holding the body of Christ, three lay ministers were added to the present membership. The new ministers included Vicente Gerochi, Angel Ramos and Jay De Vega. The other candidate, Manolo Morales, was commissioned by Fr. Bong Tupino together with the Greeters and Collectors two weeks later, at the Sept. 11 9:00 a.m. mass.

Before the commissioning, they were given an orientation by EMHC Overall Coordinator Albert

rubrics or the established traditions and customs and the do's and don't's of the correct service in the mass.

On the successful commissioning, our newly elected Overall Coordinator Albert Cuadrante commented, 'First and foremost, I would like to thank Kuya Lito Pasquin as this year's head of the membership and recruitment committee. He has been extremely patient and diligent in coordinating with all the candidates for the various document requirements and the end-to-end scheduling; from



L to R: EMHCs Louie Reyes, Art Sumbillo, and Romy Dy minister to the sick and infirmed in Ivory Court, St. Ignatius and Corinthian Gardens, respectively.

interviews to orientations to final commissioning. Our new EMHCs also express their gratitude to all the 'kuyas' who took care of them and accompanied them on the road to commissioning. They said it was so heartwarming to see the 'kuyas' as servant leaders, looking after the needs of the candidates all throughout the process.'

Albert added, 'Overall, we are blessed to finally have four new EMHCs join us this year. While we did start out with eight potential candidates, ending up with four is more than enough since we only have

we will also have three EMHCs who will be returning to active duty this year, giving us a total of seven additional EMHCs joining us, which is almost equal to the original eight candidates we were hoping to add to our membership. God, indeed, works in mysterious ways.'

At present there are 86 EMHCs in active service at CTK, with four (4) new EMHCs, three (3) returning EMHCs and two (2) who will be retiring this year. It is very encouraging to see a growing number of younger men attracted to this ministry and calling. To-date, a huge 32%, or a third, of the EMHCs are below 50 years old, while 22% are between 51 to 60 years old.

In addition to the distribution of communion to the faithful during the weekend and daily masses, the other important duty of the Eucharistic ministry is the giving of communion to the sick and the elderly who are unable to go to church. Visiting the sick is also in answer to the call of the Pope to do corporal acts of mercy during this special Jubilee Year of Mercy. "I was sick and you looked after me, and you came to visit me... truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:36).

At the moment, there are twelve (12) EMHCs who are involved in giving communion to the sick or elderly who reside in White Plains, Corinthian Gardens, St. Ignatius Village, Ivory Court, Greenmeadows and Blue Ridge.



Above, Fr. Bong Tupino with the new lay ministers, L to R: Jay de Vega, Vicente Gerochi, and Anjoe Ramos. Inset is Manolo Morales who was commissioned two weeks later. Below, Albert Cuadrante, EMHC Overall Coordinator, instructing the new lay ministers on the rubrics or the established traditions and customs of the correct way to serve at mass.



Cuadrante and Head of Membership and Recruitment Lito Pasquin. These new EMHCs were oriented on the

two Kuyas retiring this year. In addition to the four new candidates,



# Mantarings Awarded Huwarang Katolikong Pamilya



Jogie and Lorie Mantaring do the Offertory

Last August 7, at the 5:00 pm Sunday mass, the Christ the King Parish-Greenmeadows formally recognized the Mantaring Family as the parish's Huwarang Katolikong Pamilya. Parish priest Fr. Bong Tupino, who

was officiating, first mentioned the Mantarings during his introduction. This was followed by the Mantaring grandchildren doing the Prayers of the Faithful, then family heads Jogy and Lorie Mantaring leading the offertory procession. Then after the post-communion prayer, Fr. Bong called the entire family to the front.

Family & Life Ministry heads Doy and Estrelle Lopez gave the plaque of recognition to Jogy and Lorie while Parish Pastoral Council Assistant Coordinator couple Henry and Joyce Tañedo gave the entire family the prized statue of Christ the King.



Above, the Mantarings receive the CTK Plaque of Recognition. Below, the family receives the statue of Christ the King.



## Profile of a Parish Model Family

Jogy and Lorie Mantaring were married in October 25, 1952 and have been blessed with six children: Vinchu, married to Dan Lapid; Menchi; Chicho married to Riza Gervasio; Jojo, married to Bles Salvano; Ogy, married to Marifel Quiroz; and Gigi.

Jogy and Lorie were first introduced to church and social action activities when, in 1953, Jogy was invited to the Knights of Columbus Council 1000 in Intramuros under Fr. George Wilman, SJ, while Lorie became a 'Daughter of Isabela'. Later, Jogy was asked to form and lead the KofC Marian Council based in Marian Hospital and the KofC Our Lady of Remedies Council based in Malate Church. In 1956, Jogy and Lorie were invited to the Christian Family Movement, joining CFM Singalong Unit 2. In the early 1960s, the group left the CFM and became the Sodality of St. Anthony, continuing to meet under the guidance of Jesuit spiritual directors. The Sodality Group grew to 11 couples and met every other week for more than 30 years. It became their spiritual support and a great influence in their marriage and family life.

In 1983, together with other couples, Jogy and Lorie organized the Bukas Loob Sa Diyos Community and became part of the original BLD Council of Elders. Jogy and Lorie became the heads of the Community Life Apostolate, the outreach arm of the BLD Community, instilling in BLD members compassion for the poor and forming outreach communities in Smokey Mountain, Commonwealth and Jala-jala, Rizal. Jogy also headed the BLD Foundation and the BLD Credit Union.

Daughter Gigi, who had already been working with Fr. Ben Beltran in Smokey Mountain during her college years, got the BLD Community involved in that outreach. Later in the early 90s, Gigi, together with other members of the BLD Youth and Singles Apostolate, formed a new community for singles called CROSS. In CROSS, Gigi led the ministry that took care of a poor community in Cavite called DasmaGuild. Gigi has been helping this community for more than 25 years, supporting livelihood projects, and giving scholarships to poor but deserving students.

Son Ogy met and married another BLD Community member, Mariefel Quiroz. In the early 90s, they served in the St. James Parish Renewal Movement (SJRM) of Ayala Alabang. They have in turn been in the Praise Ministry, Teaching Ministry, and Family Life Apostolate. At present, they are part of the Council of Servant Leaders of the SJRM Community where their children are also involved.

In 1985, daughter Vinchu and spouse Dan were invited to take the CPPJ (Christian Parenting for Peace and Justice) Weekend by their Spiritual Director, Fr. Ruben Tanseco. For several decades, they considered this their primary community, where they led and served, not just as a couple but as

a family, taking active part in the weekend seminars as sharers and involving themselves in the outreach projects. Dan and Vinchu were also able to draw the rest of the extended family into the CPPJ community.

Jogy's and Lorie's other children and children-in-law are also all involved in other outreach projects in their own sphere of influence. For example, Menchi, who works in the Cultural Center of the Philippines, has made it her advocacy to identify poor but musically gifted children, develop their talent to the extent of finding them scholarships. Riza, Chicho's wife, who is CEO of Sunlife of Canada, has strengthened the Corporate Social Responsibility program of the Sunlife Group and actively participates in all its outreaches.

The call to serve has reached third generation of Mantarings. Almost all the 14 grandchildren have been involved in some social and spiritual action at sometime or another. For example, Ina Lapid Juan, the eldest grandchild, in all the summers as a high school student, was active in the Landas ng Karunungan (LNK) program of the Sta. Maria del la Strada parish (her school's parish). In college, she became an active member of the UP-ICTUS (In Christ Thrust for University Students) and after graduation, joined the JVP (Jesuit Volunteer Program). She now teaches CLE in Xavier School Nuvali. Also worthy of mention is seventh grandchild, Migo Mantaring, who is graduating this year from the UP College of Medicine and has decided to join the Doctor to the Barrios program before starting his formal residency.

In Christ the King Parish, Jogy was a Eucharistic Minister until he had to retire in 2014 when he reached 75 years of age. Not to be outdone, Lorie was a Lector-Commentator, serving mostly at the St. Ignatius chapel masses. Today, she is still an active member of the Buklod ng Panginoon, a woman's organization of St. Ignatius. To this day, Jogy and Lorie have been faithfully going to the weekly prayer meetings of the Life in the Spirit Prayer Community of CTK parish, serving the community as worship leaders, and getting actively involved in the Life in the Spirit Seminar not just in an advisory capacity, but as "shepherds" to the incoming LSS candidates. Dan and Vinchu have been active with the CTK Parish's Family and Life Ministry for the last 20 years, sharing their lives with engaged couples in the MVP Program. Furthermore, Vinchu is also active in the Life in the Spirit Prayer Community as one of its servant leaders, organizing and running the LSS for the parish.

Every Sunday, all 30 members of the extended family gather in the Mantaring home in St. Ignatius Village and reserve about 30 minutes of their time to pray together, in praise and thanksgiving for all the blessings of the week that had just passed, and to ask for the Lord's active presence in their lives as they face the challenges of the week ahead. This family is indeed a "little church" built in faith and prayer, participants in the building

# Fr. Jerry Orbos on the Family as Missionary Disciples

Last July 30, Fr. Jerry Orbos SVD gave a hilarious at-the-same-time insightful talk on the topic of 'family' sponsored by the Family and Life

anecdotes. An example – do you know why married people deserve heaven more? Answer: Because they've gone through hell already.



Ministry and the Marriage Vocation Program under Doy and Estrella Lopez. As is his usual, Fr. Jerry broke the ice with several jokes. Noticing the senior age of the attending crowd, he described his audience as belonging to the 'ha' generation and 'high society'. 'Ha' because whenever somebody says something, seniors often react by saying 'ha?' And 'high society' because many in the audience had high sugar, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, etc.

With the audience warmed up, Fr. Jerry then moved on to the topic of gratitude. That we all need to be grateful we're alive, that we need to be more thankful and less complaining, and to be joyful, not sorrowful. He made clear the difference between the 'give joys' and the 'kill joys'. Of course, Fr. Jerry Orbos couldn't help it – he continued to lace his talk with jokes and funny

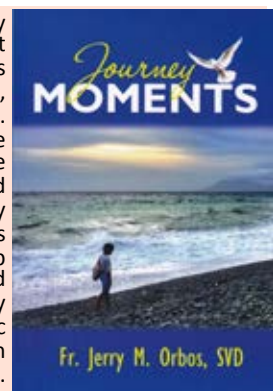
But he turned serious and insightful as he discoursed on the changing role of parents as the kids are growing up. At their formative years or pre-teens, the parents should be there to control. During adolescence, the parents' role is to coach. And when the children reach adulthood, the parents should behave as consultants who do not interfere unless asked for advice. He said the common problem is that parents remain 'controllers' throughout the children's lives and impose their own likes and preferences. He reminded parents to be careful of 'ICE' – imposing their will, controlling, and expecting too much.

Fr. Jerry remembered his Mama, who he admitted to the audience was his idol, and the virtues she demonstrated – prayerful; humble; kind, in words, thoughts and deeds; and joyful. He reminded everyone of the 11<sup>th</sup> 'commandment' – Thou shalt not take thyself seriously. And he advised the attendees – 'Learn to trust God more. So, pray about everything; worry about nothing.' He added, 'Each morning and each evening, kneel down before God. Be grateful, acknowledge God's power, humble yourself.'

He ended with the take-away lesson, 'The most important journey is the journey to heaven, to God's heart. To quote Mark 8:36 - for what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?'

## Book Review: 'Journey Moments' by Fr. Jerry Orbos

At his talk last July 30, Fr. Jerry brought some copies of his newest book, Journey Moments. And he enjoyed the listeners to get some copies, which would go a long way towards Fr. Jerry's dream of putting up a hermitage and Marian Sanctuary devoted to monastic life, to be located in San Jose, Batangas. We got our hands on the 88-page book, his 14<sup>th</sup>, coming after – Moments, Shared Moments, Simple Moments, Light Moments, Inquirer Moments A, Inquirer Moments B, Inquirer Moments C, Candid Moments, Just a Moment, Meaningful Moments, Defining Moments, Treasured Moments, and Memorable Senior Moments.



Following the format of his previous publications, Fr. Orbos fills each page with a simple or funny thought, reflection, anecdote, experience, quote or life lesson. At the bottom of each page is a short prayer, entitled 'A Moment with the Lord', and a short passage from the Bible, 'A Moment with the Word'. What differentiates Journey Moments from the earlier works is the emphasis on his own life's journey, especially moments with his Papa and Mama which illustrate the extent of their influence on his own character development and value formation.

Fr. Orbos remembers his Mama fondly. 'She was such a giving person. She would borrow money so that she could give something to a needy relative. She would give up her seat, and serve so that others could enjoy a meal. Even in her deathbed, her thoughts and concerns were about us. . . . Her life was a constant giving and letting go. . . . She had little money and possessions but she left behind many good and heartwarming lessons and memories. . . . Mama was a very kind person. She had kind thoughts and kind words, and kind deeds for everyone. The more I reflect on Mama's life, the more I want to become like her, especially to follow the path of prayer, humility, and kindness which she took.'

Fr. Jerry also adored his Papa. 'Papa was a humble person. He made no enemies. He taught us the value of hard and honest work. When Papa died, we had no place to bury him. He owned two memorial lots but he had given them to needy relatives without our knowing it. A good friend of his, a beneficiary of his goodness, donated a lot for him at Himlayang Pilipino. Indeed, generosity begets generosity.'

The book is also laced with jokes, but even these have simple lessons for the readers. It ends with a reprint of Fr. Jerry's 2012 poetry piece, A Journey to the Heart. The last stanza goes, 'Go slow, you're always on the go; Where to, you often do not know; The journey is not about going far or fast; The journey is going to the heart.'



# Strengthening Marital Bonds: A Quick Primer

The entire Parish Pastoral Council, some lectors-commentators, and other guests who responded to the parish announcement had a great time listening to the talk of Cynthia Gavino last Saturday, August 13, from 10:30 to 11:30 am at the St. John Hall. The formation talk, entitled Strengthening Marital Bonds, was sponsored by the Family and Life Ministry, headed by Drs. Doy and Estrelle Lopez, in coordination with the Diwanihan Kristiyano, represented by Mon and Loung Cuartero.

Cyn, who is associated with the Center for Family Ministries at the Loyola School of Theology, first talked about the “I”, the “You”, and their



intersection “We”. The “we” is the relational part of the marriage equation which allows for the intimacy, the sharing, and the touching - physically, socially, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually. The challenge, she said, is how to grow or at least retain the “we”, given that there are so many factors, e.g., golf, barkada, electronic gear, video games, the “third party”, increasing self-centredness, etc. that could strain the “we” part of the relationship as the “I” and the “you” pull away from each

other.

Ms. Gavino spent time talking about emotional needs, i.e., to feel loved, to feel of value, (for husbands) to feel being able to provide. A spouse may still be looking to his partner for emotional support he or she used to get from his or her parents.

Cyn referenced several popular author-counseling gurus during her talk. She mentioned the Venus vs. Mars conundrum, as postulated by John Gray, where women tend to be feeling, focus on relationships, listen intently, need to be heard, express aloud when stressed, while men equate competence with success, think before talking, are expected to provide solutions, think in general terms, and tend to retreat to their ‘man-cave’ when stressed. After Gray, she made reference to John Gottman’s concept of Emotional Bank Account, or EBA. The concept is that spouses make deposits to their common EBA when they turn to each other and make withdrawals when they turn away. Couples with a strong “we” are building up emotional savings that can give them a sense of peace and security when they go through hard times. Because they have stored up so much mutual goodwill, they have enough in their EBA to allow for withdrawals when conflicts arise. From here, she went to Gary Chapman’s Five Love Languages, the ways that people speak and understand emotional love. These five include - words of affirmation; quality time; receiving gifts; acts of service; and physical touch.

She also elaborated on the life cycle of a loving relationship. The couple starts out with “romantic” love, marked by excitement, obsession and where the other partner is idealized. The second phase is “realistic” love, where idealization diminishes and flaws exposed. Maintaining the relationship is a challenge; most get stuck here. But if both partners accept and mutually change to accommodate the other, then the relationship moves to “mature love”, marked by safety, security, and

fulfillment. Relationships stuck in the second stage will sometimes need the intervention of a third party, such as a marriage counselor.

Key to a strong marital bond, according to Cyn Gavino, is friendship, i.e., treating your spouse as your best friend, characterized by trust, support, respect, playfulness, companionship, mutual affirmation. “There is no such thing as a perfect marriage right from the get-go”, said Cyn. “The couple needs to be constantly working on their marriage.” And work means the three A’s - attention, appreciation, and affection. Cyn elaborated on the Marital Golden Rule: Meet your spouses’ needs as you would want him or her to meet yours.

OFW couples present a significant challenge, according to Ms. Gavino. It is extremely difficult to keep the intimacy across the miles. The partner left behind feels alone, burdened by longing and worries, while the partner outside is filled with loneliness, sadness, and guilt that the children are growing up without a parent.

## About the Speaker:

Maria Cynthia J. Gavino is a Lecturer with rank of Assistant Professor of the Center for Family Ministries, or CeFam, Loyola School of Theology, Ateneo de Manila University, where she teaches Marital Counseling, Pastoral Psychology, and Counseling Families in Crisis. She is also an adjunct faculty of the Asian Institute of Management where she teaches Family Dynamics in the Masters in Development Management program. At CeFam, she is also a Senior Family Counselor, specializing in family, marital relationships, and parenting concerns. Cyn has a BS in HRA (cum laude) from UP (1978), an MBA from ADMU (1985), a Master in Pastoral Ministry and Family Counseling at Loyola School of Theology (2003) and a Master in Psychology from UP (2012). She is also a PhD candidate in Clinical Psychology at UP and is currently working on her doctoral dissertation, “The Challenges and Coping Experiences of Seafarer Wives”. Cyn is married to Professor Jacinto Gavino of the AIM and they have three children.



# World Youth Day Celebrated at CTK

In a proper culmination of the Jubilee Month for the Youth, Christ the King Parish's Youth Ministry, headed by Regie and Joanne Polancos, organized the World Youth Day (WYD) overnight Vigil with live streaming of WYD Krakow Vigil last July 30, a Saturday, from 9 pm till 6 am the following day, Sunday, July 31. With Krakow six hours behind Manila, the Pope's Prayer Vigil with the Youth that started at 7:30 pm Krakow time was fed live to the Parish Social Hall starting at 1:30 am.



Above, nearly 200 youth from the CTK parish and other parishes in the vicariate warm up with zumba moves before the vigil at the Social Hall. Below, Where's the Sheep performing.



Taking on the emceeing chores were Tinnie de Leon from Christ the King Parish and Anton Justo from the

oversight of Youth Ministry heads Regie and Joanne Polancos and Youth Coordinator Althea Geronilla. Providing moral support at different times were PPC Coordinator couple Bert and Marie Anne Santos, PPC treasurer couple Bing and Elise del Rosario, Vicky Geronilla, Boy Angeles, and several others.

"The parish wanted to give an opportunity to our young people who could not afford to go to Poland to experience what the festivities are really like", explained Joanne Polancos. "The local vigil plays an important role in the values formation of our young people", added husband Regie.

Looking back, Althea believed that "it was a great chance for CTK's young parishioners to enjoy fellowship, praise and worship, and religious music."

Youth 15 years and older from Christ the King parish as well as the other parishes within the Vicariate of Our Lady of Perpetual Help were invited to join the 'Krakow to Greenmeadows' special event. By the time it started, 197 teenagers and young adults, from as young as 14 to as old as 28, had heeded the call, coming from the CTK villages, the Libis community youth, St. Paul's College-Pasig, and from the

Below, vigil keepers pose with Fr. Bong Tupino at the end of the local vigil



The organizers publicly thanked Drs. Doy and Estrelle Lopez for providing the on-site medical team and PPC Assistant Coordinator Henry and Joyce Tañedo for the security-emergency team.

Later in the day, at 4 pm, the parish again live-streamed from Krakow, this time to synchronize with the 10 am Final Mass by Pope Francis to mark the end of World Youth Day. Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion distributed holy communion to the local mass goers. At the end of the Mass, Pope Francis formally 'commissioned' the youth to go forth and be witnesses of Divine Mercy.

parishes of the Nativity of the Lord, Our Lady of Miraculous Medal, and St. John Paul II. CTK guest priest Fr. Serge Maniba gave the opening prayer.

Nativity of the Lord Parish, both PREx Youth veterans.

Then the live streaming began and the Christ the King youth figuratively joined hands with their Krakow counterparts in joining Pope Francis during the evening Vigil.

After the two hour live streaming, the young adults did some games and impromptu performances before taking an hour to nap prior to waking up again for breakfast at 5 am. At the end of the local vigil at 6 am, Fr. Bong thanked all the youth participants of the attending parishes as he closed out with the closing prayer.

The entire vigil event was under



Youth Ministry head couple Joanne and Regie Polancos and Youth Ministry Coordinator Althea Geronilla have a light moment with supporters Worship Ministry head Leila Banico and PPC treasurer Elise del Rosario

Given the time difference, there was going to be a four and a half hour wait before the live broadcast. To fill in the time, Program Director Ryanna Polancos engaged the Libis youth leaders to lead several ice breaker and zumba sessions to get everyone warmed up and energized for the vigil hours to come later. Also invited to perform live were Bukas Palad who performed two songs and the Where's the Sheep band, which led the large group in the local praise and worship segment of the late evening. Another novel activity was the Living Rosary, which began at exactly midnight.



# Filipino Pilgrims in Krakow, Poland



Some of the nearly 3,000 young Filipinos who went to Krakow, Poland for World Youth Day

Nearly 3,000 young Filipinos attended this July's World Youth Day celebrations with Pope Francis in Krakow, the childhood home of Saint Pope John Paul II who initiated the gathering in 1985. This was out of a total of 2.5 million young people from around the world who attended the gathering last month.

The official Philippine delegation consisted of 320 participants from the Episcopal Commission on Youth of the bishops' conference and its network of youth ministries. Stephen Borja of the commission's secretariat said large dioceses, like the archdioceses of Manila and Cebu and the dioceses of Cubao, Novaliches, Paranaque, and San Pablo, also sent their own delegations. The Mindanao-Sulu Pastoral Conference also sent a delegation from some of the 21 dioceses in the southern Philippines.

The Polish embassy in Manila confirmed that it had processed at least 3,000 visa requests from the Philippines.

Days before leaving for Krakow, members of the Philippine delegation met for a preparatory session. "It was an occasion not only for immediate preparations but also for strengthening the community spirit and the shared perspective in undertaking this pilgrimage," Borja said.

The first batch of delegates left for Poland last July 17 to participate in the "Days in the Diocese," an activity before the World Youth Day celebrations that will be from July 26 to 31.

Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle of Manila attended the celebration. The cardinal is among the four Filipino bishops who attended the WYD. Other prelates included Bangued Bishop Leopoldo Jaucian, CBCP's Episcopal Commission on Youth chairman, and San Pablo Bishop Buenaventura Famadico, the vice chairman. Legazpi Bishop Joel Baylon, the bishop in-charge of the Youth Desk-Office of Laity and Family of the

Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences also attended the Church's largest event.

At the Krakow WYD, Cardinal Tagle encouraged young people to seek the answers that will bring love to a violent world. One way the cardinal suggested was to "get out, tell every stranger you meet that they mean so much to you." Cardinal Tagle said the World Youth Day should not just be seen as a gathering for the young people but an instrument of the unity of the human race. "While we call it WYD, it's not just about the youth but about our common humanity which the young people force us to see."



Manila's Cardinal Tagle also attended

According to him, young people everywhere present a mirror of the present world that is "wounded, afraid, insecure and very much confused. But among the youth I see a longing for love, a longing to be accepted, a longing to give love. Isn't that what the human race is all about?" Cardinal Tagle said over Poland's Maskaczusz TV. "We hope that all of us who are no longer young could face the world by facing and loving the youth," he said.

Sky Ortigas, a former pastoral worker of the Couples for Christ's family ministry who attended the celebration for the third time, had looked forward for months to the event. "The music during the celebrations inspired and moved me and in some way that made me look forward to knowing the Lord more," said Ortigas. "Seeing every nation and race kneel down to Christ was just amazing," she said.

# Highlights of Pope Francis' Visit in Krakow, Poland

The fields of the Campus Misericordiae and Blonia Park are empty now in Krakow and the festivities of World Youth Day 2016 have come to a close but the echoes of Pope Francis' rallying cry remain in both these grounds - the encouragement to "dream big, not to be afraid to take risks, not to be discouraged, and to get up off one's comfortable sofa and leave a mark on life."

The Pope came to Poland, the beloved homeland of his predecessor St John Paul II with a message; a message of hope, mercy, and



compassion for young people here at a time when the world is experiencing deep suffering and cruelty. This was a visit to celebrate the bringing together of young pilgrims from all over the world with one thing in common - the love of God - but it was also a pastoral visit with unforgettable images.

The Pope's slow solemn walk through the infamous gate at Auschwitz and his silent prayer in the cell of St Maximilian Kolbe will endure for years to come. As will his emotional visit to pay homage to the Black Madonna in the Jasna Gora monastery of Czestochowa.

But where there are tears there can also be joy, such as the unforgettable scenes of youth enthusiastically encountering other pilgrims from around the world at Blonia Park and Campus Misericordiae. There was also a delighted Pope Francis who looked positively thrilled to be taking public transport once again in the form of a tram ride through Krakow, and the little girl at the pediatric hospital in the city who literally melted the Pope's heart by drawing him one.

At the World Youth Day Vigil, prior to his address to the pilgrims, Pope Francis and those gathered in the field heard the witness of three participants who gave personal testimonies of forgiveness, conversion, mercy and the challenges they live with.

At the final Mass of this youth meeting, Pope Francis told the young pilgrims that "World Youth Day begins today and continues tomorrow, in your homes, since that is where Jesus wants to meet you from now on."

Before leaving Poland, Pope Francis gave the World Youth Day pilgrims here an appointment for Panama City in 2019. In the midst of all the negative news of recent weeks, WYD gave the world hope for the future, showing how the next generation is poised and ready to work for peace and justice in society. 2.5 million young people from all corners of the globe, energized by the Holy Spirit, are ready to set the world ablaze with the Father's mercy.



# History of World Youth Day

What exactly is the World Youth Day? WYD is an international meeting of youth from all over the world who gather together in one place with their catechists, priests, bishops and the pope in order to profess faith in Jesus Christ.

The founder and first host of World Youth Day was St. John Paul II. From the first moment of his pontificate, he said to the young: "You are the future of the world, you are the hope of the Church, you are my hope." In 1985, on the occasion of the International Year of Youth established by the United Nations, Pope John Paul II invited the youth to Rome to a meeting. December 20, 1985 is now officially regarded as the day that World Youth Day was established. While exchanging Christmas greetings with Cardinals and the Roman Curia employees, John Paul II expressed his wish to hold the World Youth Day every two or three years as an international meeting in a place appointed by him.

He explained the importance of the meeting to employees of the Roman Curia during the Christmas Eve: "All young people must feel the care that the Church has for them. Therefore, the whole Church, in union with the successor of Peter, must be more and more engaged at a global level in caring for youth, in responding to their anxieties and concerns and to their receptiveness and hopes. We must try to match their expectations, and we must communicate the certainty that is Christ, the Truth that is Christ, and the love that is Christ. And in this privileged concern, which the Church directs toward them, young people need to find a proof that they matter very much, because they are worth very much. Their life is valuable to the Church."

The success of the 1985 youth 'encounter' inspired the Holy Father to engage in subsequent regular meetings with the young. After Rome, he gathered the youth in Buenos Aires (1987, the first time the event was called World Youth Day), Santiago de Compostela (1989), Czestochowa (1991), Denver (1993), Manila (1995), Paris (1997), Rome again (2000) and Toronto (2002).

When St. John Paul II passed away, Pope Benedict XVI became the successor of this beautiful dialogue between the Church and the youth as well as a great advocate of World Youth Day. He presided over the meetings in Cologne (2005), Sydney (2008) and Madrid (2011). Thanks to the ministry

of Pope Benedict XVI, Christ has been constantly preached and adored by the youth around the world, and the Church has been able to convey its youthful and joyful image, which is so necessary in the contemporary world.

In 2013 (Rio de Janeiro), it was Pope Francis' turn to meet with the youth. He also announced that the next meeting would take place in Krakow, Poland, in 2016.

The WYD meetings are accompanied by two particular gifts given by St. John Paul II. They are the World Youth Day Cross and the Icon of Our Lady Salus Populi Romani. These symbols are not only with the youth during WYD, but they continuously circle the globe, bringing together hundreds and thousands of people for prayer and adoration every day. On Palm Sunday, April 13th, 2014, the symbols were passed on to the Polish youth in Rome by the Holy Father, and the pilgrimage of the WYD Cross and Icon began in the dioceses of Poland as well as several countries of Eastern Europe.

How long is WYD? WYD is a multi-day event. Currently there are two essential components: the first is "Days in Dioceses" during which the youth stay in different areas of the host country; the second is the "Central Events" which last for one week in the primary host city. The "Days in Dioceses" is a time for friendship, fellowship, integration, and familiarizing with the culture of the region. It includes tourist trips, common games, and social involvement in various works and projects prepared by the organizers.

Having finished "Days in Dioceses", all participants go to the host diocese chosen by the Holy Father to experience the central events. The youth gather together for the period of a week in the host city. On Monday they arrive, while on Tuesday they participate in the opening ceremony.



On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday they take part in catechesis and the Youth Festival. On Saturday they make a pilgrimage to the place of Vigil and take part in the evening meeting with the Pope. On Sunday they take part in the Final Mass which completes the WYD. Though participation in WYD takes two weeks, one should remember that the meeting requires a period of spiritual and organizational preparation. That is why, the real period of WYD begins when the decision is made to participate, and finishes when the mission resulting from WYD is completed.

On average, several hundred thousand youth take part through the whole week. However, around the time of the Saturday vigil with the pope, the number of participants exceeds one million or more. So far the greatest meetings took place in Manila in the Philippines (1995) with four million pilgrims and in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil (2013) where Copacabana housed over three million people. In Europe, the most numerous event was in Rome in 2000 when 2 million young people joined St. John Paul II in prayer.

Apart from the youth, many bishops, priests, monks and nuns, consecrated people, clerics, novices as well as young teachers and university professors attend WYD. During the last WYD in Europe before Krakow (Madrid 2011) there were 800 bishops, 14,000 priests and several thousand of friars.

The next World Youth Day will take place in 2019 in Panama.



# CTK Sponsors Special Screening of Ignacio de Loyola

Christ the King Parish Greenmeadows through its Youth Ministry, sponsored a special screening of the biographical film, *Ignacio de Loyola*, last July 29, 8 pm, at the Hale Irwin Theater in the Ateneo de Manila Loyola campus. CTK distributed the P300 tickets to the various ministries and mandated organizations, proceeds of which are to go to the pediatric cancer ward of the Philippine Children's Medical

theater was 'full house'.

The historical drama based on the memoirs of the founder of the Society of Jesus, or more commonly known as Jesuits, chronicles the life of young soldier Iñigo, who was forced to give up his dreams of knighthood

when he was crippled in battle. A Filipino production shot in Spain and the Philippines, the film chronicles Ignatius' valiant but futile defense at the Battle of Pamplona, his struggles with depression and near-suicide, his trial before the Inquisition, and his ultimate vindication.

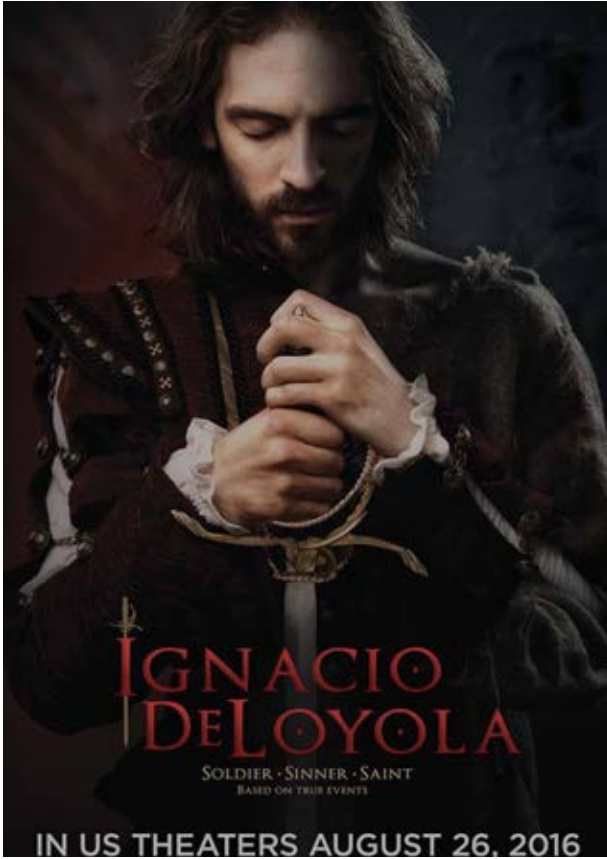
As anyone who has studied in Ateneo or has Jesuit-trained friends know, Saint Ignatius de Loyola SJ was a Spanish knight from a local Basque noble family, who then became a hermit, then a priest, and finally a theologian who founded the Society of Jesus and in April 1541 became its first Superior General. Ignatius emerged as a religious leader during the Counter Reformation. Loyola's devotion to the Catholic Church was

characterized by absolute obedience to the Pope.

From 1522 to 1524, Ignatius Loyola wrote *Spiritual Exercises*, a simple 200-page set of meditations, prayers, and various other mental exercises that lead to profound reflection and discernment. Ignatius died in July 1556, was beatified by Pope Paul V in 1609, canonized by Pope Gregory XV in 1622, and declared patron of all spiritual retreats by Pope Pius XI in 1922. Ignatius' feast day is celebrated on July 31.



Above, a full house on the July 29 Friday screening. Below, CTK PPC head couple Bert and Marie Anne Santos introduce the film while Youth Ministry Coordinator Althea Geronilla talks about the target beneficiary of the project.



Center. Despite the rains and heavy Friday evening C5-Katipunan traffic,

## Famous Quotes from St. Ignatius de Loyola

- Take, O Lord, and receive my entire liberty, my memory, my understanding and my whole will. All that I am and all that I possess You have given me. I surrender it all to You to be disposed of according to Your will. Give me only Your love and Your grace; with these I will be rich enough, and will desire nothing more.
- Soul of Christ, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ, inebriate me. Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me. O good Jesus, hear me. Within Thy wounds hide me. Permit me not to be separated from Thee. From the wicked foe defend me. At the hour of my death call me. And bid me come to Thee. That with Thy saints I may praise Thee forever and ever.
- God freely created us so that we might

know, love, and serve him in this life and be happy with him forever. God's purpose in creating us is to draw forth from us a response of love and service here on earth, so that we may attain our goal of everlasting happiness with him in heaven.

- All the things in this world are gifts of God, created for us, to be the means by which we can come to know him better, love him more surely, and serve him more faithfully. If our church is not marked by caring for the poor, the oppressed, the hungry, we are guilty of heresy.
- Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous; to give and not to count the cost.
- Be generous to the poor orphans and those in need. The man to whom our Lord has been liberal ought not to be stingy. We shall one day find in Heaven as much rest and joy

as we ourselves have dispensed in this life.

- He who goes about to reform the world must begin with himself.
- For those who believe, no proof is necessary. For those who disbelieve, no amount of proof is sufficient.
- Let us work as if success depended upon ourselves alone, but with heartfelt conviction that we are doing nothing, and God everything.
- Pray as if God will take care of all; act as if all is up to you.
- To conquer himself is the greatest victory that man can gain.
- He who carries God in his heart bears Heaven with him wherever he goes.
- Finding God in All Things.



# Behind the Scenes: The Making of the Movie

Fr. Emmanuel “Nono” Alfonso, Jesuit Communications’ (JesCom) executive director and executive producer of Ignacio de Loyola, admitted that the project was a leap of faith. “We learned from Jesus, the greatest of communicators, that one’s ideas and vision are best shared through stories and narrative. Stories endure forever”, he related. The last film on Loyola was a black-and-white Spanish production in the 1940s and JesCom believed a full-length high-quality film bio in the mold of the biopic General Luna was



Fr. Nono Alfonso focused the film on the saint's conversion

the most effective way for the youth to rediscover Ignacio’s life, often called “the saint of second chances”. Fr. Nono added, “Currently there’s a surge of interest in the life of this saint and his legacy owing in large part to the ascent to the papacy of the first Jesuit Pope, the endearing Pope Francis.

The screenplay was written by Paolo Dy with support from Cathy Azanza, Pauline Saltarin, Emmanuel Alfonso and Ian Victoriano. The film was directed by Paolo Dy and Cathy Azanza. Lee Meily, who received several awards for her work on Laurice Guillen’s “Tanging Yaman,” was the movie’s director of photography. This was Paolo’s feature film directorial debut.

The all-Spanish cast was led by the mesmerizing Andreas Muñoz as Loyola, Javier Godino as Ignacio’s Xanti, Julio Perillan as Fr. Sanchez, Isabel Lorca as Doña Ines Pascual,

Mario dela Rosa as Calixto, Tacuara Casares as Princess Catalina, and Gonzalo Trujillo and Jonathan Mellor as Inquisitors Frias and Figueroa. It’s also worth mentioning that music was scored by none other than Ryan Cayabyab. For Ryan, scoring the film was like his journey too. “By the time I reached part 4 to 6, I was so into the story of Ignacio, emotionally, intellectually, and spiritually.”

Unlike most saint films that depict the apostolic work of the saints until their peaceful deaths, “Ignacio de Loyola” chose to cover only a short part of Ignacio’s life, specifically, the portion before the Society of Jesus came to be. Fr. Nono initially wanted to tell the whole life story of St. Ignatius but eventually the team decided to focus on the saint’s conversion. “We wanted a very human take on his story so young people could easily identify with him. So we focused on the journey, from violence and worldliness, and highlighted a style of prayer and process of discernment that has become his legacy”, Fr. Nono clarified.

JesCom worked with international distributors to make the film available worldwide. For example, the movie had been scheduled for screening in selected Northern California theaters from August 26 to 28. Ditto with moviehouses in Papua New Guinea, Guam, Canada and the United Kingdom. It was shown in the Vatican last June 14 in front of the Pope’s



The film was director Paolo Dy’s feature film debut

delegation and the Superior General of the Society of Jesus.

The film had gotten decent reviews. “Ang galing! So well done... Bravo!!”, declared Cheche Lazaro, famed broadcast

journalist. “It’s a film for all ages. And for the ages. Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam,” added Pia Hontiveros, noted CNN Philippines broadcast journalist. Noted film and TV director Joel Lamangan gave his own technical review, “A moving portrayal on the life of a great person, human being, saint! A great journey to religiosity and sainthood, a laudable effort to mirror the beginnings of a great religious order! Technical work of Filipino film crew is comparable to any foreign film



Andreas Muñoz was a very believable Ignatius de Loyola

maker’s. Congratulations!” Laurice Guillen, another noted director and former actress noted, “It is inspiring because it shows how every person is capable of transformation.”

# Just What Are the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy?

As part of the series of CTK parish formation talks on Mercy, Fr. Chester Yacub SJ gave a talk last July 16 on the topic of Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.



Fr. Chester started with Pope Francis' admonition: "It is my burning desire that, during this Jubilee, the Christian people may reflect on the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. It will be a way to reawaken our conscience, too often grown dull in the face of poverty. Jesus introduces us to these works of mercy in his preaching so that we can know whether or not we are living as his disciples."

Pope Francis continues, "Let us rediscover these corporal works of mercy: to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, heal the sick, visit the imprisoned, and bury the dead. And let us not forget the spiritual works of mercy: to counsel the doubtful, instruct the ignorant, admonish sinners, comfort the afflicted, forgive offences, bear patiently those who do us ill, and pray for the living and the dead." Fr. Chester made the point that the biblical foundations of the Spiritual Works of Mercy are grounded not only in Christ's own teachings but also from New Testament epistles.

Fr. Chester offered two important points for reflection.

1. 'For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill

and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked, and clothed you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the King will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you do for the least of my people, you do for me.' (Matthew). So Fr. Chester asked everyone to ask himself: Have I been just a "Kapatid-Kapamilya" or have I been a true "Kapuso" of Jesus? In other words, was I just born a Christian or do I actually put into practice the Gospel values and live out God's greatest commandments of loving God and one's neighbor?

2. 'Love the Lord your God – with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength and Love your neighbor as yourself.' This was Jesus' answer to the scribe who, at the goading of the Pharisees, asked him which of the hundreds of commandments is the greatest. To Fr. Chester, love is the expression; love, too, is the motivation.

Fr. Chester then talked about his own work as chaplain at the UP Philippine General Hospital Chapel. As chaplain on duty 24 hours daily, he did last confessions, viaticum communions (to be received on our way back to our Creator), and emergency baptisms for infant in critical condition. Also, the role included blessings before and after an operation as well as prayers for the dead.

At other times, the chaplain is asked to advice families on whether they should already cut off life support. ("Father, kayo po talaga ang hinihintay namin. Ipatatigil na po ba namin ang gamutan, tatanggalin na po ba ang mga tubo? Kasalanan po ba ito?") His responsibility then is to explain the moral teachings of the Church on euthanasia, about the Christian view of suffering – that God does not allow anyone to suffer; but he allows nature to take its course, as he upholds human freedom. In this and other end-of-life cases, the priest's genuine contribution is compassion; it is simply 'being with – the patient!' and 'being with the patient's loved ones!'

Fr. Chester narrated his personal encounter with Pope Francis when he was here in our country during his Apostolic Visit. Forty Jesuits had been given audience with the Pope and the Provincial superior joked that if in Sri Lanka the Pope was welcomed by forty elephants, in the Philippines he was welcomed by forty Jesuits. And then the Pope wittingly responded: 'the elephants were better dressed!' Fr. Chester introduced himself as the chaplain of PGH – the biggest public hospital in the country and he asked, "Would he like to say something to our patients?" Pope Francis answered, "To you I say treat them with tenderness. They are the flesh of Christ. Jesus is close to them. Jesus looks into the mirror at those who suffer. When he sees them he sees himself. Looking at them he finds himself."

Fr. Chester also recalled Cardinal Chito's homily during his ordination three years ago where he said, "Do not forget the reason why you are ordained – it is not because of your skills, not because of your talents, of the things that you can do and do well, of the things that you can offer the Church – you are ordained because the Lord has been gracious. The Lord has been merciful. Kayong mga oordinahan – kayo, mga pasang awa kayo. Pinasa kayo, dahil naawa ang Panginoon. At dahil naawa ang Panginoon sa inyo, huwag ninyong kalimutang maging daluyan ng awa at pagmamahal ng Diyos."

Fr. Chester ended by saying, "Compassion, just like any other virtue is not taught; it is caught! Treat everyone around with you with tenderness and compassion."

## About the Speaker

Fr. Chester Yacub SJ works as chaplain at the UP Philippine General Hospital chapel. He was an alumnus of the Mapua Institute of Technology Pre-Engineering High School and obtained his college degree from the University of the Philippines, Diliman (B.S. in Electronics and Communications Engineering.) After college, he served as Volunteer Youth Minister for Christ's Youth in Action for two years, before joining the Society in 2002. For regency, he was missioned to Sacred Heart School, Ateneo de Cebu where he taught Christian Morality, Church History and Sacraments, and Geometry. He gave his first mass on May 7, 2013.



# The Book of Psalms and Its Verses on Mercy

Fr. Manuel 'Manol' J. Montesclaros S.J., S.S.L. talked in front of nearly 40 Eucharistic Ministers led by EMHC Coordinator Albert Cuadrante plus other guests as part of the Formation Ministry's Jubilee of Mercy lecture series last August 18 7:30 pm at the St. Mark-St. Matthew Rooms.



Fr. Manol began by saying that the book of Psalms contains many wonderful verses about mercy, love and hope. He cited the following verses as psalms about God's mercy toward us. Just a few examples:

- Psalm 23:6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.
- Psalm 25:6, 7 Remember, O LORD, thy tender mercies and thy loving kindnesses; for they have been ever of old. Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake.
- Psalm 31:7 I will be glad and rejoice in thy mercy: for thou hast considered my trouble; thou hast known my soul in adversities.
- Psalm 57:9-11 I will praise thee, O Lord, among the people: I will sing unto thee among the nations. For thy mercy is great unto the heavens, and thy truth unto the clouds. Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: let thy glory be above all the earth.
- Psalm 86:5 For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.
- Psalm 136:1 O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.
- Psalm 145:8-10 The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy. The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works. All thy works shall praise thee; and thy saints shall bless thee.
- Psalm 147:10-11 He delighteth not in the strength of the horse: he taketh not

pleasure in the legs of a man. The LORD taketh pleasure in them that fear him, in those that hope in his mercy.

Per Fr. Manol, Psalm 103 is arguably the most comprehensive exposition of the many faceted mercy of God - He forgives, He heals, He is dependable, He provides for His people, He is compassionate toward human weakness, patient and forbearing. In verses 8-12, "The Lord is

merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever. He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us." Verse 13 likens God's compassion to



EMHCs listen to Fr. Manol expound on Psalm 103

parental compassion. "as a father has compassion for his children, so God has compassion for those who fear God."

The Psalms also tell us how we can see the mercy of the Lord. For example, Psalms 112:4 states: "Light rises in darkness for the upright; the Lord is gracious, merciful and just." In other words, we can only see God's mercy clearly when we are upright ourselves.

Many of the Psalms focus on the boundless extent of God's mercy. Psalm 57, for example, tells us of the greatness of Divine Mercy (verse 11): "For Thy steadfast love is great to the heavens, Thy faithfulness to the clouds." Psalm 33:5 states: "the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord." Psalm 23 tells us that the tender care of the Lord is like that of a shepherd for his flock, and that He leads us to His eternal home (verse

6): "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

Many of the Psalms also encourage us to place our trust in the Lord, and to hope in Him. For Fr. Manol, no Psalm says it better than Psalm 130, which is a cry for forgiveness and rescue from a soul cast deep into the darkness by trouble and sin: "Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Let Thy ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications. I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his Word, I hope. For with the Lord there is steadfast love, And with Him is plenteous redemption."

Fr. Manol explained that it is no wonder, therefore, that one of the favorite verses of Pope John Paul II comes from the Psalms (89:1): "I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever, with my mouth I will proclaim Thy faithfulness to all generations."

And Fr. Manol ended by saying that generations of English speaking Christians have adopted Psalm 100 as one of their favorites: "Enter His gates with thanksgiving, go into His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him, bless His name! For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, And His faithfulness to all generations."

## About the Speaker

Fr. Manuel 'Manol' J. Montesclaros, S.J., S.S.L. is Assistant Professor of Biblical Theology at San Jose Seminary, ADMU, Loyola, Quezon City. Fr. Manol teaches Introduction to the Old Testament and Israel's Wisdom Literature.

He has a BA in Economics from the University of San Carlos, a Baccalaureate in Sacred Theology from the Fujen Catholic University of Taipei, an MA in Pastoral Ministry from ADMU and a Licentiate in Sacred Scriptures from the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome. He entered to Society of Jesus in 1986 and was ordained priest in 1996.

Fr. Manol was Director of Arvisu House Jesuit Pre-novitiate from 1993-95, Director of the San Jose Seminary in 1996-1997, assistant to the Parish Priest of San Jose Manggagawa Parish in Marikina. He is a Founding Member of the Catholic Biblical Association of the Philippines in 1999 and continues to be active until the present time. He became a full-time member of the faculty of Loyola School of Theology, ADMU, in 2004-05. Since 1999 till 2013, Fr. Manol has been a Professor at St. John Vianney Theological Seminary in Cagayan de Oro City.

He continues to give spiritual direction and retreats to seminarians, priests, clergy and lay.



# Vicariate Runs Vocation Sunday at CTK

Last August 28, Christ the King Parish Greenmeadows' Vocation Ministry, headed by Louie Laudico and Anna Lagman, hosted the Vocation Fair and Exhibit for the Vicariate of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, to which CTK belongs (together with Nativity of Our Lord Parish, Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Parish, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Cubao, St. John Paul II Parish, San Roque Parish, and Transfiguration of our Lord Parish). The theme for the 'faceVOC' was 'Family and Community, Encouraging Vocations'.



with 5, and Christ the King with 3. Of the 50, over 40 were boys.



Above, Fr. Ronald Macale welcomes the attendees of the Vocation Fair. Ages ranged from 12 to 24, majority of which were boys.



The event was held at the Parish Social Hall, with 50 youth and young adults in attendance. The biggest delegation came from Lady of Miraculous Medal with 15, followed by San Roque with 12, Transfiguration of Our Lord with 7, John Paul II with 6, Lady of Perpetual Help



Althea Geronilla, Youth Ministry Coordinator, moderating the event

There were 60-plus representatives from several religious congregations, including Sisters of Charity of St. Charles Borromeo (CB Sisters, with the largest delegation), Hospitaller Sisters of the Sacred Heart (HSC), Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (SS.CC), Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic (MM), Sisters of St. Anne (SSA), Religious of Notre Dame of the Missions (RNDM), Discalced Carmelites Fathers and Brothers (OCD, a.k.a. Samahang Men in Brown), Pious Worker-Sisters of the Immaculate Conception (POIC), Teresian Carmelite Missionaries (CMT), and Dominican Sisters of the Anunciata (OP).

Registration began at 12:30 pm. The Opening Prayer and Welcome was given by Fr. Ronald Macale while CTK's Youth Coordinator Althea Geronilla acted as moderator.

A full-length feature film on the difficulties and rewards of getting into the priesthood followed.

The highlight of the Sunday vocation fair was the personal sharing of pre-selected clergy, religious, and consecrated men and women in a panel discussion format. The panel talks were followed by the open forum where the young boys and girls got a chance to ask questions.

Then at 4 pm, the 50 attendees got to go around the different booths set up by the different congregations. As you would expect, given the majority of males in the

audience, the most popular booths were the Discalced Carmelites and the SS.CC. This was only for half an hour since at 4:30 pm, the religious vocation candidates had to proceed to the Main Church for Rosary praying, led by Althea and Anton. The Vocation Sunday



Several religious congregations set up booths. Above, CB Sisters, Maryknoll, Hospitallers. Below, POIC, SS.CC.



participants sat in the reserved rows at the front of the church and at 5 pm, no less than Bishop Honesto Ongtioco of the Diocese of Cubao himself officiated the Mass, assisted by Fr. Gido Dumlaog, Priest Head of the Diocesan Vocation Ministry, and CTK Parish Priest Fr. Bong Tupino. This was then followed at 6 pm by a dinner and fellowship with all the participants and religious guests.

It was clear to the parishioners that August 28 was a special Sunday. For the 9:00 am and 10:30 am masses, a four-minute video of parents and their sons-priests was shown after communion while at the 12:00 nn mass, Mrs Letty Roberto, mother of Fr Ron Roberto, Head of the Diocese Liturgical Ministry, gave a 4-minute personal sharing. At the 5 pm mass, before the final blessing, there was a five-minute personal sharing by Jojo and Ditsy Sumpaico aside from the Prayer for Vocation. There was also a Vocation Box placed at the entrance of the Main Church with a request for church goers to write down the names, contact number and email address of young people they know who might have that 'seed of vocation' in them.

When asked about his expectations of the event, Louie Laudico answered, "We just set the stage. For a handful of those who came, the Lord Jesus Christ may whisper to them, 'Come follow me.' Who knows? They might heed the call. That's all we can hope for."



# Seven Habits of Highly Successful Families

FranklinCovey Co. in the Philippines based at the Ateneo Professional Schools in Makati.

The workshop, based on the New York Times best-seller 'The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Families' that was written by Stephen Covey, an internationally respected leadership authority, family expert, teacher, and organizational consultant who also wrote the earlier best-sellers 'The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People', 'First Things First', and 'Principle Centered Leadership', was well-attended, with 23 couples-families signing up right after it was first announced last August.



Above, Rene Montemayor talks about FranklinCovey; below, Consy Montemayor reviews the workshop outline with the 23 participating couples-families.



The workshop, which usually costs several thousand pesos, was staged at no cost to CTK, with participant couples or families being charged only P1,000 to cover the workbook cost.

The book made waves when it was first released in 1997. With the same profound insight, simplicity, and practical wisdom that propelled The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People to worldwide acclaim, Stephen Covey focused on the primary concern of society today - the family. It is widely accepted that too many families are in trouble. In his book, Covey shows how families can move from a problem-solving to a creative

mindset, focusing on accomplishing goals and contributing together in meaningful ways. He unveils a powerful framework of universal principles that enable family members to effectively communicate about their problems and resolve them. The objective is to build the kind of strong loving family that lasts for generations. As Covey says, "When you raise your children, you are also raising your grandchildren."

In the book, as with the workshop, the famed 'seven habits' had been reapplied in the context of family life. Specifically, 1) Be Proactive was reapplied as, Becoming an Agent of Change in Your Family; 2) Begin with the End in Mind, i.e., Developing a Family Mission Statement; 3) Put First Things First, i.e., Making Family a Priority in a Turbulent World; 4) Think 'Win-Win', i.e., Moving from 'Me' to 'We'; 5) Seek First to Understand, i.e., Solving Family Problems Through Empathic Communication; 6) Synergize, i.e., Building Family Unity Through Celebrating Differences; and 7) Sharpen the Saw, i.e., Renewing the Family Spirit Through Traditions.

The book, and the workshop, also covered the four stages on the path to progress, starting with - 'survival', where the day-in, day-out objective is simply to survive; to 'stability', where the family and the marriage becomes stable, dependable, and predictable; to 'success', where meaningful goals are set and achieved and there's genuine happiness, better living, and better loving; to the final stage of 'significance', where the family has a sense of stewardship or responsibility to the greater family of mankind and where the family legacy includes reaching out to other families who might be at risk and making a difference in the community through their church or other service organizations.

The workshop ended with the discussion on the four family

leadership roles for the parents. This includes - role modeling; mentoring; organizing; and teaching.

## ABOUT OUR FACILITATORS

Rene Montemayor is the President and Execution Practice Leader at the Center for Leadership and Change, Inc. (CLCI). Currently, Rene is also the Vice Chairman of General Milling Corporation, one of the leading flour milling companies in the Philippines. He had previously been Executive Vice President and Managing Director of Universal Robina Corporation, President and CEO of Purefoods Corporation, and Senior Managing Director of the Ayala Corporation.

Consy Montemayor, on the other hand, has been an HR practitioner through most of her professional life. She was HR head of Medical City, Nestle Philippines, and Warner Lambert Philippines. At Warner Lambert, she planned, implemented, and evaluated training & development programs, and ran performance appraisal, interaction management, and manpower planning programs for several Asian countries. After Warner Lambert, she moved to Bayer where she was the Regional Training Coordinator for Asia, before settling in at FranklinCovey.

Rene and Consy have three children: Carlos, Grace, and Mary and they practice the principles of successful families in their own household.

continuation from page 1

## Parish Celebrating 11th Stewardship Anniversary



Fr. Bong Tupino acknowledged the presence in the mass audience of the heads of CTK's Stewardship Committee, Drs. Ben and Linda Famador. A dinner with the Stewardship Committee members and PPC officers followed.



# Jubilee of Basic Ecclesial Communities

by Malu Cataldi

Last August 27, 2016, pilgrims representing the Basic Ecclesial Communities (BECs) of the six Vicariates of the Diocese of Cubao celebrated the Jubilee of BECs in celebration of the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy.

With the theme, 'BECs as Field Hospital for the Wounded; Marks of Merciful Ecclesial Communities', the pilgrimage began with a simultaneous Holy Hour in three Jubilee Churches namely : Our Lord of Divine Mercy Parish, Holy Family Parish, and San Pedro Bautista Parish. The three groups were each followed by a motorcade, with the escort assistance of the QC DPOS, from the three Jubilee Churches to the Immaculate Conception Cathedral of Diocese of Cubao.

The Our Lady of Perpetual Help Vicariate (to which CTK belongs) and the St. Joseph Vicariate were assigned to the Lord of Divine Mercy Parish Church in Sikatuna, with mass officiated by parish priest Fr. Steve Zabala. The Diocesan BEC Jubilee mass was celebrated by no less than Bishop Honesto F. Ongtioco DD himself, assisted by Fr. Jun Pascual, Diocese BEC Priest Minister. The ride to Sikatuna and from there to Lantana was provided by St. Ignatius.

The CTK delegation, wearing orange, was led by Tiny Perfecto, CTK's BEC Coordinator. Most of the CTK delegates are beneficiaries of the CTK Stewardship Scholarship Program.



Above, the CTK delegation takes selfies while waiting for the other pilgrims from the various BECs of the Vicariates of Diocese of Cubao. Below, the CTK pilgrims with BEC coordinator Tiny Perfecto (on the right). From left, Eunice Alfonso, Adrian Fernandez, Janine Piyaw, Alby Butol, Paul Garcia, with Carlo Bautista taking the selfie.



# PBA and CTK in Innovative Partnership

by Jing Alampay

The Philippine Basketball (PBA) entered into a first-ever partnership with the CTK Greenmeadows Parish to provide free live game tickets to select volunteers and participants in the various CTK ministries and organizations. Through the Public Affairs Ministry, the parish tapped into the 'Alagang PBA', a Corporate Social Responsibility program of Asia's first professional basketball league, to create a unique parish-stewardship initiative.



Public Affairs Ministry head Jing Alampay, left, with PBA Commissioner Chito Narvasa and PBA CSR head Pita Dobles

"We want the PBA to be even more relevant to our people, and the CTK parish provided us a new way to give back and show our support for social programs that uplift our communities," said Chito Narvasa, the PBA Commissioner. Chito, who was a former star player at the Ateneo in the mid 70's, is also a CTK parishioner from White Plains. He added, "I am very delighted to be able to help the PBA organization as well as my CTK parish with this innovative partnership".

The first phase of the partnership called "Manood Tayo" started July 20<sup>th</sup> and ended September 9<sup>th</sup>, covering the elimination round of the PBA Commissioner's Cup and games played at the Araneta Coliseum. Involving 12 play dates, a total of 1,200 tickets were given by PBA, with nominal value of P300,000. The beneficiaries included over eight CTK parish ministries and organizations, CTK admin staff and service personnel, two other parishes, three seminaries in the Cubao Diocese, a nursing home for the elderly, and the military chaplain group at Camp Aginaldo and Camp Bonifacio.

Apart from watching 12 thrilling basketball games, for many of the recipients, it was their first time to watch a live PBA game or even to enter the Smart Araneta Coliseum. Thus, the

"Manood Tayo" program was a big treat and a great incentive for the ticket beneficiaries to continue their active work in the parish community.

The second phase of "Manood Tayo" will resume in November 2016 when the PBA opens with the All Filipino Conference. Ms. Pita Dobles, a young alumnus of the Ateneo, and currently the Commissioner's Executive Assistant and Head of the PBA CSR Program, expressed support for CTK Public Affairs Ministry's suggestion to expand coverage to include counseling personnel who serve in the Philippine National Police (PNP) drug rehabilitation centers. This move will serve as the initial effort of the PBA and the CTK Parish to help in the country's anti-drug campaign.

Mass Schedules	
Monday to Friday	6:00 am
	7:00 am
	6:00 pm
Saturday	6:00 am
	7:00 am
	6:00 pm
anticipated	7:30 pm
Sunday	6:00 am
	7:30 am
	9:00 am
	10:30 am
	12:00 pm
	5:00 pm
	6:30 pm
8:00 pm	



## Meet CTK's Guest Priest Fr. Serge Maniba



sense of connectedness with all life and demonstrate a sense for the “divine”. Which is the reason for what he believes is a need for a more positive reappraisal of traditional cultures.

This perspective comes from Fr. Serge’s unique circumstances in growing up in Antique. His parents treated their ailments with herbal medicines, the elders relied completely on the environment for food, and in the interconnected community, everyone knew who they were and their place in the community and with the environment. When he became a priest, he was always being assigned to mountain parishes and he dealt up close and personal with the indigenous people who were able to reconcile their new Christian faith with their traditional belief systems.

Fr. Serge’s classes are usually in the evenings which give him a little time to attend to the 6 am daily masses, sacrament needs, or small Bible Study groups in the morning or early afternoon when he’s not doing homework and research. His weekends are free which allows him to take on three to four masses.

Fr. Serge finished college at St. Anthony’s college then did his BA Theology at San Jose. From 1996 to 2008 when he pursued his MA in Manila, he had always been assigned to Antique, serving as parish priest for 12 years, chaplain of the local Diocesan college, and Diocesan youth director. This is Fr. Serge’s second stint as guest priest, since he had been assigned to the UP parish in 2008 and 2009 while doing his MA.

Fr. Serge is actually familiar with Fr. Bong. For one, Fr. Bong was the Episcopal Vicar for the Clergy and Guest Priests in the diocese of Cubao in charge of visiting priests when he was assigned to UP in 2008. Even earlier, they were together in San Jose Seminary in Ateneo’s Loyola campus.

What does Fr. Serge appreciate most, aside from Fr. Bong’s genuine caring for visiting priests like him and the kindness of the parish staff? It’s the commitment and dedication and how well-organized the Parish Pastoral Council is. “All the ministries and related organizations know their roles and they execute very well. I haven’t seen anything like that before,” he added.

The CTK parishioners heartily welcome Fr. Sergio “Serge” C. Maniba, now assigned to Christ the King Parish Greenmeadows as guest priest, starting July 11. Fr. Serge had been a Diocesan Priest at the Diocese of San Jose, Antique, the same province our well-loved Bishop Raul Martirez hails from. In fact, we found out it was Bishop Raul who ordained Fr. Serge!

Our new guest priest is now taking up his PhD in Theology, majoring in Missiology, at the Institute for Consecrated Life in Asia (ICLA), run by the Claretians in Tandang Sora Avenue. He had just started his second term of what should be a two-year stint. Prior to this, he had received his Licentiate and before that, from 2008 to 2010, he completed his MA at Mary Claret College. Although it is still a bit early, his working doctoral dissertation is tentatively entitled, “Retrieving Indigenous Wisdom & the Challenge of Care for the Earth”.

Fr. Serge explained that western thought had always looked down on non-western or indigenous cultures and beliefs, labeling them as pagan, heathen or “animist”. By training, we had always been taught to reject pagan traditions as unworthy and inconsonant with religion. But Fr. Serge asserts that indigenous tribes, not only in the mountains of Antique but everywhere else in the developing world with their primal or traditional religions have always had a sense of a supreme being, a sense of God - though they may use other words such as “Bathala” or “Maykapal”. These indigenous people believe in a strong

## CTK Choir Launches Album Celebrating God’s Glory & Grace

Hangad Music Ministry, one of the most-applauded among the CTK choirs and which had been a CTK mainstay for many years now, launched a new liturgical album, their tenth, called *Glory & Praise*, co-produced by the Jesuit Music Ministry and the Jesuit Communications Foundation, last August 27, a Saturday.



The album launch was timed with the 5 pm anticipated mass at the Church of Gesu in Ateneo de Manila. *Glory & Praise* featured 17 songs, all meant for use in the Holy Eucharist, including several new psalms and responses. The album contains mostly original compositions and arrangements.

After the mass, Hangad performed the rest of the songs in the album that weren’t sung in the mass and added a couple of old favorites.

Hangad began in 1991, bound by their common desire to help others know God through music, and have sung in countless Masses and weddings, performed in numerous fund-raising concerts and events, and had held several workshops for parish choirs, all towards providing everyday inspiration for listeners and fellow music ministers everywhere. In 2006, Hangad won the Awit Award for best inspirational-religious song for “Pieta: Oyayi sa Paanan ni Hesus” from their Easter Journey album.



# CTK Hosts Parochial Teachers of the Diocese

CTK Parish priest Fr. Bong Tupino honored the 165 teachers of our Cubao Diocese parochial schools last August 12, in conjunction with the parish's Jubilee Month for Teachers. Although it was raining hard on a heavy-traffic Friday afternoon, most of the teachers had managed to arrive before 4 pm.

The teachers came from the six parochial schools in the diocese, namely: Immaculate Conception Cathedral School (the largest), Christ the King Catholic School, Saint Joseph Catholic School, Our Lady of Hope Parochial School, Santo Niño Parochial School, and Holy Family Parochial School.

Heading the teacher delegation was Fr. Raymond Joseph L. Arre, STL, the Episcopal Vicar for Catholic Schools and the current Superintendent of the Diocese of Cubao Educational System, Inc. (DOCES).

The first part of the program, conducted at the main church, was the inspirational talk by the distinguished Ateneo de Manila



CTK's Fr. Bong Tupino welcomes the 165 parochial school teachers, the majority of them from Immaculate Conception Cathedral School

instructor, Dr. Onofre Pagsanghan, more popularly known in school and by his students as "Mr. Pagsi". He founded the Ateneo High School Dramatics Society in 1956, which was later renamed Dulaang Sibol in 1966. The Filipino theater group became nationally renowned for its professional presentations. In 1985, he received the first Metrobank Outstanding Educator Award, one of the most prestigious awards that can be given to a teacher. In 2003, he was awarded the Bayaning Gurong Pilipino Award by the ABS-CBN Foundation. What amazed the teacher audience was when Fr. Bong Tupino introduced Mr. Pagsi as already 89 years old, with a 65-year teaching history, and still teaching English and Filipino to Ateneo's high school boys. Despite being 20 plus years over the retirement age, he has no plans of retiring, and intends to continue teaching until can no longer communicate or he loses the passion.

Mr. Pagsi talked about how he got started, why he continues to teach first year high school boys ages 14-15, and what has driven him to continue to teach for more than 65 years. He talked about everyone's search for the meaning of life, and why one of his former students, a valedictorian who came from a rich family, committed suicide. In his death note, the boy had written, "what's the point in living?" Here, Mr. Pagsi quoted-sang relevant passages from the songs Alfie; Georgy Girl; and Touch Me in the Morning.

Which brought Mr. Pagsi to his main point - "God has a plan for everyone. Some jobs only you can do". Which then prompted him to sing from Here

I Am Lord ("Here I am Lord, It is I, Lord, I have heard You calling in the night. I will go Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart."). Pagsi added, "The Lord had entrusted these 160 Ateneo school children into my hands. This is the meaning of my life." So he enjoined everyone to "love your calling with passion. You're not teaching because of your low salary. You're teaching because it's your mission and it's what gives meaning to your life."



Above, teachers of the parochial schools take merienda at the Social Hall; below, Monsiñor Dan Sta. Maria, Fr. Bong Tupino, Fr. Raymond Arre, and Fr. Herbie Santos celebrate the thanksgiving mass.



Mr. Pagsi, reflecting on his own long teaching career, ended the inspirational talk by singing from the song Fill the World With Love. "At the moment in my life when my days are few, and the question I shall ask only you can answer: Was I brave and strong and true? Did I fill the world with love my whole life through?"

After the talk, the teachers were all invited to a merienda at the Parish Social Hall.

More importantly, the parish, through Fr. Bong Tupino, handed out P1,000 gift certificates to all of the teachers who came, as a token of gratitude for all their hard work, commitment and sacrifice. That was an unexpected but happy surprise for everyone.

The merienda was then followed by the 6 pm thanksgiving mass presided by Monsiñor Dan Sta. Maria and concelebrated by Fr. Bong Tupino, Fr. Raymond Arre, and Fr. Herbie Santos.



'Pagsi' Pagsanghan inspiring the parochial teachers of the diocese



# We Will Miss You, Ms. Mel Ortiz . . .

We say goodbye to Ms. Imelda “Mel” Ortiz, who had been the CTK Parish Pastoral Council’s Assistant Secretary for three years, from 2013 to 2016, reporting primarily to Louie Laudico in his role as PPC Head Coordinator during that timeframe.



Unknown to many, Mel finished a BSBA in Management at Central Colleges of the Philippines in 1986. She did her high school at the Pililla Academy and her elementary school at Pililla Elementary Central. Both parents are no longer living but they were the two significant persons in her life, having fostered in her the value of hard work, respect for others, and faith in God.

In her early years, Mel was an OFW. Upon coming back, she struck out on her own for five years, then from 1995 to 1999, she worked both as a pastoral worker, catechist, and LGS liaison. In

1999, Mel became a full-fledged Philippine Catholic Lay Mission (PCLM) member. So right away, From 2000 to 2002, Mel worked as a BEC community organizer with PCLM, assigned to St. Vincent Ferrer in Guinobatan, Albay. Seeing that she did good work, PCLM then sent Mel to Maryknoll Thailand in 2002 where Mel ministered to migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, and prisoners, under the National

Catholic Conference on Migration, or NCCM, program. She also assisted in migrant school construction and clean water projects. In 2008, she was sent to Myanmar to head the storm relief efforts, where she helped set up a feeding program in the Yangon slums. Then for three years, she headed the school established by Maryknoll to provide informal education for 65 boys who resided with the local temple monks and whose parents were migrant workers. She finished up her PCLM assignment

only in December of 2012.

In 2013, her friend Tiny Perfecto, also a former PCLMer, informed her of the CTK job opening. She was interviewed by Fr. Bong Tupino himself and on August 5, 2013, Mel joined the CTK staff. It was a newly-created position so Mel had to create her own job description and sort through the tangled reporting lines that included Fr. Bong, Stewardship Committee, Parish Pastoral Council, parish office, and the various PPC ministries.

Over the past three years, Mel has most enjoyed meeting the parishioners and coordinating the various programs and activities. She’s most impressed that CTK is such an active parish and had mounted the ten outreach programs. She admires the zeal, commitment and the sharing of time, talent and treasure by past and present members of the PPC and she believes Fr. Bong has been a good pastor of the parish as well as administrator.

Mel is slated to leave sometime October and she’s now busy working on her visa. When asked about her future mission, Mel would only say that she looks forward to working with Filipino migrants, if God calls her.

# . . . and We Welcome Ms. Edith Cadion

We say hello to Editha “Edith” Cadion, the new Parish Pastoral Council executive assistant. She started August 1, 2016, replacing our well-loved Mel Ortiz, who had occupied the position for the last three years.



Before joining the Christ the King parish PPC as Executive Assistant, Edith was a full-time Catechist for the Santa Maria della Strada Parish, From June 2013 to May 2016, assigned to do catechetical work with Balara High School (2012-2016), Balara Elementary School (2013-2016), and Quirino High School (2012-2013).

For 13 years from June 2000 to June 2013, Edith was head catechist at Nativity of the Lord Parish in Cubao. Here, she administered to the catechism needs of Cubao Elementary School and Carlos P.

Garcia High School. From June 1994 to June 2000, she was full-time catechist with Most Holy Redeemer Parish on Araneta Avenue, attending to the Betty Go - Belmonte Elementary School children.

Looking back on her 22-year catechetical career, she credits the work in the public schools for maturing her as a Christian. Helping the public school children gave her a lot of fulfillment, especially

her stint at Balara High School. But at the same time, she was also often frustrated by the lack of support from the school principals and from her co-catechists.

Edith initially attended St. Benedict Institute in the Divine Word College in

Vigan, Ilocos Sur. With the encouragement of Msgr. Gerry Santos, she finished her Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education, Major in Religious Education at Pasig Catholic College just two months ago. In 2009, she completed her Missio Canonica, or Salutation and Blessing in the Lord, at the Immaculate Conception Cathedral in Lantana, Cubao. She completed high school at Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University in San Fernando, La Union in 1991.

In addition to formal schooling, Edith had also attended numerous two-day seminars and workshops, such as the 1st and 2nd Philippine Conference on New Evangelization (October 2013, January 2015); Pope Benedict XVI 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Catechesis and Christian Formation Conference (May 2009, May 2010, May 2011, April 2012); and John Paul II Catechetics Youth Ministry Conference (May 2008).

Edith is married to Arthur, who works at Clindisco as Delivery Supervisor, and they live in Don Antonio Heights, Baranggay Holy Spirit, Quezon City.

# Bishop Ongtioco Promotes Stewardship in the Villages



The first village Stewardship Mass by Bishop Ness Ongtioco was at Corinthian Hills last June 26. This was followed by Corinthian Gardens on July 3 and St. Ignatius on July

stewardship way of life, a CTK program that was actually initiated a decade ago during Bishop Ongtioco's term as parish priest. He also thanked the Acropolis community for the very warm welcome. There was a small salu-salo arranged at the end of the mass which Bishop Ness and Fr. Bong participated in.

Most Reverend Bishop Honesto Ongtioco DD, head of the Diocese of Cubao, has been celebrating masses not only in the different vicariates and parishes under the Cubao Diocese but has also gotten into the habit of getting close to the diocese parishioners by celebrating masses in the different gated villages, including those of Christ the King Parish-Greenmeadows.

17. Last August 21, Sunday at 4:30 pm, he celebrated the fourth of the scheduled village masses at Acropolis Greens village, together with CTK parish priest Fr. Bong Tupino, assisted by a number of San Jose seminarians. So Bishop Ness has not yet broken the promise of annually gracing Acropolis and the other villages with his presence in the Holy Mass.

The last of the village masses was at White Plains, held last September 25. These Stewardship Masses at the village were a prelude to the main Stewardship eucharistic celebration at Christ the King last September 4 to celebrate the program's 11th anniversary in the parish.

Bishop Ongtioco shares a deep history with Christ the King Parish-Greenmeadows - some will know that Bishop Ongtioco, while already head of the Cubao diocese, assigned himself temporarily as parish priest of Christ the King Parish-Greenmeadows from 2004 to 2006 after Reverend Monsignor Jaime Mora's retirement.

He reiterated his thanks to the Acropolis community, as he did the parishioners of the other villages before, for imbibing the



# Father Dan's 30th Anniversary Sacerdotal Mass



Reverend Monsignor Dan Sta. Maria, former parish priest of Christ the King Greenmeadows (2006-2012) and now parish priest of Sta.

request for assistance from close friends and parishioners in raising funds for two projects: Tahanang Pari, or the priests' retirement home & community center; and the extension to the Pabahay for Diocese

& Parish Staff. There are currently 60 units in the Antipolo mass housing but with the additional land, the plan is to construct an additional 130 units to accommodate the huge demand.

Rita de Cascia parish as well as concurrent Diocese Vicar General, invited several current and former parishioners, family and friends to celebrate 30 years of priestly ministry with a 30th anniversary sacerdotal mass last August 7, followed by a reception at the Sta. Rita de Cascia parish social hall.



Msgr. Dan took the opportunity to



# Other Parish News in Pictures



Orientation for New PPC officers of the Vicariate of Our Lady of Perpetual Help held July 12 at the CTK Parish Social Hall. In photo are Benjie and Wins Mirasol, Joey Galvez, Regie and Joanne Polancos, David Ong, Henry and Joyce Tanedo.



The 108<sup>th</sup> Marriage Vocation Program for the Engaged conducted by the Family and Life Ministry on August 13-14, 2016 had 44 engaged couple-participants, who braved the torrential rain to complete their marriage preparation program. The group is pictured with their lead couple, Jingo and Ludjie Aldecoa.



At the September Parish Pastoral Council meeting last September 9, Worship Ministry head Leila Banico goes over the September to November 2016 liturgical calendar with PPC members, left. Right, Treasurer Elise del Rosario reviews the budget requests for the last four months of this calendar year and asks the ministry heads to start thinking of their 2017 plans and programs.



Mila del Fonso, head of CTK's Legion of Mary - Mary Queen of Peace chapter, lights the candles during the September 3's First Saturday Devotion-Prayers to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Mercy. The devotees, which usually number over a dozen, recite 2000 Hail Marys starting at 7:30 am and ending at around 4pm, at St. John A and B Hall.



July birthday & wedding anniversary celebrants within the Parish Pastoral Council, with outgoing PPC Executive Assistant Mel Ortiz, at the July 9 PPC meeting



The web site redesign committee met last August 6 to agree on the urgent changes to the old web site and the long-term to-do's to make the site a regular portal for parishioners. Counterclockwise from left, Wins Mirasol, Benjie Mirasol, Althea Geronilla, Leila Banico, webmaster Ruel Tan, Fr. Bong Tupino, and Media co-head Elise del Rosario. Also in the committee but missing at this meeting were Francis Horn and Sheryl Coronel.



100 malnourished schoolchildren, from Grades 1 to 3, of Libis Elementary School are fed daily by the Ladies of Charity, from 8:15 to 9:15 am, in two groups. Feeding program heads are Marite Agbayani and Eileen de Leon (seated, in black, above). Day-to-day coordinators who cook, serve, lead prayers, and clean up include Marites Turingan, Nila Aquino, Tonia Rejano, and Corazon dela Cruz. Assistant Principal Cecil Alinea (in pink blouse, standing) also assisted on the day we visited.



Fr. Bong Tupino blesses Blessed Virgin Mary statues last Sept. 4 in anticipation of the Sept. 8 Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary



# Parish Hosts Catechetical Instructors During CTK's Jubilee Month for Catechists

Christ the King Parish Greenmeadows feted 136 catechists of the Diocese of Cubao last September 16, in celebration of the parish's Jubilee Month (September) for Catechists. The Cubao catechists are tasked with giving optional religious instruction to some 50 public elementary schools and 14 public high schools in south Quezon City.



Above, early arrivals with Fr. Bong in front of welcome sign; below, other early arrivals with Sr. Virginia Villanueva, their coordinator.



The 136 catechists started to arrive at 3:30 pm, consisting of two major groups: one, the full-time catechists, and second, the 'volunteer' (or part-time) catechists. Of the 136, 43 were full-time catechists and 93 were volunteers. Volunteers usually handle only three to four sections a week while full-timers, who are considered diocese staff, could be assigned as many as 12 to 15 sections weekly. Also, volunteers tend to handle lower grades like Grades 2, 3 and 4 while the full-time catechists handle the higher elementary years and high school levels. Volunteers were usually mothers or grandmothers who could spare a few hours a week in between housework. In a few cases, they were full-time employees and doing catechesis on the side. Volunteer catechists have to complete the nine-week diploma course before being allowed to teach catechism. On the other hand, full-time catechists usually

have to complete the four-month training program in religious education. The volunteer catechists work under the supervision of Coordinator Sister Virginia Villanueva.

The hosting started with merienda fare served at the CTK Formation Center, with the full-time catechists staying at St. Luke and the larger group of volunteers at St. Mark and St. Matthew across the hall.

During the merienda, Fr. Bong gave out P1,000 gift certificates to each of the 136 catechists as the parish's gift and token of appreciation for their hard work and dedication in teaching catechism.



Fr. Bong Tupino hands out the gifts to the catechists at St. Luke Room, above, and at St. Matthew Room, below. Bottom, Fr. Bong with the two longest-serving catechists in the diocese.



At 5:00 pm, the catechists made their way to the Main Church to listen to Fr. Manuel 'Manoling' V. Francisco SJ. Fr. Manoling is the composer of over 150 liturgical songs that are sung all over the world, wherever Filipinos gather for worship, such as 'I Will Sing Forever', 'Tanging Yaman', 'Take and Receive', 'One More Gift', 'Sa Yo Lamang', 'Hindi Kita Malilimutan'.



Fr. Manoling warms up the catechist crowd as he starts his talk while Fr. Bong looks on



Fr. Manoling started with a couple of 'icebreakers' before proceeding to his talk - 'Mary, the Face of Living-Out the Mercy of God'. The first part was on Mary - how she could have been branded an adulterer; how Joseph almost divorced her; how her Magnificat became a song of praise for God's protection and why it was banned by several governments; how she cared for Elizabeth till childbirth; how she requested Jesus to act at Cana to avoid the newly-wed couple from being embarrassed; and how she remained a 'mother' for the disciples after Christ's death.

He then talked about Pope Francis - his definition of mercy; that mercy can overcome any barrier; how the Mother Church teaches mercy by example; why he felt the imperative to visit Tacloban after typhoon Yolanda; why the Vatican installed showers, given out sleeping bags, and enlisted volunteer barbers for the poor.

Fr. Manoling concluded by quoting Fr. Matt Malone SJ - 'the goal of Christian faith is to be holy, and the way to holiness is through a merciful heart'.

The catechists then stayed for the thanksgiving mass at 6:00 pm, officiated by Fr. Manoling Francisco and Fr. Bong Tupino.