



The Real Presence

The Official Newsletter of the ADORACION NOCTURNA FILIPINA
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Every month, THE REAL PRESENCE will publish in the FORMATION SECTION a copy of a selected homily of Pope Francis. This is a good material to be used in the reflection of the adorers during their monthly meeting. In this issue, we feature the Pope Francis' Easter Vigil homily.



*"Do not fear;
go and tell my
brothers to go
to Galilee; there
they will see
me" Mt28:5*



POPE FRANCIS' EASTER VIGIL HOMILY - Go back to Galilee 19 April 2014

The Gospel of the resurrection of Jesus Christ begins with the journey of the women to the tomb at dawn on the day after the Sabbath. They go to the tomb to honor the body of the Lord, but they find it open and empty. A mighty angel says to them: "Do not be afraid!" (Mt 28:5) and orders them to go and tell the disciples: "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee" (v. 7). The women quickly depart and on the way Jesus himself meets them and says: "Do not fear; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me" (v. 10).

After the death of the Master, the disciples had scattered; their faith had been utterly shaken, everything seemed over, all their certainties had crumbled and their hopes had died. But now that message of the women, incredible as it was, came to them like a ray of light in the darkness. The news spread: Jesus is risen as he said. And then there was his command to go to Galilee; the women had heard it twice, first from the angel and then from Jesus himself: "Let them go to Galilee; there they will see me".

Galilee is the place where they were first called, where everything began! To return there, to return to the place where they were originally called. Jesus had walked along the shores of the lake as the fishermen were casting their nets. He had called them, and they left everything and followed him (cf. Mt4:18-22).....

For each of us, too, there is a "Galilee" at the origin of our journey with Jesus. "To go to Galilee" means something beautiful, it means rediscovering our baptism as a living fountainhead, drawing new energy from the sources of our faith and our Christian experience..... In the life of every Christian, after baptism there is also a more existential "Galilee": the experience of a personal encounter with Jesus Christ who called me to follow him and to share in his mission. In this sense, returning to Galilee means treasuring in my heart the living memory of that call, when Jesus passed my way, gazed at me with mercy and asked me to follow him. It means reviving the memory of that moment when his eyes met mine, the moment when he made me realize that he loved me.

Today, tonight, each of us can ask: What is my Galilee? Where is my Galilee? Do I remember it? Have I forgotten it? Have I gone off on roads and paths which made me forget it? Lord, help me: tell me what my Galilee is; for you know that I want to return there to encounter you and to let myself be embraced by your mercy.

The Gospel of Easter is very clear: we need to go back there, to see Jesus risen, and to become witnesses of his resurrection. This is not to go back in time; it is not a kind of nostalgia. It is returning to our first love, in order to receive the fire which Jesus has kindled in the world and to bring that fire to all people, to the very ends of the earth.

"Galilee of the Gentiles" (Mt. 4:15; Is 8:23)! Horizon of the Risen Lord, horizon of the Church; intense desire of encounter... Let us be on our way!

For Reflection and Sharing:

Pope Francis says that we have our own "Galilee", your experience of personal encounter with Jesus who called you to follow him. What and when was your own "Galilee"?

Pope Francis says "After the death of Jesus, the disciples had scattered; their faith had been utterly shaken, everything seemed over, all their certainties had crumbled and their hopes had died." What is your own experience that shook your faith and hope in Christ?

INFORMATION SECTION : This section features current and important events.

NEWLY APPOINTED NATIONAL COUNCIL OFFICERS WERE INSTALLED

Last March 22, 2014, the new officers of the National Council were installed by Rev. Fr. Manny Flores, SJ, National Director of Adoration Nocturna Filipina. The ceremony was held during the Holy Mass. It was a simple but meaningful oath-taking. The new officers, according to Fr. Manny, are expected to perform their duties with all honesty and purity in intention. Serving in ANF is serving with sacrifice. The spouses of the new officers witnessed and took part in the ceremony.



The National Council Officers with their spouses (and a future tarcisian).

NATIONAL COUNCIL OFFICERS 2014 - 2017

President – Carlos L. Landagan, VP Ecc'l Affairs- Renato T. Ferrer, VP Organizing – Patrocinio E. Alcorcon, VP Reg'l Councils – Pedro E. Bugay, VP Formation - Ernesto L. Concepcion, Formation Team Members : Angelito T. Sales, Loreto C. Guinhawa, Jose A. Montano, Andres DL Francisco, Secretary –Manuel I. Granados, Treasurer- Demetrio R. Opinion, Auditor – Mario D. Dalangin, Master of Ceremonies- Lino Dela Cruz, Organizer – Rodrigo B. Fermin, Asst. Organizer- Jose D. Vega, Jr., Natl. Inspector -Lazaro L. Katigbak, Promoter NCR - Solomeo A. Abuel, Jr., Flag Bearers – Rufino P. Trinidad, Alfredo G. Garcia, Tarcisian Organizer - Fructuoso J. Tamunday, Tarc. Asst. Org. - Leonardo B. Dayap, Jr., Tarcisian Prom. - Agripino I. Lanuza, Jr.

CENTRAL LUZON REGIONAL COUNCIL HELD ITS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

In compliance to Article 118 (Functions of the Regional Council), the Central Luzon Regional Council held its general assembly last April 5, 2014 at the Lord's Transfiguration Parish Church in Angeles City, Pampanga. The attendees were officers of turnos, sections and diocesan councils. The assembly started with the Holy Mass presided by Archbishop Paciano Aniceto, D.D., Apostolic Director of the Regional Council and concelebrated by Rev. Msgr. Eugenio Mercado, Jr., Co- Apostolic Director.

The theme of the general assembly : ***"The Adorers are called to be Servant-Leaders"***. This year's assembly focused on the functions and responsibilities of turno officers to evaluate how the officers perform their duties. The officers were grouped according to their functions, and guide questions were distributed as their basis of discussion. Each group had a facilitator summarized the strengths and weaknesses of their group.

Msgr. Mercado, in his message, stressed that as an adorer, extra time should be spent in visiting the Blessed Sacrament and hearing mass as often as possible. He also warned the officers of those diocesan councils, sections and turnos who are not performing their duties should be replaced.

UNCLAIMED RAFFLE PRIZES

There are still unclaimed prizes won in the last raffle draw. Following are the winning numbers:

For P1000 cash prize

Ticket # 42849 - Joseph Paterno
50805 - Marky / Pauline dela Cruz
39749 - A.R. Dela Rosa
78214 - Edwin Villamor
38679 - Dong Casapat
85726 - Francisca Reytuti
78483 - Macky Del Espiritu

For P5000 cash prize

Ticket # 60474 - Reymond Avila
60479 - Mica Materizo

Prizes unclaimed until year-end will be added to the ANF fund.

EUCCHARISTIC JOURNEYS IN DIFFERENT REGIONS

More areas are being visited by the organizing team headed by the VP Organizing, Pat Alcorcon. Last February 21 the group visited the Imus Diocesan Council which held its Vigilia de Espigas. In this occasion there were around 700 adorers who participated in the vigil in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The main celebrant of the Holy Mass was Bishop Reynaldo Evangelista, DD, who was also installed as the new Diocesan Director of Diocesan Council of Imus. Bishop Evangelista strongly urged the establishment of turnos in every parish and double the number of members of the existing turnos.

Bro. Pat Alcorcon proceeded to Bicol last February 26 and had discussion with Bishop Rolando Tirona for the establishment of Bicol Regional Council and reorganization and revival of turnos and sections under the Archdiocese of Nueva Caceres.

On March 7 & 8, the organizing team visited Pangasinan. They made a courtesy call with Archbishop Socrates Villegas and discussed the establishment of Pangasinan Regional Council in the near future.

WASHING OF THE FEET

Last Maundy Thursday, April 17, the traditional washing of the feet of the apostles by Jesus Christ and the institution of the Eucharist was remembered. ANF was fortunate and honored because our National President, Bro. Caloy Landagan was invited to act as one of the apostles. His foot was 'washed and kissed' by the archbishop of Manila, His Excellency Cardinal Chito Tagle. The occasion was held at the newly renovated Manila Cathedral.



ANF DIRECTION'S SECTION : This section features new programs, updates of plans and important E.O.'s

THE FORMATION TEAM IS REVITALIZED

The objective of the Formation Team is to "feed information about ANF" down to the farthest turnos from the National Council which is based in Manila. This can't happen without improving the organizational structure of the Formation Team. Hence, more sub-formation teams will be created, and each sub-formation team will have their own formation teams to reach the grass-roots of the organization. Three (3) Major Formation Teams will be created: one in Luzon, one in Visayas and one in Mindanao. Qualified formators who will undergo series of formation seminars will man the different major Formation Teams.

Programs to be implemented are the following:

1. Formation seminars - this will touch the basics of ANF, i.e., History, Importance of ANF, Duties of Adorers, Different Vigils, Motto and Signs, and PBA (Prayer, Brotherhood, Apostolate)
2. Growth Seminars (Levels 1 & 2) - these seminars will include different topics about leadership, Our Mother Mary, Prayers & Life of Saints, Intimacy with the Lord, other important topics on Eucharist, Miracles and Testimonies
3. Deepening Seminars - the topics have yet to be finalized with the National Director

What do we expect from these seminars:

1. Know-how of adorers about ANF will improve
2. The minds of adorers will open to the love of the Eucharist. (Know, Love, Adore, Serve and Propagate)
3. Closer and intimate relationship of adorers with God
4. A stronger Adoracion Nocturna Filipina which will be an arm of the Church in her evangelization efforts.

The Formation Team is headed by Ernesto L. Concepcion, Team Members: Angelito T. Sales, Loreto C. Guinhawa, Jose A. Montano, Andres DL Francisco, Renato T. Ferrer, Lazaro L. Katigbak.

The 'vehicle' for the information dissemination will be the newsletter of ANF, THE REAL PRESENCE.

BOOK ON EXPERIENCES WITH JESUS AND THE EUCHARIST

The National Director issued EO 001 on this subject. The purpose is to gather and record exceptional life experiences with Christ and/or the Eucharist to be taken-up by the concerned officers from their corresponding Diocesan/Section and Turno levels. The materials that will be collected will be reviewed, studied carefully, and will be book-bound. The intention is to inspire the readers on how these experiences changed the lives of the contributors.

Everybody is welcome to submit written testimonies on their experiences with Jesus Christ and / or the Eucharist. The book is intended to be released before the Eucharistic Assembly in October 2015.

THE EDITORIAL BOARD FOR THE REAL PRESENCE WAS CREATED

The Editorial Board was created to oversee the publication and release of the official newsletter, The Real Presence (TRP).

The newsletter must contain articles ' a propos' and / or appertaining to ANF Formation and other relevant ANF updates and information only.

Since Bro. Adolfo G. Lomuntad is no longer an officer of the National Council, the task of The Real Presence's preparation and publication will now be under the Editorial Board thru the guidance of the National Director. The Board is chaired by Ernesto L. Concepcion with the following members: Manny I. Granados, Pat Alcorcon, Renato T. Ferrer, Solomeo Abuel, Demetrio Opinon and Pete Bugay. The National Director, Rev. Fr. Manny Flores, S.J. and the National president Carlos Landagan are the advisers.

Initially, the TRP will be limited to four (4) sections, i.e.,

1. Formation Section - this section will feature the homilies of Pope Francis which will be used for group sharing and reflection of adorers during their monthly meetings.
2. Information Section - this section will feature the current and important events in ANF.
3. ANF Direction's Section - this section will feature new program, plans and important E.O.'s
4. Leadership Section - this section will give the ANF leaders the tools in executing their duties and responsibilities.

BILLING UPDATES

Update on Billing starting 2014 will be implemented by the concerned officers way down to all their turnos under their responsibility. A matrix must be prepared where their registration number, names, middle names and surnames, age, sex, status, cell phone number, landline number, and their residential addresses with house no., street, barangay, town and province are all indicated. The regional council presidents, diocesan council presidents, section presidents are requested to get the matrix from your respective areas. Target date of submission is on or before June 30, 2014.

CREATION OF ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS

The National Director, Fr. Manny Flores, created a position for the ecclesiastical affairs which will handle issues with the priests and bishops of different parishes and dioceses. Bro. Renato Ferrer, president of the Central Luzon Regional Council, was appointed as VP for Ecclesiastical Affairs. He will closely coordinate with the Formation Team and the Oranizin Committee.

LAUNCHING OF THE TRIPLE VIGIL

The National Director, Fr. Manny Flores will personally explain the beauty of conducting the triple vigil on the Eucharist, Mary and Joseph. He is requesting the officers of Section 134 to set three (3) parishes to be the pilot turnos. Should the launching be succesful, this triple vigil will slowly be introduced to other turnos.

ADORACION NOCTURNA FILIPINA

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LEADERSHIP SECTION : This section features the directions and guidance for leaders and applicable circumstances that can inspire leaders and / or actual happenings that can be basis for improvement.

LEADERSHIP BARRIERS IN ADORACION NOCTURNA FILIPINA

Good leaders produce good results, poor leaders produce poor results and bad leaders produce bad results. These are also applicable to leading a team in Adoracion Nocturna Filipina. Good Jefes have active turnos, good section officers have active sections. Poor leaders of turnos, have inactive turnos, poor leaders of sections have inactive sections. The performance of a team depends on the way the leaders perform. There are leaders whose educational attainment are not that high, but, still they can run smoothly an organization and have a progressive team. There are good professionals but fail in leading a team.

Leading a team in Adoracion Nocturna Filipina is not a easy as leading a team in the corporate world. In ANF, leaders dedicate and share their time, talent and treasure due to their apostolic commitment. While in a corporate world, the leaders perform their functions diligently because they are paid and their performance is evaluated, and their future is affected, if they fail in the evaluation. Because of this difference, leading a team in a church organization, like ANF, needs more patience, dedication and effort to make tha team succeed in meeting its goal.

Examining and evaluating the performance of leadership in ANF, it is notable that there are barriers blocking the desired results. Based on actual happening in turnos, sections, diocesan councils and regional councils, failure of leaders are attributable, but not limited to, the barriers listed below:

1. Inexperience of the leader

There are officers of ANF who are given a position who do not have experience leading a group. There are officers of a section who had not even been a jefe de turno. There are officers of section or diocesan council who are not even attending meetings and vigils of their turno. In many cases, instead of being an asset, the officer becomes a liability of the team.

2. Lack of strong self-determination of the leader

The leaders do not exert effort to lead the team with a conviction to make the team's performance improve. The leader just wait for 'miracles' to happen. There is no clear team purpose. Do not pay attention to the work load his subordinates. Do not plan to make things easy. Inability to decide.

3. Out-of-focus of the leader

The leader joins different church organizations and accepts different positions that put him in a situation to be out-of-focus. If the meetings of different organizations have conflicting schedules, most of the time ANF becomes second priority. There are cases that ANF meeting is rescheduled. The worst thing is the meeting is cancelled.

4. Flaws in the character of the leader

The leader is not a charismatic one, no charism at all. Very hard to get along with. The leader is not practicing humility, always pride. Pretends to be all-knowledgable. Does not accept criticism. Does not accept suggestions. Does not believe in previous mistakes can help improve his leadership. He has negative attitude.

5. Flaws in the relationship with the clergy

The leader lacks respect to the clergy, particularly the spiritual director of his team. There is no rapport with the clergy. The leader does not want to talk to the chaplain or the spiritual director. The leader does not involve himself in the parish activities. These attitudes affect the relationship with the clergy.

6. Poor time management

Poor management of time that cause irritation among members.

7. Poor communication

Many leaders fail in communicating to his subordinates effectively, thus the desired informations to be transmitted are not understood precisely and correctly.

We can enumerate other barriers in leadership of an officer. What the leader must do is to re-look at the vision, mission and goals of the organization. Knowing those basics of an organization, he should sit down with his group and discuss how to improve the leadership and group performance.

TWO GREAT LEADERS OF THE CHURCH CANONIZED AS SAINTS



ST. JOHN XXIII

"There are even some who, led by ideas foreign to traditional piety, look upon a Holy Hour of adoration as of minor importance. There is no doubt that a flood of graces will descend upon your family and the world if more souls would become docile pupils of adoration."



ST. JOHN PAUL II

"Every act of reverence, every genuflection that you make before the Blessed Sacrament is important because it is an act of faith in Christ, and act of love for Christ. And every sign of the cross and gesture of respect made each time you pass a church is also an act of faith."

On the Feast of the Divine Mercy, Pope Francis presided over John Paul II, and John XXIII historic canonization.

"John XXIII and John Paul II cooperated with the Holy Spirit in renewing and updating the church in keeping with her pristine features, those features which the saints have given her throughout the centuries," Francis said.