



The Real Presence

Taga-Sambang Gabi ng Eukaristiya

(Nocte Adoratricum Eucharistia)



ANF National Council Office 3rd floor, Pius XII Catholic Center, UN Avenue, Manila. Tel. No. 353-99-77

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Meaning of *Eucharist*?

In *Honoured* (2003), novelist Roberta Kells Dorr attempts to visualize the manner in which St. Luke starts the compilation of his gospel ... by conversing ... with Mary, the mother of Jesus. A scene opens on Mary, John and Luke about to re-visit Bethlehem, the birth place of Jesus.

Leaving Jerusalem – St. Anne’s Church marks the place where the house of Mary’s parents stood which the author assumes Mary and John made home as mother and son – Luke narrates: *The trip to Bethlehem was on borrowed donkeys but provisions were organized and relatives notified. Mary wanted to visit the stable where she and Joseph had found shelter the night when Jesus was born.*

The day before we left, Mary showed me a small carved chest. With unshed tears, Mary said: This box is said to belong to King David. It contains the swaddling cloth I wrapped Jesus in, the cords that held it in place and the phylacteries he used for prayer. He observed all the laws and customs. In fact, He said: I came not to destroy the Law but to fulfill it.

Mary continued: Jesus prayed in the most formal way and there were many times He went alone into the mountains and talked to God. He lived very simply and had few possessions. I asked her if Jesus worked with Joseph in the carpentry shop. Mary replied: Yes, He made yokes for oxen and frames for windows. He worked hard to make the yoke fir the animals shoulders so the burden they carried was as light as possible. I was always astonished that He would go to extra trouble to make things easier for them.

We left Jerusalem early in the morning, before dawn. The cobble-stoned streets were empty; a few shop-keepers were arranging their wares. Roosters crowed in the courtyards. The Roman soldier at the Joppa Gate refused to let us pass. The Gate was closed from sun-down to sun-up. We had to wait.

The road to Bethlehem winds around the Valley of Rephaim – the valley of the giants – where King David fought the Philistines. The road descends to a glen filled with roses in bloom. We left the glen on a broad path and came to a well where we stopped for a drink of clear, cold water.

John explained that the Magis stopped at this well on their way to Bethlehem See page 7, Column 1 >>>



Shepherds in Night Adoration of Baby Jesus.

What Is Eucharistic Adoration?

by Rev. Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J., S.T.D.

A Vision for Visions. Let us take a closer look at the sacred vessel, the Monstrance, which houses the Body, Soul and Divinity of Our Lord. The Monstrance draws all eyes to the Sacred Host that is seemingly surrounded by rays, like the sun. Similarly, we each are called to be a "Living Monstrance", radiating the presence of the Lord Who dwells in us.

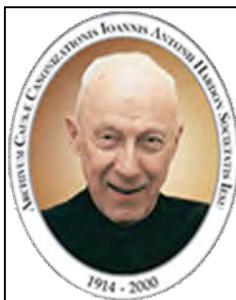
The Monstrance is surmounted by a Cross ... what does this tell us? Let us look at Jesus in the Monstrance, Who humbles Himself to come before us as a piece of bread. Let us reflect on our own life's situa-

tions that call us to humility. Are we humble, as God wants us to be, to bear our Crosses daily? Other virtues such as patience, temperance, self-control and piety will soon follow.

A Taste of Heaven awaits us in Eucharistic Adoration! Indeed, Earth is joined to Heaven each time we are united with the Saints and Angels in extolling God, Who, in worship we see, if not with the sight of eyes, then with the eyes of faith.

We are called to abide in the Eucharistic Presence of our Lord, like the Saints and Angels do in Heaven, as they behold the glory of

God and sing His praise! The Saints and Angels wait upon the Lord and do His Will in all things. Their presence magnifies the Lord. They also intercede (for us) before the Lord.



When we look upon the Sacred Host, we look at Jesus, the Son of God. Do we see Him in all His glory and majesty? Do our lips proclaim His praise? Do our souls magnify the Lord - making Him clearer, more in focus, and larger to others around us? Do we place the needs of

others before Him? Are we open to the Will of God and strive for perfection in our spiritual lives so that we, too, may one day join the company of Saints in Heaven?

It is at this moment when we are most intimately in communion with God that we experience a taste of Heaven, a foreshadowing of what it will be like, when, by God's grace, we enter into everlasting life. "Indeed, this is the will of My Father, that everyone who looks upon the Son and believes in Him shall have eternal life. Him I will raise up on the last day." (John 6:40)

(To be continued January 2013)

Alliance of the Two Hearts: Hope of the World

By Rev. Fr. Michael O'Carroll, C.S.Sp.
Shared by Assisi Development Foundation, Inc.

Pope Pius XII writes in *Acta Apostolicae Sedis* 13 (1921) – Official Acts of the Apostolic See: *In order that more abundant blessings may attend the Christian flock and the entire human race, the faithful should ensure that, to devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, they closely unite devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the Mother of God.*

It was the will of God that, in the accomplishment of man's redemption, the most Blessed Virgin Mary be inseparably associated with Christ, with the result that our salvation has proceeded from the love and sufferings of Jesus Christ intimately linked with the love and sorrows of His Mother ... hence, it is fitting that we honor the most loving heart of our heavenly Mother with a corresponding expression of loyalty, love, gratitude and reparation ... thus, we commit this memorable act of consecration by which we solemnly dedicate God's Holy Church, and the entire world, to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

An Irish-born Frenchman, Rev. Fr. Nicolas Tuite de McCarthy, SJ (died 1853) speaks of Mary's co-redemptive love for us: *What does Mary do for us? While Jesus offers Himself to His Father for the expiation of our sins, Mary offers Jesus to the Father ... offended by our sins ... to appease His vengeance on this innocent lamb ... and to spare us.*

Luke 1:26-38, the Annunciation. The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth ... to a young virgin betrothed to ... Joseph, of the family of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel said: *Rejoice, full of grace, the Lord is with you!*

Mary listened and was troubled at these words, wondering what this greeting meant. The angel said: *Fear not, Mary, for God has looked kindly on you. You shall conceive in your womb and bear a son; you shall name Him Jesus. He will be great and shall rightly be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give Him the kingdom of David, His ancestor; He will rule over the people of Jacob forever and His reign shall have no end.*

Mary said to the angel: How can this be if I am a virgin? The angel said to her: The holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will over-shadow you; therefore, the Holy Child to be born shall be called Son of God. Even your cousin Elizabeth is expecting a child in her old age, although she was unable to have a child, and she is now in her sixth month. With God, nothing is impossible.

Mary said: *I am the maid-servant of the Lord, let it be done to me as you have said.* And the angel left her.

Archbishop Paciano B. Aniceto of San Fernando, Pampanga, in celebrating his 50th Sacerdotal Ordination Anniversary on 23 December 2012 in simple festivities at the monastery of the Benedictine missionary-sisters at Mexico,



in his homily, calling her God's dwelling place and, because God is the source of all graces, Mary is full of grace for our petitions ... full of sensitivity to our plight ... full of utility to our needs.

Grace is the power of God healing our spirit, instilling in us the disposition to believe in Him ... and to make us resonate with the face of Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life ... such that we express our love of our fellowmen in a spontaneous and unexpected way.

Archbishop Aniceto will officially celebrate his Sacerdotal Ordination Anniversary on 28 December 2012 at the Metropolitan Cathedral of San Fernando with Their Eminences Luis Antonio G. Cardinal Tagle and Gaudencio B. Cardinal Emeritus Rosales as guests. **(To be continued January 2013)**

The Holy Spirit

Matthew 28:19-20. *Therefore, go and make disciples from all nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to fulfill all I have commanded you. I am with you always to the end of this world.*

The disciples cannot begin

See Page 7, Column 2

St. Joseph

From *Living the Beatitudes with St. Joseph*
by Howard Joseph Q. Dee (2004)

As a humble carpenter, chaste spouse of Mary, the Mother of God; foster father and guardian of the Son of God; faithful and cooperative channel of the Holy Spirit; and obedient surrogate on earth of the Father in Heaven, St. Joseph lived the Spirit of the Beatitudes in the splendor of his many roles and the simplicity of his demeanor.



When the Holy Spirit manifests His presence to Joseph and bestows His supernatural gifts on him, Joseph's life becomes blessed as shepherd of the Holy Family. His life is one of intense joy and sorrow as the suffering God was his foster Son.

As we imitate the life of Jesus through the ways of the Holy Spirit, the spouse of Mary, let us allow St. Joseph to be our guide.

Angels and Archangels

From *Breakfast with Angels* by Traci Mullins (1996).

Ezekiel 28:12-19. The Lord God says: *You were the perfection of wisdom and beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God; your clothing was bejeweled with every precious stone – ruby, topaz, diamond, chrysolite, onyx, jasper, sapphire, carbuncle and emerald – all in beautiful settings of finest gold.*

They were given to you on the day you were created. I appointed you to be the anointed Guardian Angel. You had access to the holy mountain of God. You walked among the stones of fire.

You were perfect in all you did from the day you were created until that time when wrong was found in you. Your great wealth filled you with internal turmoil; and, you sinned. Therefore, I cast you out of the mountain of God like a common sinner.

I destroyed you, O Guardian Angel, from the midst of the stones of fire. Your heart was filled with pride See Page 7, Column 2



On Prayer

From *Experiencing God: The Three Stages of Prayer*

by Rev. Fr. Thomas H. Green, SJ (2010).

God, the Creator of the Universe, profoundly honors us when He ... in silence ... listens to our prayers. St. Teresa in, *Way of Perfection*, points out that, if we think about what we are saying,

our vocal prayer can lead us all the way to the heights of contemplation.

But, for most people, prayer means vocal prayer which means talking ... not listening ... to God. And, talking to God very frequently means using somebody else's words.

The danger with vocal prayer is that we recite words that are not our own ... do not represent our true feelings nor our present situation ... and end up insulting God ... if we pray without thinking as if there were some magic in the words.

With vocal prayer, we also end up doing all the talking ... the way we, Adorers, read and recite the word printed on our vigil booklets ... and speed along as if someone were after us ... not even bothering to pause upon encountering a *comma* or a *period*.

The most difficult problem with vocal prayer ... and with any form of prayer ... is learning to keep still ... keep silence ... and to listen ... to what God is telling us to do for Him.

(To be continued January 2013)

PBA – Prayerfulness ... Brotherhood ... Apostolate

Shared by Bro. Domingo G. Vargas, Jefe de Turno 1225
Mary Immaculate Parish, Las Pinas City

Pray always ... that you may not be tempted. My Lord Jesus, I adore You in the Blessed Sacrament, in all of creation: in the mountains, the fields and the seas. I hear Your voice in thunderstorms, in the great roaring waves, in flash floods, in the subdued laughter of dimly-lit cafes; in the painful cries of aborted babies; and most profoundly in the silence of my heart. Yes, I adore you, Lord. And, I hear You.

Behold your mother... behold your son. I pray, Lord Jesus, let me accompany You in Your search: Of the lost, prodigal sons and daughters, wayward fathers and mothers, That they may seek your Light, find their way back to You and speak Your Truth; Of street children in tattered clothes, scavenging for left-overs in garbage dumps. Let me help You nurse the wounds inflicted by warring camps in senseless wars, visit over-crowded prison cells, pacify with Your Words the angry, wagging tongues in our neighborhood; Of the devout and the kind-hearted that Your Real Presence in their hearts may bring them more closer to You. And, importantly, Lord, help me find myself In the debris of own sins and mistakes, to kneel in humility and recognize that no one is less great, less noble, less intelligent than I. Yes, Lord, let me adore You even in the midst of misery and plenty.

Amongst you is a prophet. I adore You, Lord Jesus, in the prophetic task you have given me to do: **See Page 8, Column 2**



On Silence

From *The Ragged Edge of Silence: Finding Peace In a Noisy World* by John Francis (2011)

1974 – Silent for more than 12 months. Mother's letters said that my pledge of silence stemmed from what I had suffered at Dad's hand. He used the belt on me when I was growing up. Perhaps, to clear things up, Dad explained from Philadelphia to California.

Certain agreements ... implied but not stated ... among people make everyday life easier. We stop at a red light and go at a green light. If these were changed overnight, there would be a lot of accidents. Then, we agree to talk to one another but the Fifth Amendment guarantees the right to remain silent.

I listened ... silently ... as Dad poured his heart out ... talking of how his father had beaten him and how he had to leave home to support the family. He said: *No one is around; it's just us. You can talk now.* In reply, I wrote on a scrap of paper: *This is for real, Dad! It's not a scam.* He exclaimed: *Damn! What is this? How could anything good come out of this, John?*

I wrote that I would like to go to the local community college – the College of Marin – some 20 miles away from I lived. Dad laughed at me saying: *Look, don't think I don't want to see you go to school and finish; I do! It's the silence that's hard for me to understand.* I wrote in reply: *It keeps me from telling lies.*

See Page 8, Column 1

Brotherhood



Merton: A Biography

By Monica Furlong (1980)

Merton held a romantic vision of monastic life to which he would remain true to the end of his life: *What wonderful happiness there was, then, in the world! There were still men on this miserable, noisy, cruel earth who tasted the marvelous joy of silence and solitude, who dealt in forgotten mountain cells, in secluded monasteries ... free of the burden of the flesh's tyranny ... and their clear vision, clean of the world's smoke and bitter sting, were raised to heaven into its deep and infinite healing light. They were poor but free ... they had nothing but possessed everything ... and, everything they touched struck the fire of divinity.*

Everything around them was simple, primitive and poor because they were the least and the last of men. They had made themselves outcasts ... seeking the poor and the rejected of men outside the walls of the world ... and found Christ.

For his retreat, he had arrived at the Trappist monastery at getsemane, Kentucky on Palm Sunday and, throughout Holy Week, he watched the ceremonies – the washing of the feet of seventy old men ; the long hours of chanting; and, on Good Friday, the church was left empty with its altars stripped bare and its tabernacle wide open and empty.

Throughout the retreat, Merton was questioning ... questioning ... questioning: *Was the cruel rebuff and the advice of the Franciscan Capuchin the final answer for my life? Shall I try again? May I yet become a Trappist monk?* On and on, **See Page 8, Column 1**



The Good Shepherd.

On Leaders

Shared by Dave Branon.

Malachi 1:6-2:17. Leaders are granted privileges ... attain fame ... wield authority. But, responsibilities are also bestowed on leaders. When leaders do not employ well their godly traits, they invite trouble.

During the prophet Malachi's time in the Kingdom of Israel in 500 BC, leadership issues arose that God dealt with directly.

It seems the priests who were supposed to serve God stopped honoring God by offering defiled sacrifices. He could not accept their sacrifices. Their actions caused God to remove His hand of blessing from the priests.

Imagine the difficulties this brought on the people. Everyone suffered. Hence, it is important for every Christian in leadership positions to strive daily to keep his heart and mind attuned to god and His Word.

Are you a leader ... of the Adoracion Nocturna Filipina? Stay close to God ... no matter what happens. Give Him the glory and honor due His name. Obey His Word. Worship ... adore ... Him in Spirit and in Truth. Don't risk losing the hand of God's blessing by being the cause ... the root ... of trouble at the top.

Matthew 25:14-30. Paraphrasing Jesus' parable of the talents: Prior to departure, the Master commands his servants to prepare for cultivation the marsh-land at his estate.

With the Master gone, the servants set to work – cleaning house; beautifying gardens and flower-beds; pruning trees; repairing fences; and house-painting. A servant remembers the Master's command and tells the others: *I go to the marsh-land.* The other servants cry out: *We need you here!*

The protests go unheeded; he leaves and works on the marsh-land to allow for cultivation. Two follow his example, amid objections, and work on different parts of the marsh-land.

The Master returns. He finds the fence as new; the house painted with fresh coats of paint; the manicured lawn, the garden and the flower-beds refreshing to the sight; and the trees full of fruits. When he gets to the marsh-land part of his estate, wilderness and marsh confront him; his heart sinks and, in his anger, blood rushes to his temples.

Good thing, he spots the three servants working on the marsh-land, making slow progress. He rewards them instantly and returns to the house where most of his servants await him for their reward; but, his face indicates displeasure.

The servants cry out: *Have we not been faithful? Have we not worked hard? Why are you disappointed? Are they not pleasing to your eyes? Why won't you reward us? The Master replies: Yes, indeed, you did your best! You have been faithful and worked hard! But, you did not follow my command – instead, you chose to do what you wanted to do!*

You did not even attempt to follow my command! When you companions insisted on doing their part, you objected! There will be no reward for you. None! >>>

Meditating on Matthew 28:19-20 which is the mission Jesus expects of every Christian – to proclaim Him and His words to all nations and evangelize its peoples – why is it so important to Jesus, the Church ... the Adoracion Nocturna Filipina ... and to us ... Adorers ... to carry out His mission of evangelization?

Because, Jesus wants to live with us ... again. He wants to claim His right to sit on His throne and reign on Earth as in Heaven. So, what is He waiting for? What is keeping Him from His Second Coming? Jesus is waiting for ... the Church ... to do what He told us ... Adorers ... to do for Him – EVANGELIZE! Have we ... the Church ... Adorers ... carried out His orders ... His commands?

Let us ... the Church ... go then: EVANGELIZE! Let us ... Adorers ... do our part: EVANGELIZE! Let us go and send ourselves or let us send someone else in our place ... two or three ... with our full financial and prayerful support. Time is running out!

Matthew 24:1-28. Jesus foretold of the destruction of Jerusalem: *When Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples approached Him privately and asked Him: What signs will be given to us before Your coming and the end of history? In answer to their question, Jesus said: This Gospel will be preached to the world, for all nations to know; then the end will come.*

Other prophecies of Jesus indicate the *approaching* end; here, Jesus emphasizes **THE** end. God's plan: first evangelization; then the Second Coming of Jesus. Let us ... Adorers ... do our part ... NOW! Never rest until our work ... of evangelization ... is done.

As leaders ... of Adoracion Nocturna Filipina ... have we aligned our vision and mission ... our plans and programs ... our actions and our deeds ... what we do and what we do not do ... to train missionary-Adorers ... to evangelize unreached peoples and our own brother/sisters Adorers ... and be re-evangelized ourselves? Are our Training Modules adopted for Jesus' Second Coming?



Moses

On Virtue

Isaiah 40:31. Those who wait on God will find their strength renewed. They will soar as with eagle's wings ... run and not go weary, walk and never tire.

Rev. Fr. Manoling V. Francisco, SJ writes: Advent is upon us – the Season of Arrival, which involves ... waiting ... and that connotes an absence ... seeking presence; a beginning ... yearning for consummation; an inadequacy ... wanting satisfaction; and an incompleteness ... searching for wholeness.

We wait for God ... to intervene in our lives and bring about wholeness and happiness ... to re-enter our world and bring about reconciliation and solidarity. We await God's mercy and justice to finally reign and transform our world with His redemptive plans.

In our prayer, we learn to wait for the prompting of God. At times, we knock but the doors of Heaven seem to stay shut ... we cry out to God but our plans appear to fall on deaf ears. In our solitude, we achingly wait for God ... to speak ... to make His presence felt ... to show us His face.

This Advent Season, while waiting ... let us recognize the presence of God and let us distinguish between the waiting for the satisfaction of egotistical desires and waiting for the fulfillment of legitimate needs.

See Page 8, Column 2

On Mission

Ricky Cuenca, *International Chairman of Couples for Christ*, writes: *I see first-hand the fruits of our community's evangelization work. Our full-time missionaries sacrifice the comforts of home in order to proclaim God's message to far-flung areas. Our leaders are simple folks, ordinary lay couples bringing the love of God and neighbor to the world. We are amazed at how God is using the Filipino Diaspora to evangelize the world.*

Marian and Robert Schindler, MD writes in *Mission Possible* (1978): God wills ... desires ... to bring all men to Himself through Jesus, His Son. Jesus put up the Church with the primary mission: Evangelize! Our Lord Jesus invites us to follow His advice: *If you love Me, you will obey My commandments* (John 14:15).

The China Mission: Jesus is at the upper center with St. Francis Xavier and St. Ignatius of Loyola, kneeling. Standing: Xu Guangqi and Matteo Ricci.

Obedience to His command is an important manifestation of our love for Jesus. We have His Message; we have the Money; we have the Manpower; and we have the Methods and the Motivation to accomplish the work of evangelization of the world. But, why are we ... Adorers ... not multiplying in significant numbers? Why is the Church in some parts of the world dying out?

Dr. Berin Gilfillan in *Unlocking the Abraham Promise* – courtesy of Bro. Benjamin G. Juarez of Media for Christ Foundation, Inc. – writes: Mission ... Evangelization ... involves sowing the divine seed – Jesus is the seed, the Word of God – which unleashes enormous growth and ... multiplication potential ... when we sow that seed – Jesus – into our hearts and into the hearts of others ... to whom we have been sent to evangelize, a result of which is that we are, in turn, re-evangelized.

Multiplication is directly related to the sowing of God's Word ... not our words ... but the word of God – Jesus Christ. In 1 Corinthians 3:1-16, Paul reminds us ... Adorers ... that some of us seek their own prestige ... not Jesus ... forgetting that the Church belongs only to God.

Paul concludes that, if what we are doing is not in accord with the Will ... the Word ... of God ... and with the means He wanted, this work ... any work ... anything we do ... will not bear fruit ... in accordance with His plan ... and will be destroyed. *If your work withstands the fire, you will be rewarded; but, if your work becomes ashes, you will pay for it. You will be saved, but it will be as if passing through fire.*

Let us meditate on Paul's first letter to the Corinthians: *I planted, Apollos watered but God gave the increase.*

(To be continued January 2013)



The ANF Constitution

Part I, Chapter I, **Article 1** – Definition. We are a Catholic organization dedicated to the development of authentic Christian spirituality ... to glorify God by personal dedication to **Jesus Christ in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar** ... through our **work of night adoration** ... positive behavior ... constructive collaboration ... and responsible sense of involvement in the temporal order.

Our **ultimate goal** is ... the **formation** of truly Christian men, fired with apostolic zeal **for** the service of **God and neighbor**. In consultation with Diocesan/Archdiocesan/Regional Councils, the organizational leadership shall promulgate **rules and regulations** on ... the admission, formation and training of members. [Note from Bro. Duffy: The National Council has recently initiated the promulgation of said rules and regulations.]

Article 2 – Universality. We are a charter member of the *World Federation of the Works of Night Adoration of the Most Holy Sacrament* ... to know Jesus in the Eucharist in union with all organizations of night adoration in the world. [Note: Our annual dues of **P50.00** per member is less than the Euro exchange rate of **P54.85** The Federation charges a membership fee of at least 10 euros per member.]

Article 3 – Unity. We are established all over the country ... in one united body ... as an outgrowth of our life of adoration of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist ... choosing the common good over our self ... making the interest of the ANF community, our neighborhood, our parish, our country and the Church as our own ... as members of the Mystical Body and Blood of Christ. [Note: Meditate on the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians 2:1-18. In mid-1012, Turno 1699 was canonically erected at Florence, Italy.]

Article 5 – Motto. *The Lord Be Adorer – Forever!* must lead **all** our official communications. It is our salutation uttered ... spoken ... at the opening of every official act. [Note: *Communications* include reports.]

Article 7 – The chief duty of all our governing bodies – Section Executive Board and Diocesan/Archdiocesan/Regional/National Councils – is to ensure the faithful observance of the Constitution and By-Laws ... in language and in spirit ... and these bodies must govern with patience and charity ... tempered with unyielding firmness.

Article 9 – Obedience is expected of every Adorer ... in the spirit of heroic and sweet docility to proper authority.

Article 10 – Every Adorer has complete freedom to leave the organization particularly if in open violation of the Constitution and By-Laws ... in disobedience of duly constituted authority ... causing scandal and dissension in our organization.

(Part I, Chapter III in January 2013)

Notable Activities in the short-term:

25-27 January 2013 – ANF Silent Retreat at Mirador Hills, Baguio City. Fee: **PhP3,000.00**, inclusive of transportation to and from Baguio. For reservations, call the National Office.

8-10 March 2013 – National Council Trainors' Training Seminar: Second Group at St. Scholastica's Retreat House, Tagaytay City. Fee: **PhP2,000.00**. For reservations, call the National Office.



Youth Challenge

Shared by Rev. Fr. Philip Heng, S.J.
Parish Priest, Church of St. Ignatius
120 King's Road, Singapore 268172

In Nov 2007, a young adult from our parish went on a pilgrimage to Lourdes and sensed a prompting during Benediction: *Bring them to Me Bring the young people to Eucharistic Adoration. There is too much noise in the world. Yet, it is only in the silence, they can hear the voice of God... only in the silence, they can hear My voice.*

After much prayer, doubts and apprehension, the first young adults adoration session took off in mid-2008, on the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. We have now evolved into Generation CHRIST! – A Young Adults Eucharistic Adoration Community, and serve young working adults in the parish.

In obedience to the call, Silence is the highlight of our adoration sessions. As the “seed” for young people’s adoration was planted in Lourdes, Mother Mary has a special place in our community. Mary led us to Jesus! Thus, each session always begins with Rosary, followed by an hour of Eucharistic Adoration. Each session brings us closer to Jesus. Each session never fails to fill us with so much joy and peace!

Pope Benedict XVI declared the period 11 October – 24 November 2013 as The Year of Faith. Before leaving for Rome to attend the Synod of Bishops, now His Eminence Luis Antonio G. Cardinal Tagle, Archbishop of Manila, wrote *Pastoral Letter on the Year of Faith* in which he underlined his concerns, in particular for the youth and the poor.

His concern arose from the dramatic changes in the world which pose new challenges ... new threats ... to our faith and its transmission ... proclamation. Addressing these new challenges ... new threats ... the Church must discover ... uncover ... the many ways in which the youth and the poor express their search for God.

The Year of Faith emphasizes the reminder of Jesus to us that, first and foremost ... Tarcisian Adorers are missionaries. The Year of Faith challenges us ... Tarcisian Adorers ... to listen to the cries and aspirations of youth and the poor and respond to their cries with new methods ... new expressions ... new fervor ... for proclaiming Jesus to them.

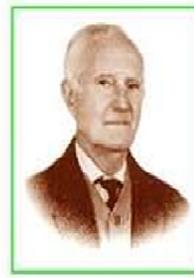
In your own small way, how would you respond to these challenges?



To our dear Archbishop Paciano B. Aniceto, D.D. of San Fernando:

We are one with you in celebrating your 50th Sacerdotal Ordination Anniversary on 23 December 2012.

The Lord bless and keep you always!!



Alberto Capellan Zuazo. Night Adorer. Pope John Paul II granted him the status of Venerable on 06 April 1998. Let us pray for his beatification: *Oh God, You granted to Your servant, Alberto Capellan Zuazo, a singular love for the mysteries of Your Body and Your Blood, and the charism of finding You and serving You in the poor: make me also able to pass through this life intimately united to You, serving You in the neediest of our brothers and sisters. Deign to glorify Your servant, Alberto, and grant me through his intercession this favor that I ask of You (mention request).* Amen. (Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be)

Adorer Profile



FORTUNATO Atoy S. SANTOS. Married to Sis. Flor Olarte Santos and blessed with two sons, Henry & Derik, both professionals and now with their own families.



Kuya Atoy was a POLICE OFFICER in service of Makati City since 1975. He was cited as one of Ten Outstanding Policemen in the National Capital Region for the years 1996 and 1997. He was Sports Director of PNP-Southern Police District in cycling, marathon, swimming, bowling and basketball for both local and international competition. Kuya Atoy retired from the police force in 2002 with the rank of Police Major.

Kuya Atoy is resplendent in uniform both as an Adorer and as Police Major.

Bro. Atoy Santos was installed in November 2002 as Turno Treasurer, in February 2006 as Section Treasurer, in January 2010 as Treasurer of the Diocesan Council of San Pablo and as Treasurer of the Southern Tagalog Regional Council on February 2012.

Kuya Atoy is also presently a member of Parish-ExtraOrdinary Ministers of the Holy Communion and steward of Serviam Catholic Charismatic Community serving in its outreach mission areas. He is very much an active player and organizer of badminton events in both community and village tournaments. Below is Kuya Atoy and Ate Flor Santos with their children and grandchildren.



Fr. Robert Kennedy SJ, a Jesuit priest and Zen master (*roshi*) suggests that people, leaning toward a deeper form of prayer, are often attracted to studying Zen, not necessarily be-

Adorer Profile ... President of the Diocesan Council of Malolos. Currently, he is Master of Ceremonies of the Regional Council of Central Luzon (RCCL) and Chairman of its Education & Training Committee.

As a leader, he is considerate and approachable but strict; honest and transparent. As a friend, he is frank and candid. He is fond of writing poems and takes time for spiritual readings. He loves bowling, walking, cooking and aerobic exercises 3x a week. He has a good sense of humor.

Meaning of **Eucharist?** *uncertain as to where the star was; it seemed to have disappeared while they were in Jerusalem. As they bent over the well to get a drink, they saw the star mirrored in the water.*

Then, we passed by the tomb of Jacob's wife, Rachel, where she died giving birth to a son, Benoni – Hebrew for the child of my sorrow – but Jacob re-named him, Benjamin – for, son of my right hand. We thanked God for allowing Mary to reach Bethlehem and have her baby.

We passed through the village gates of Bethlehem as these were being closed for the night. Unlike before, when Mary and Joseph had come the census, their relatives met them with roasted lamb wrapped in mint along with melons and pomegranate drink. There was room for all of us that night.

The next morning, John took Mary and me to the place where Jesus was born. The cave was under a house which served as an inn when Bethlehem was crowded with visitors. Inside the cave were some sheep not yet taken out to pasture. Mary walked around, touching the damp wall and running her hands over the manger filled with hay.

Mary said: I wondered so often – On the long trip down here, where were the angels when I was suffering so? Couldn't one of them have managed to find something better for my poor baby's bed? Indeed, where were the angels?

Just then, an old man came hobbling into the cave. He gasped: I must see the baby; I have something important to tell her. Mary stepped forward, took his elbow and led him to a bale of hay where he could sit down. Mary said: What do you want to tell me?

The old man poured his heart out: I was here on that night. I saw you and the baby. It was just as the angels said it would be. I could not contain my excitement and asked the old man: What did the angels say?

The old man continued: We were so afraid! First, there was the light ... and then the bright, shining angel suddenly appeared in the light. It frightened all of us. The angel must have seen how afraid we were and so he said: Fear not! Fear not! Fear not! We then stopped hiding our faces and peered at him through our fingers. We thought he was going to tell us how worthless, evil and wicked we were. Instead, the angel said: I bring you good tidings of great joy! Imagine that? We were poor, ignorant shepherds and he took the time to come and tell us that!

Then, he told us that a child had been born who was to be our Savior and that He was for all peoples. He had been born that night right in our village and **See next column**

we would be welcome to go see Him. He wasn't in one of the big, fancy houses but in a stable, wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

And, suddenly, the angel was surrounded by a great many more angels, praising God and saying: Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace and goodwill to men! I tell we took off right away for the village. And, we did not lose one of them! We were so excited! *The old man was smiling as he spoke.*

Seeing that the angel was right ... that there really was a baby in swaddling clothes in a manger, we fell to our knees in awe and wonder ... in adoration ... I really do not know if any of us said anything. *Mary came over to the old shepherd and gently touched his arm, saying: Thank you so much for coming and telling me all of this. That night, I was so busy with the new baby. She asked the shepherd to tell his story over and over again.*

After the old man left, Mary sat down on one of the bales of straw and looked around at each of us: That's where the angels were that night! How wonderful that God and His angels entrusted His message to the shepherds. Shepherds never forget anything. Mary sat pondering all that had happened ... deeply moved by the shepherd's story and said: The angels always say fear not! And yet we are often so afraid.

(To be continued January 2013)

Holy Spirit such a difficult mission ... evangelization of all nations ... without first receiving empowerment from the Holy Spirit. The apostles have done their best and now have to place themselves in the hands of God. Jesus tells the apostles ... to wait ... perseveringly ... in prayer ... for the time He has fixed.

Mary helps the apostles ... to wait ... for days ... for this divine mystery. Nine (9) days after the Ascension of Jesus, on Pentecost – meaning *the fiftieth day* after one of the most important Jewish feast, the *Passover*, when numerous Jews living in foreign countries come to Jerusalem as pilgrims – God sends the Spirit of His Son thus the Church is born.

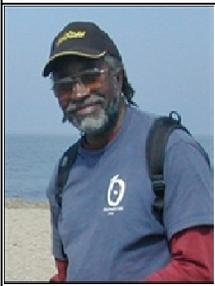
Inspired by the Holy Spirit, uneducated men like Peter and Andrew boldly proclaim the good seed – Jesus Christ, the Word of God. The Holy Spirit brings about our apostolic renewal, religious awakening and dynamic communities ... as the Adoracion Nocturna Filipina ... the new blood of the Church.

The Holy Spirit gives life to the Church ... to the Adoracion Nocturna Filipina ... to confirm or affirm its believers ... the Adorers. The baptism of fire which the apostles receive is normally conferred to us through the sacrament of Confirmation.

In prayer, do you call on the Holy Spirit to obtain His assistance so as to attain your mission-objective? Do you give the Holy Spirit enough time to work for you, prior to the execution of your mission?

Angels *because of all your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor. You defiled your holiness with lust for gain; therefore, I brought forth fire from your own actions ... it burn you to ashes upon the earth ... All who know you are appalled at your fate; you are an example of horror; you are destroyed forever.*

Prayer Requests: For the recovery of mind, body, soul and spirit of the **Sister-wife of Bro. Solomeo A. Abuel, Jr.**, National NCR Co-Organizer, due to a fractured ankle-bone; and the **Sister-wife of Bro. Jose S. Tacorda**, National Council Adviser/Consultant.



On Silence ... I realized that lying was a bad habit I acquired as a kid. I did not like being colored and my defense was deception. I lied in order to pretend ... deceiving myself into believing that I was someone else. But, by pretending, I had lost track of who I am ... In the walking and in my silence, I re-discovered who I am.

So, in my *conversation* with Dad, I not only heard him but I also understood the reality of his feelings ... through different from mine. I accepted his words as truth; I respected his words. Days later, my father returned to Philadelphia. He talked to mother on the phone before he left: *Yes, I've seen him. He doesn't smoke and drink. The people here seem to like him I think we should just leave him here and hope he doesn't show up in Philadelphia Okay, I'll see you when I get back.*

Lesson Three on Silence: Discovering our Surroundings.
Objective: Finding Place. The point of this exercise is for you to find your physical place and thus discover t your physical body in the place where you are.

Finding Place is re-discovering your connection with your environment and your self. This connection is healing and essential to your well-being. In today's society, we tend to focus on getting from A to B, passing through our environment without regard of it. Imagine a map where you are in relation to other places you know ... your place of birth ... your school ... family and friends.

In your daily walks, take in what is around you ... be observant ... be conscious of your surroundings. Look for a quiet place and listen for natural sounds such as birds, water and movements of trees ... an adoration room ... or a cemetery.
(To be continued January 2013)

On Brotherhood ... he struggled ... agonized. Before leaving Gethsemani on Easter Sunday, he did the Stations of the Cross and, being told that no request made at the Fourteenth Station was ever refused, he asked for a vocation to the Trappist.

Summer 1941 at St. Bonaventure University, Merton met the Baroness be Hueck, a Russian émigré who empathized with the misery of the black people in Harlem and had built up Friendship House with clothing, recreation rooms and a library. For some odd weeks, Merton helped at Friendship House.

There, he saw himself as a rich young man ... hampered from coming to Christ by his great possessions, and he considered giving everything he had – both in the sense of working full-time at Harlem and of giving what was left of his grandfather's money to Friendship House.

In an exchange of letter, the Baroness asked him: *Tom, are you thinking of becoming a priest?* He replied: *Oh no! I have no vocation to the priesthood.* But, in October 1941, he sent the Baroness a cheque for all his grandfather's money for Friendship House.

>>>>



Deep inside, Merton was still hurting from the harshness of the rejection of the Franciscans and struggling with his belief in his own vocation to be a Trappist monk. He prayed desperately for help to St. Therese of Lisieux, pledging himself to be her monk if she would help him gain admission to the monastery.

On 07 December 1941, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor and America was at war. Fearful that the war would ruin his chances of becoming a monk, Merton disposed most of his clothes to Friendship House; donated most of his books to the St. Bonaventure University Library; sent his poems and journal to Mark van Doren for safe-keeping; wrote letter of farewell to his friends; and, finally, set off for the Trappist monastery at Gethsemani. All his possessions fitted in one suitcase plus a box of books.

His friends received this news with surprise: some pleasant ... some somber ... some sad. Years later, three of his Jewish friends – Robert Lax, Bob Gerdy and Naomi Burton – would convert to Roman Catholicism.

(To be continued January 2013)

PBA of Bro. Domingo G. Vargas ... To bring Your Presence to the good and the bad; The young and the old, the rich and the poor; To bring your Body and Blood to the cripple, the sick and the elderly; To share my time, thoughts, technology, treasure and talents – That the lame could walk; The hungry have their fill; The thirsty have drink; The penniless have coins in their pocket; The naked have clothes to wear; The homeless, a shelter of their own; The forlorn, the abandoned, the lonely, and the prisoner find companionship in humane, brotherly love.

May I look up to YOU, O Lord, with thanksgiving and smile, as I receive You in Your divine and human Love. This, O Lord, is the essence of my adoration of You and Your Blessed Mother. **Amen.**

On Virtue ... On to the virtue of Patience: Ordinary experience tells us that without patience, there is no virtue. Pope Gregory I referred to patience as the root and guardian of all virtues ... as an essential part of every virtue ... for all communities, both human and divine.

Patience is an essential element of *Justice* – that patient expectancy that challenges other persons to be ... and to do ... more than they would ever achieve. Our patience toward others enables them just as the forbearance of God enables us. If we have no patience, we will have robbed them of their proper time and space which are elements that *Justice* is intended to protect.

Courage is meaningless if there is no patience to endure adversities calmly. With patience, *Perseverance* will not abandon the task at hand nor betray the sense of excellence; *Determination* see projects to completion, refusing to forsake it, no matter how great the odds.

Prudence determines when the time is right to endure calmly until the dawn of a better day. It provides the time that vision demands; its attentiveness and willingness to pause allows us to comprehend all the dimensions of a situation and find undiscovered possibilities.

Temperance demands patience to mature and grow to discipline the immaturity that tolerates no restrictions upon its desires and has not yet learned to forego

See Page 9, Column 1

On Virtue ... immediate gratification and wait for its proper turn ... to say NO to passions, impulses and inclinations that seek quickly to dominate one another and to sort these out so that most of our resources are marshaled in the service of whatever is worth persistent and focused effort.

Patience in Temperance counsels us ... to wait because we are not ready or have failed to see that other things must come first ... and to be patient with ourselves — but not to excuse rude behavior and bad conduct, our rationalization and self-deception.

For the sake of the God Who created us most patiently, we must not be too harsh upon ourselves — because our skills, intelligence and strength are simply not equal to the goals we have set for ourselves. If we are impatient with ourselves, the sphere of our activities will be ever more limited to what is easily achievable for the sake of convenience; the weight of the past and its failures will grow more difficult to bear, and fulfillment will be unattainable.

The way from unruly childishness to temperate maturity is never travelled without the companionship of *Patience*.

(To be continued January 2013)

On Apostolic Works of Mercy

Corporal Works of Mercy tend to bodily needs — six are listed in Matthew 25:31-46, in the The Judgment of Nations. The last work of mercy, burying the dead, comes from the Book of Tobit. Not everyone is considered capable or obliged to perform the first three spiritual works of mercy if they do not have proper tact, knowledge or training to do so. The last four are considered to be the obligation of all people without condition — bear wrongs patiently; forgive offenses willingly; comfort the afflicted; and pray for the living, the sick and the dead.

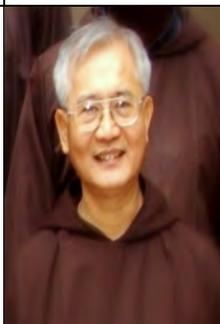


The Divine Mercy devotion lets the love and mercy of God flow through our heart to those in need of it. In *Diary: Divine Mercy in My Soul* (Notebook II, item 742), Saint Faustina Kowalska wrote that Jesus told her: *I demand from you deeds of mercy, which are to arise out of love for Me.* Jesus explained three ways of exercising mercy toward our neighbor by: (1) deed; (2) word; and (3) prayer.

(To be continued in January 2013)



Francis Mary Paul Libermann. Born Jacob Libermann on 14 April 1804 to an Orthodox Jewish family in the ghetto of Alsace, France. Died 02 February 1852. Prepared to follow his father as Chief Rabbi of Saverne, but became an agnostic. Converted to Catholicism following his two brothers. Ordained a priest in 1841 after epileptic seizures ceased. Declared Venerable in the Roman Catholic Church on 01 June 1876 by Pope Pius IX.



His Excellency
Most Rev. Joseph A. Nacua, OFM Cap., D.D.
Bishop of Ilagan
Born 05 January 1945 at Mankayan, Benguet.
Sacerdotal Ordination: 26 June 1971.
Episcopal Ordination: 05 June 2008.



His Excellency
Most Rev. David William V. Antonio, D.D.
Auxiliary Bishop of Nueva Segovia
Born 29 December 1963 at Sto. Domingo, Ilocos Sur.
Sacerdotal Ordination: 01 December 1988.
Episcopal Ordination: 26 August 2011.

Mattieu Ricard. French Buddhist monk at Shechen Tennyi Dargyeling Monastery, Nepal. Born 15 February 1946 to Jean-François Ricard, French philosopher, and abstractionist painter, Yahne Le Toumelin, Buddhist nun since 1968. PhD in molecular genetics at Pasteur Institute. Concentrated on practice of Tibetan Buddhism than on scientific career; 50,000 hours of meditation.

Dubbed the *happiest person in the world* by popular media. Matthieu Ricard volunteered for a study performed at the University of Wisconsin on happiness, scoring significantly beyond average after testing hundreds of other volunteers. Co-authored with Nancy B.



Rawlings et al in 2004 a study on himself and the brains of meditators who had undergone a minimum three-year retreat.

Study discovered: Meditation has a long-term effect on the brain with respect to attention-span, compassion and awareness. Practitioners understand “meditation,” or mental training, to be a process of familiarization with one's own mental life leading to long-lasting changes in cognition and emotion.



Gerard Manley Hopkins, S.J. (28 July 1844 – 8 June 1889). English poet and son of deeply religious High Church Anglicans. Roman Catholic convert and Jesuit priest.

On 18 January 1866, Hopkins wrote the poem, *The Habit of Perfection*. In July 1866, he decided to become a Catholic; John Henry Cardinal Newman received him into the Catholic Church on 21 October 1866. Hopkins took vows of poverty, chastity and obedience on 8 September 1870 from the Society of Jesus.

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