



**JANUARY 2018. Issue 1. Vol 13**

**From the Desk of Monsignor Ron  
Straight to The Hearts**

## Santo Niño de Cebú



Image of Señor Santo Niño de Cebu

The **Santo Niño de Cebú** ([Cebuano](#): Balaang Bata sa Sugbo, [Filipino](#): Batang Banal ng Cebu, [Spanish](#): Santo Niño de Cebú) is a [Roman Catholic](#) title of the [Child Jesus](#) based on a religious relic icon in [Cebu City](#) of the [Philippines](#).<sup>[1]</sup> The image is venerated as miraculous by many [Filipino Catholics](#).<sup>[2][3]</sup> It is one of the oldest Christian relics in the Philippines,<sup>[4]</sup> originally given in 1521 as a gift by explorer [Ferdinand Magellan](#) to [Rajah Humabon](#) and his wife when he landed on the island.<sup>[5]</sup>

The statue measures approximately twelve inches tall, is made of a dark wood in baroque style and depicts the Child Jesus as a king dressed like Spanish royalty.<sup>[6]</sup> The expressions, accessories and hand posture of Santo Nino de Cebu are similar to the [Infant Jesus of Prague](#) now located in [Czech Republic](#). It is believed that both statues originated from the same European source, with the devotion to Santo Nino starting earlier of the two.<sup>[6]</sup> The statue is clothed in rich fabrics, wears jewelry such as gilded neck chain and bears [imperial regalia](#) including a gold crown, [globus cruciger](#), and various sceptres mostly donated by devotees.

The image received papal recognition on 28 April 1965, when [Pope Paul VI](#) issued a papal bull for the [Canonical Coronation](#) of the statue and raised the church that houses it to a [basilica status](#) to mark the 400th anniversary of the first Christian mission and rediscovery of the statue in Cebu.<sup>[7][8]</sup> The image has historically attracted devotional worship in Philippines, attracting devotional worship, processions and pilgrimage, with numerous Filipino pilgrims touching or kissing the foot of the statue's stand.<sup>[9]</sup> There is an annual feast every January on the third Sunday which is marked by fiesta, [simulog](#) dancing in the streets, and prayers to Senor Santo Nino statue.<sup>[5]</sup>

(Continued on page 4)



We live in an ever-changing world and also in a country which is far less Christian than it used to be. We live in a world where materialism and self-centredness have become the “gods” of daily life. Sometimes we get pessimistic but there is a positive side to everything. For example, in the Western world there is a shortage of priests; for some people this is seen as a disaster; for others it is seen as a blessing, a God-given opportunity to become a new church for a new age. Whatever view we take it is a situation we have to respond to through our daily commitment.

I always like to go to St Paul for he teaches us so much about what it means to be Church. St. Paul teaches us that we are all parts of one body. We all have different gifts and for the body to function properly we have to put all these gifts at the disposal of the community. All of this we are familiar with, for we have heard it over and over again. To all of us St. Paul tells us that we all have to work for the Lord with untiring effort and not to give up as trials come; as well, it is vital that we all keep on praying.

However, there is a difficulty. There is a passage in the Gospels, a parable of Jesus, where we have people invited to a banquet, but, one after another, they make their excuses for not attending. I think this is one of the main dangers of today. We are unwilling to get involved; we are unwilling to respond to the call of God. I must admit that I find this rather incredible. God created us for a purpose and that purpose includes being a Christian which is the one common job and location we all have. No matter what else we do in life, if we fail as Christians then our lives will be a waste of time.

(Continued on page 2)

## From the Desk of Monsignor Ron Straight to The Hearts

### Hearts of Jesus and Mary (HJM) Prayer Community OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To be a group of people who are journeying together in faith, guided by the Spirit of God, growing and learning from each other, and whose life, as a whole, follows the footsteps of the Master Himself...that is, a life of prayer and active, loving service to others.

### SERVANT LEADERS UNDER THE SPIRITUAL DIRECTION OF MSGR RON MCFARLANE, PARISH PRIEST OF ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE PARISH, MARAYONG

#### PASTORAL TEAM

Mirza Alata, Joseph Cacdac  
Cezar Estrera, Nenette Gapud  
Len Limguangco

#### MINISTRIES:

##### APOSTOLATE

Head Servant: Noel Tolentino  
Deputy: Ladybyrd Buan

##### GROWTH

Head Servant: Josie Durante  
Deputy: Sam Singh

##### MUSIC

Head Servant: Myra Estrera  
Deputy: Doris Barrios

##### PRAISE & WORSHIP

Head Servant: Shonee Attwood  
Deputy: Marilyn Villa

##### PRAYERS & INTERCESSORY

Head Servant: Mercy Aquino  
Deputy: Eva Velez

##### SERVICE

Head Servant: Paolo (Boy) Emperado  
Deputies: Tony Villa  
Edgar Reyes

##### SERVICE FINANCE

Deputy: Lorie Atienza

##### SERVICE SECRETARIAT

Deputies: Anna Nifas  
Rose Ferrer

I would like to go back to St. Paul for a moment because he presents a profound insight into the nature of our belonging to one another and now belonging to Christ. This sense of belonging to one another is something worth thinking about because it will affect the way we behave towards one another. When we wonder what is the point of making the right choice, doing the gracious thing, or being generous, remember that even the smallest act of goodwill makes a difference.

As we move into this new year, I would recommend that we ask ourselves some questions. Are we so busy living our own way that we have no time to worship or pray and thus make our relationship with God very fragile? How selfishly do we control our time, seeing life only from what we want that we miss out on the wonderful opportunities God wants to give us? And have we fallen into the trap that we don't, in practice, think we need God, the God who made us, the God who knows all about us, the God who is the meaning of our lives?

I suggest these things at this time of the year so that if changes are needed in our lives we will see this as an opportunity to make a new beginning in the priorities we have and in the way we live our lives. I believe it is vitally important that our relationship with our God is central to everything else we do, to the extent that every moment is part of our worship of our God and our relationship with him.

### Heart of the Matter - EIC



A blessed and fruitful 2018 to us all!

Do you ever notice that every new year, we get excited about the chance to start again? Regardless of what the previous year was like: - whether it was filled with happiness and success, or tragedy and sorrow, we look forward to surpassing last year's events by doing better in the new year. As we start mapping out our goals and resolutions, it is hoped that the following quotes and verses can give us an insight into our God of new beginnings.

*He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. (Psalm 40:3)*  
*Faith never knows where it is being led, but it loves and knows the One who is leading. (Oswald Chambers)*  
*Small deeds done are better than great deeds planned. (Peter Marshall)*  
*You shall eat old store long kept, and you shall clear out the old to make way for the new. (Leviticus 26:10)*  
*God specializes in giving people a fresh start. (Rick Warren)*  
*So never lose an opportunity of urging a practical beginning, however small, for it is wonderful how often in such matters the mustard-seed germinates and roots itself. (Florence Nightingale)*

May we use prayers and the Scriptures to allow God to guide and bless us in our faith journey!

# WAZZ-ON?

## HJM PRAYER MEETING, SAT, 13 JANUARY 2018

PLACE: FR BYRNE CENTRE, MARAYONG  
TIME: 7.30 PM to 9.30 PM  
LEADER: SIS MERCY AQUINO  
THEME: WITNESSING/PERSONAL SHARING

## CORE MEETING, FRI, 19 JANUARY 2018

PLACE: FR BYRNE CENTRE, MARAYONG  
TIME: 8.00 PM - 10.00 PM

## FEAST OF SENOR SANTO NINO, 21 JANUARY 2018

PLACE: THE GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH  
136 Hyatts Road, PLUMPTON  
TIME: 2.30 PM  
CONTACT: SIS MILA ALFORQUE, MOB 0478 707 516

## HJM PRAYER MEETING, SAT, 27 JANUARY 2018

PLACE: FR BYRNE CENTRE, MARAYONG  
TIME: 7.30 PM to 9.30 PM  
LEADER: SIS MYRA ESTRERA  
THEME: TEACHING

## FIRST FRIDAY MASS, 2 FEBRUARY 2018

PLACE: ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE PARISH  
TIME: 7.00 PM  
FOLLOWED BY HOLY HOUR THEN CHURCH CLEANING

## PRAISE AND WORSHIP MINISTRY PROFILES THIS MONTH'S PRAYER LEADERS

### MERCY AQUINO



Sis Mercy Aquino is one of the pioneers of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary (HJM) prayer community and has been an active member for over 23 years now. She is married to Bro Remy and they have been blessed with four children all of whom are now adults and have their own families.

Over those two decades, Sis Mercy has served various ministries in the prayer community. For a considerable time, she served as the Head Servant of both the Apostolate Ministry and the Prayers and Intercessory Ministry where she really enjoyed serving the Lord by touching the hearts of those who needed God's healing grace.

Sis Mercy, who was previously the Facilitator of Our Lady of Mercy Bible Cell, was a member of St John Paul II Bible Cell during the last two years and is now a member of Our Lady of Fatima Bible Cell for 2017-2018.

Using her spiritual gifts, Sis Mercy serves God by reaching out to people who are in need. Also, she is a member of a Coordinating Committee in charge of organising the many social activities of HJM such as Christmas party, family day, etc.

Sis Mercy currently serves at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Seven Hills and Mary Queen of the Family Parish in Blacktown as a reader and a Minister of Communion.

### A LEADER'S PRAYER

Lord, I have been incredibly blessed for so many years now to serve You. It is in that recognition that I find myself amazed at how far I have come -- and over how many hills and valleys I have travelled. Along this path I have learned a great deal about perseverance -- as I have learned to trust You -- so You could use me to help others.

It is here in the study of Your Word, and under the guiding light of Your Holy Spirit who helps me to go deeper in my understanding, that I will find the tools I need to lead.

I remember someone once telling me that a leader must first be a follower -- someone who knows how to follow You.

This hasn't always been easy because of my own human pride and selfishness -- but it has certainly proven to be true. Jesus, You are my leader, You alone are worthy of the honour and glory, and You are THE LEADER.



### MYRA ESTRERA



Sis Myra has been a committed member of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary (HJM) prayer community since its inception. Her husband, Bro Cezar, is an equally committed member and is a member of the Pastoral Team. Given that both have musical inclination and talent, HJM's Music Ministry has been lucky to have them on board.

Given Sis Myra's long experience in the prayer community and the knowledge gained over the years, she previously held the Head Servant position in the Praise and Worship Ministry responsible for the conduct of regular prayer meetings. For as long as people can remember, Sis Myra has been a valued member of the Music Ministry where she provides coaching to the singers.

Sis Myra previously gave a talk on the topic 'Growing in Christian Life' during a Life in the Spirit Seminar conducted by HJM.

Both Sis Myra and Bro Cezar are facilitators of John Paul II Bible Cell

The Estrera marital union has been blessed with three beautiful daughters, namely: Mitchie, Justinne and Jennifer and two gorgeous grandkids now whose names are Raffy and Layla. Furthermore, Sis Myra is sister to Mirza, daughter to Mama Cepring and cousin to Dolette and Ed.



*(Continued from page 1)*

The Holy Child's image is liturgically celebrated during weekly Mass, novenas and Christian holidays. Along with the [Black Nazarene](#) statue of Jesus Christ, it is the most popular object of devotion in the Philippines.<sup>[10]</sup> The *Santo Niño* image is replicated in many homes and business establishments, with different titles reinterpreted in various areas of the country. It is one of the most beloved and recognizable cultural icons in the Philippines, with the original permanently encased within [bulletproof glass](#) in a chapel at the [Basilica Menor del Santo Niño](#).<sup>[11]</sup>

### History

The Santo Nino de Cebu image was originally produced by Flemish artisans, according to a [hagiography](#), based on a vision of [Teresa of Avila](#) a mystic of the 16th century.<sup>[12]</sup>

In early 1521, the Portuguese explorer [Ferdinand Magellan](#), in the service of [Charles V](#) of [Spain](#), was on his voyage to find a westward route to spice islands. In April 7, 1521, he landed in [Limasawa](#), [Southern Leyte](#), and met local ruler named Raja Kulambu, who introduced him to the ruler of Cebu island named [Rajah Humabon](#) (some records refer to him as Sultan Humabon<sup>[13]</sup>) and his wife Hara Humamay. On April 14, 1521, Magellan presented them with three gifts, a cross, an image of Mary and Santo Nino de Cebu as a part of their baptism, and a strategic alliance for territorial conquest. As the host ruler adopted the Catholic faith, he took the [Christian names](#) of Carlos (after Charles V), and his wife took the name Juana (after [Joanna of Castile](#), Charles' mother).<sup>[14][15]</sup> According to Pigafetta – Magellan's companion and memoir writer, along with the ruler, about 500 males there, along with the Sultana and 40 women were also converted by Father Valderrama. At the ceremony, for example, the Raja Kulambu of Limasawa also converted and was renamed as Don Juan, while his Muslim captain was renamed Don Cristobal.<sup>[13]</sup>

A few days after the baptism, Magellan undertook a war expedition on the behalf of the newly named Carlos.<sup>[16]</sup> attacked Mactan Island, burning down hamlets who resisted.<sup>[13]</sup> The residents led by Lapu Lapu defended Magellan's attack with force, and Magellan died on 27 April 1521 in the [Battle of Mactan](#), about three weeks after he had arrived in Philippines.<sup>[17]</sup> After Magellan's death, his Spanish colleagues left.<sup>[18]</sup>

The next Spanish expedition arrived on April 27, 1565, again to gain a foothold for a colony to trade spices, and this was led by [Miguel López de Legazpi](#). He attempted a peaceful colonization, but these efforts were rejected. He opened fire on Cebu and burnt the coastal town down destroying 1500 homes and possibly killing 500 people.<sup>[19]</sup> In the ruins of this destruction, the Spanish mariner Juan Camus found the image of the Santo Niño in a pine box. According to the local legend, the survival of the statue was seen as a sign of miracle by the colonizers, and ever since it has been believed to have miraculous powers.<sup>[20]</sup>

The image of the Santo Niño is the oldest surviving Catholic relic in the Philippines, along with the Magellan cross.<sup>[21]</sup> A church to house Santo Niño was built on the spot where the image was found by Juan Camus. The church was originally made out of bamboo and mangrove palm and claims to be the oldest parish in the [Philippines](#). It was reconstructed later, and [Pope Paul VI](#) elevated it to the status of Minor Basilica on its 400th anniversary (Spanish: *Basilica Minore del Santo Niño*).<sup>[7]</sup>

### Feast

The feast, locally known as *Fiesta Señor*, starts on the Thursday after the Solemnity of the [Epiphany](#). Each year, the celebration starts with a dawn procession wherein the replica image of *Santo Niño de Cebu* is brought down to the streets. It is then followed by the [novena](#) Masses, which span nine days.

On the last day of the novena, another dawn procession is held wherein the image of *Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe de Cebu* removed from its shrine and brought to the *Basilica Menor*. After the procession, it will stay for a while in the *Basilica*. Then, the images of *Santo Niño de Cebu* and *Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe de Cebu* are brought to the National Shrine of [St. Joseph](#) in [Mandaue City](#) to be reunited with the icon of the church's namesake, thus forming the [Holy Family](#). This transfer, which is common in fiestas throughout the country, is called *Traslación*.

On the morning of the *vesperas* ("eve", i.e., the day before) of the feast, the images of *Santo Niño de Cebu* and *Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe de Cebu* are brought back to [Cebu City](#) in a fluvial procession that concludes with a reenactment of the first Mass and [baptism](#) in the islands. It is then followed by a grand yet solemn [foot procession](#) in the afternoon, culminating in a [Pontifical Mass](#) concelebrated by bishops and priests. The grand [Sinulog Festival](#) is then held on the following Sunday.

### The Hubo rite

The *Sinulog* procession includes dancing and fiesta in reverence of Santo Nino. Above, a *Sinulog* participant carrying a copy of the Santo Nino statue.

The festival officially ends on the Friday after the icon's feast day, and it is marked with the traditional *Hubo* (Cebuano, "undress") rite. During a Mass, the basilica's priests and sacristans ceremoniously and reverently strip the *Santo Niño* of its festal [vestments](#) and [regalia](#).

There is a strict order of divesting the icon: first the crown is removed, followed by the [orb](#) and [sceptre](#); then the belt, cape, tunic, inner garments; and finally, the boots. The priest recites a short petition before each removal, which is marked with a festive drum roll. The priest then chants *Christe exaudi nos* (Latin for "Christ, graciously hear us").

The priest then raises the icon for veneration, carefully dips it in a basin of scented water four times, and wipes it dry. He then dresses it in a plainer set of robes, and replaces the regalia in reverse order of divestiture. Upon replacing each item, he intones a prayer and leads the congregation in singing the refrain of the *Laudes Regiae*: *Christus Vincit; Christus Regnat; Christus, Christus Imperat* ("Christ Conquers; Christ Reigns; Christ Commands").

The rite is explained as highlighting Christ's humility, and on the part of the individual believer, it should inspire an internal, spiritual conversion. It was only in 1990 when the Augustinian priests caring for the icon first made the rite public.<sup>[22]</sup>

The Santo Niño was popularly considered the official [patron](#) of Cebu, but the [Church in the Philippines](#) suppressed the notion and clarified that it is not the representation of a saint that [intercedes](#) to [God](#) but rather [God in the person of Jesus](#). Instead, the Archbishop of Cebu, [Cardinal Ricardo Vidal](#), declared *Our Lady of Guadalupe* of Cebú as the principal patroness in 2002.

The devotion to the Santo Niño is common with worldwide veneration of the [Infant Jesus of Prague](#). The image is found in many houses, business establishments, and public transportation. Traditionally, the image is often dressed in one of two colours: red is common for domestic images, while green – symbolising luck – is worn by those enshrined in businesses. It is also often dressed in miniature costumes that often reflect the profession of its devotee such as physicians, nurses, policemen, or teachers. Another popular variation is the [Santo Niño de Atocha](#) which in the country is uniquely in a standing pose rather than seated as with the Spanish version.  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santo\\_Ni%C3%B1o\\_de\\_Ceb%C3%BA](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santo_Ni%C3%B1o_de_Ceb%C3%BA)

# A Glimpse of This Month's Featured Saints

## SAINT AGNES



St. Agnes of Rome was born and raised in a Christian family. Agnes was very beautiful and belonged to a wealthy family. Her hand in marriage was highly sought after, and she had many high ranking men chasing after

However, Agnes made a promise to God never to stain her purity. Her love for the Lord was great and she hated sin even more than death!

Whenever a man wished to marry Agnes, she would always say, "Jesus Christ is my only Spouse."

According to legend, the young men she turned away became so angry and insulted by her devotion to God and purity that they began to submit her name to authorities as a Christian follower.

Procop accused her of being a Christian and brought her to his father, the Governor. The Governor promised Agnes wonderful gifts if she would only deny God, but Agnes refused. He tried to change her mind by putting her in chains, but her lovely face shone with joy.

Next he sent her to a place of sin, but an Angel protected her. At last, she was condemned to death. Even the pagans cried to see such a young and beautiful girl going to death. Yet, Agnes was as happy as a bride on her wedding day. She did not pay attention to those who begged her to save herself. "I would offend my Spouse," she said, "if I were to try to please you. He chose me first and He shall have me!" Then she prayed and bowed her head for the death-stroke of the sword.

Other accounts of Agnes' life hold the Prefect Sempronius responsible for her martyrdom. It is said he condemned the young girl to be dragged through the streets naked. Some versions of the legend state that Agnes' hair grew instantly to cover her entire body and all the men who attempted to rape the beautiful virgin were immediately struck blind.

The stories go on to explain that another man presided over Agnes' trial after Sempronius excused himself. The new man sentenced Agnes to death. At first, Agnes was tied to a stake, but either the wood would not burn or the flames parted away from her. This prompted an officer to draw his sword and behead the girl. It is believed that her blood, which poured out to the stadium, was soaked up with cloths by Christians.

She died a virgin-martyr at the age of 12 or 13 on 21 January 304.

In 1858, Father Caspar Rehr, an Austrian missionary founded the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes.

St. Agnes is widely known as the patron saint of young girls. She is also the patron saint of chastity, rape survivors and the Children of Mary. She is often represented with a lamb, the symbol of her virgin innocence, and a palm branch, like other martyrs.

Her feast day is celebrated on January 21. On her feast day, it is customary for two lambs to be brought in to be blessed by the pope.

[http://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint\\_id=106](http://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=106)

Contributed by Anna Nifas

## SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS



Thomas is believed to have been born in the castle of Roccasecca in the old county of the Kingdom of Sicily, which is now known as the Lazio region of Italy, in 1225. His parents were well-off, but as the youngest son Thomas was expected to enter the monastery.

It is believed that Thomas was introduced to his philosophical influences at the university, where he also met John of St. Julian, a Dominican preacher, who influenced him to join the recently founded Dominican Order.

Thomas was held captive in the castle for one year as his family tried to keep him from joining the Dominican Order.

Thomas was quiet and seldom spoke at the university, leading other students to believe he was mentally delayed, but Mangus prophetically said, "You call him the dumb ox, but in his teaching he will one day produce such a bellowing that it will be heard throughout the world."

In 1252, Thomas returned to Paris to earn his master's degree in theology.

In 1265, Thomas was summoned to Rome to serve as the papal theologian and was later ordered by the Dominican Chapter of Agnani to teach at the *studium conventuale*, which was the first school to teach the full range of philosophical subjects of both moral and natural natures.

He continued to write and released several more books until 1268, when he was called to Paris for a second teaching regency.

At the conclusion of his regency, the Dominicans called Thomas to establish a university wherever he wanted with a staff of whomever he wished. He established the university in Naples and took the regent master post. In 1273 Thomas was seen by the sacristan Domenic of Caserta to be crying and levitating in prayer before an icon of the crucified Christ at the Dominican convent of Naples, in the Chapel of Saint Nicholas.

During this prayer, Christ is said to have told him, "You have written well of me, Thomas. What reward would you have for your labor?"

Thomas replied, "Nothing but you, Lord."

Following this exchange, something happened but Thomas never wrote or spoke of it. He abandoned his routine and, when begged to return to work, replied, "I cannot, because all that I have written seems like straw to me."

He received his last rites and prayed, "I receive Thee, ransom of my soul. For love of Thee have I studied and kept vigil, toiled, preached and taught..." Thomas died on March 7, 1274. On July 18, 1323, Pope John XXII canonized him.

A revision of the Roman Calendar changed his feast day to January 28, the date his relics were moved to Toulouse. Pope Pius V declared Saint Thomas a doctor of the church, saying Thomas was "the most brilliant light of the Church."

[http://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint\\_id=253](http://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=253)

Contributed by Anna Nifas

**APOSTOLATE MINISTRY**  
**URGES HIM TO SEEK THE**  
**WORD OF THE LORD**



**Bible Cell:** **Blessed Trinity**  
**Facilitators:** Bro Rod and Sis Len Limguangco **Deputies:** Rudy/Agnes Rupac  
**Members:** Martha Aquino/Ladybyrd Buan, Eden De Leon, Fe Hernandez, Freddie/Baby Lorenzo  
**Message:** NIL  
**Action:** NIL  
**Next Meeting:** TBA

**Bible Cell:** **Our Lady of Fatima**  
**Facilitator:** Bro Romy and Sis Josie Durante **Deputy:** Cheryl Dequina  
**Members:** Mercy Aquino, Iodine Carreno, Romy/Nenette Gapud, Elmer/Anna Nifas  
**Message:** NIL  
**Action:** NIL  
**Next Meeting:** TBA

**Bible Cell:** **Our Lady of Perpetual Help**  
**Facilitators:** Bro Noel and Sis Jackie Tolentino **Deputy:** Gloria Ferrer  
**Members:** Pilarly Balgos, Valerian/Dora D'Lima, Rose Ferrer, Ding Rivera, Joe/Rita Vella  
**Message:** NIL  
**Action:** NIL  
**Next Meeting:** TBA

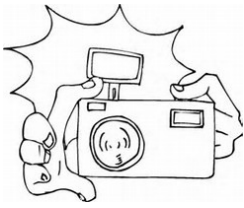
**Bible Cell:** **St. John Paul II**  
**Facilitators:** Bro Cezar and Sis Myra Estrera **Deputies:** Sam/Siony Singh  
**Members:** Col/Shonee Attwood, Mary Bonavita, James Daas, Lalaine Dunuan, Jun/Vita Hurtado, Filomena Petroni  
**Message:** NIL  
**Action:** NIL  
**Next Meeting:** TBA

**Bible Cell:** **St Joseph**  
**Facilitators:** Bro David and Sis Mel Bustamante **Deputies:** Edgar/Jeanne Reyes  
**Members:** Lia Banzuelo, Leighton Farrell, Analiza Limguangco, Nenette Motio, Marilou Van Asten  
**Message:** NIL  
**Action:** NIL  
**Next Meeting:** TBA

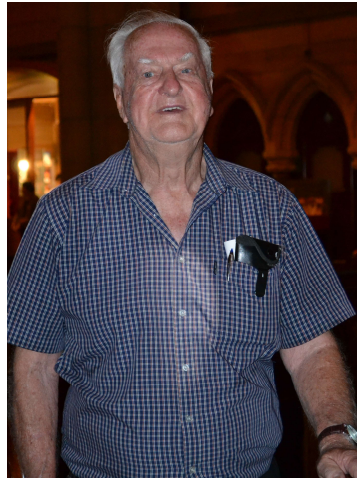
**Bible Cell:** **St. Padre Pio**  
**Facilitators:** Bro Tony and Sis Marilyn Villa **Deputies:** Nards/Doris Barrios  
**Members:** Danny/Linda Aguas, Mirza Alata, Boy/Ghie Emperado  
**Message:** NIL  
**Action:** NIL  
**Next Meeting:** TBA

**Bible Cell:** **St. Paul**  
**Facilitators:** Bro Marcial and Sis Tet Cacdac **Deputy:** Milabel Estrera  
**Members:** Soc Amos, Efren/Lorie Atienza, Lucy Dewi, Merlie/Nori Domingo, Glen/Charmaine Silva, Erna Sow  
**Message:** NIL  
**Action:** NIL  
**Next Meeting:** TBA





***SMILE ... YOU'RE ON CANDID CAMERA ...***





*SMILE ... YOU'RE ON CANDID CAMERA ...*





# It's Joke Time!



If you want to change the world, do it when you are a bachelor. After marriage, you can't even change a TV channel.

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Listening to wife is like reading the terms and condition of a website. You understand nothing but you still agree.

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Chess is the only game in the world that reflects the status of the husband. The poor King can only take one step at a time while the mighty Queen can do whatever she likes.

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All men are brave, horror movies don't scare them. But 5 missed calls from wife, surely does.

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**Author: Unknown**  
**Contributed by Cezar**

A wife got so mad at her husband she packed his bags and told him to get out. As he walked to the door she yelled, "I hope you die a long, slow, painful death." He turned around and said, "So, you want me to stay?"

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The man approached the very beautiful woman in the large supermarket and asked, "You know, I've lost my wife here in the supermarket. Can you talk to me for a couple of minutes?" "Why?" "Because every time I talk to a beautiful woman my wife appears out of nowhere."

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One night a man walks into a bar looking sad. The bartender asks the man what he wants. The man says "Oh just a beer". The bartender asked the man "What's wrong why are you so down today?". The man said "My wife and I got into a fight and she said she wouldn't talk to me for a month". The bartender said "So what's wrong with that"? The man said "Well the month is up tonight".

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**<http://www.unijokes.com>**  
**Contributed by Elmer Nifas**

## SECRETARIAT (SERVICE MINISTRY) PRESENTS OUR BIRTHDAY AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRANTS

Best wishes to the following couples who celebrate  
their wedding anniversaries this month:

Cezar and Myra Estrera	7 Jan
Ryan and Christine Barbadillo	8 Jan
David and Mel Bustamante	17 Jan
Frank and Lita Basco	30 Jan



Many happy returns to the following brothers  
and sisters who celebrate their birthdays this month:

Mila Santos	2 Jan	James Dass	10 Jan
Rose Dela Cruz	3 Jan	Denzil Jayasinghe	11 Jan
Myra Estrera	3 Jan	Jimmy Salom	11 Jan
Clariza Pag-asa	3 Jan	Nora Sayo	11 Jan
Mercy Aquino	4 Jan	Maricor Espinosa	12 Jan
Mercedita Caragay	4 Jan	Eleonora Emperado	13 Jan
Valerian D'Lima	4 Jan	Ghing Gamban	13 Jan
Ermalyn Ilagan	4 Jan	Rosemarie Ujmiak	13 Jan
Malou Brown	5 Jan	Anna Nifas	16 Jan
Nina Lobo	5 Jan	Ed Danao	21 Jan
Emma Perez	8 Jan	Zandro Ilagan	22 Jan
Stan Baranowski	9 Jan	Adel Ramos	29 Jan
Myrna Hitchcock	9 Jan	Erna Sow	29 Jan

**Prayers and Intercessory Ministry requests  
prayers for the following HEARTS:**

### HEARTS ASKING FOR PRAYERS:

Linda AGUAS	Joshua (son of
Roger AGUILAR	Filomena's cousin)
Mercy AQUINO	Freddie LORENZO
Doris BARRIOS	Mary Ann MANALILI
Nards BARRIOS	Nora MOLINA
Paquito CACDAC	Belen ORTIZ
Solomon CASSAR	Emma PEREZ
Digna V. CLARK	Boy RAMIREZ
Yeye DELARA	Magdalena RAMIREZ
Greg DIVEN	Jimmy SALOM
Romy DURANTE	Ernesto SAYO
Christian EMPERADO	Marilou VAN ASTEN
Gus FERRER	Eva VELEZ
Julie GATT	Romualdo VERDAN
Mariles HOLLERO	Maribel WASLOWICZ
Carmen INDOLOS	Alan YUEN
Danilo JIMENEZ, Sr.	ALL SENIORS

### HEARTS CALLED TO ETERNAL LIFE:

Please send feedback to the  
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