



The Real Presence

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

ADORACION NOCTURNA FILIPINA

3rd Flr., Pius XII Catholic Center, United Nations Avenue, Manila



FORMATION

SEPTEMBER 2014 ISSUE ARTICLE



“But without the Cross you can’t understand Christ, the Redeemer.”



HOMILY OF POPE FRANCIS BASED ON Luke 9:43-45

To be a Christian means to be a “Cyrene” [like Simon of Cyrene]. Having the faith consists in this: You belong to Jesus if you bear the weight of the Cross with Him. Otherwise you are going along a path that seems “good” – but is not “true.” The basis for the Pope’s reflections was the day’s Gospel, in which Christ asks His disciples what the people are saying about Him, and receives the most desperate answers. This episode, the Pope noted, takes place in the context of the Gospel that sees Jesus guarding “in a special manner His true identity.” On several occasions, when someone came close to divulging His identity, “He stopped them,” just as many times He prevented the demons from revealing His nature as the “Son of God,” Who had come for the salvation of the world. This, the Pope explained, was because the people misunderstood and thought of the Messiah as a military leader who would expel the Romans. It was only privately, to the Twelve, that Jesus “began to do the catechesis on His true identity”:

“‘The Son of Man, that is, the Messiah, the Anointed must suffer greatly, must be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised.’ This is the path of your liberation. This is the path of the Messiah, of the Just One: the Passion, the Cross. And He explains His identity to them. They don’t want to understand; and in the passage from Matthew, one sees how Peter refuses this: ‘No! No, Lord...’ But He begins to open up the mystery of His true identity: ‘Yes, I am the Son of God. But this is my path: I must go along this path of suffering.’”

This, Pope Francis said, is the “pedagogy” that Jesus uses “to prepare the hearts of the disciples, the hearts of the people, to understand this mystery of God”:

“Sin is so ugly, but God’s love is so great that He saves us in this way: with this identity in the Cross. You can’t understand Jesus Christ the Redeemer without the Cross: you can’t understand! We can come to believe that he is a great prophet, he does good things, he’s a saint. But without the Cross you can’t understand Christ the Redeemer. The hearts of the disciples, the hearts of the people were not prepared to understand it. They didn’t understand the prophecies, they didn’t understand that He Himself was the Lamb for the sacrifice. They were not prepared.”

It is only on Palm Sunday, the Pope noted, that Christ allowed the crowds to proclaim, “more or less,” His identity, when they cried out “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!” And this, Pope Francis said, was because “if the people did not cry out, the stones would have cried out.” On the other hand, it is only after His death that the identity of Jesus appears in its fullness; the “first confession” came from the Roman centurion, the Pope noted. He concluded: “Step by step [Jesus] prepares us so that we can understand better. He prepares us to accompany Him with our crosses, along His path to Redemption”:

“He prepares us to be ‘Cyrenes’ to help Him bear the Cross. And our Christian life without this is not Christian. It is a spiritual life, good... Jesus is the great prophet, and He has saved us. But He and I, no... No, you with Him! Taking the same path. Still our identity as Christians must be guarded, not believing that being Christian is a merit; it is a spiritual path of perfection. It is not a merit, it is pure grace.”

For reflection and sharing in group of not more than 5, you may start with the following:

Pope Francis remarked: “You can’t understand Jesus Christ, the Redeemer, without the Cross.”

1. Briefly share an experience when you questioned God because of the cross you carry in your life.
2. How would you be “Cyrene” to others?

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PANGASINAN REGIONAL COUNCIL



The ANF Pangasinan Regional Council was established last September 8, 2014. The establishment of the Council and the installation of its officers was held at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary of Manaoag at 11 a.m. Archbishop Socrates B. Villegas, Regional Council Director and local ordinary of the Diocese of Lingayen-Dagupan, led the concelebrated Mass. The National Council officers, headed by the National Director, Rev. Fr. Manny Flores, led the formal establishment and installation ceremonies. Since the occasion falls on the celebration of the nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, many parishioners, devotees and pilgrims present were able to witness the solemn activity.

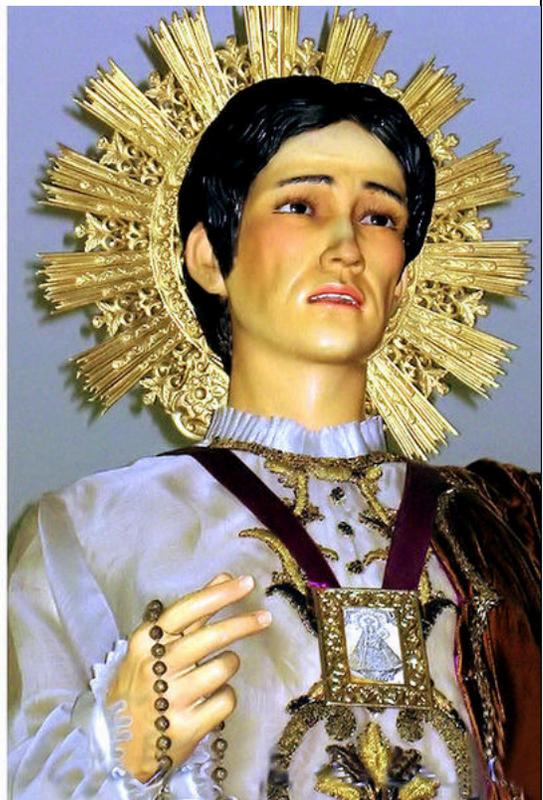
CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME PANGASINAN REGIONAL COUNCIL!

Since the Laity is called upon to be active in evangelization, presented below is a chronology of activities that the ANF National Council conducted and events participated in the Year of the Laity:

CHRONOLOGY OF ANF ACTIVITIES IN THE YEAR OF THE LAITY

Date	Activities	Participated/ Conducted by
01/11/14	Held year-end Retreat at Mary Ridge Retreat House in Tagaytay and Fr. Director announced the new officers of the Adoracion Nocturna Filipina for the year 2014 to 2016	Fr. Manny Flores, ANF Director
01/1/14	Paid out of Damayan Fund the bereaved families of deceased adorers (forty-three beneficiaries)	National Council
01/18/14 to 01/19/14	Held a planning session at Punta Fuego, Nasugbu, Batangas. Plans and program include, among others, organizing regional and diocesan councils, improvement of administrative matters and billing systems, establishment of formation teams.	-do-
02/08/14	Reactivated the ANF official organ "The Real Presence" to contain articles pertaining to ANF Formation and other updates and information	ANF National Council
03/09/14	Attended the celebration of 2 nd Anniversary of ANF Southern Tagalog Regional Council encouraging the council to strengthen ANF in the area by activating and organizing new Turnos.	National Council Officers and Southern Tagalog Reg.I Council
03/12/14 to 03/14/14	Attended the Seminar on the Year of the Laity and Lay Formation sponsored by CBCP and the Episcopal Commission on the Laity at Tagaste Retreat House, Tagaytay City focusing on Baptism, Confirmation and Mama Mary	ANF National President
03/15/14	Revitalization of the Formation Team to conduct: 1. Basic Formation Seminars (history, significance of ANF, vigil, prayer, brotherhood and apostolate) 2. Growth Seminars (leadership, Mother Mary, Eucharist, relationship with the clergy, 3. Deepening Seminars (Leadership, The Eucharist, Evangelization)	ANF National Formation Team
03/22/14	Installation of New ANF Officers held at Pius XII Catholic Center, UN Ave., Paco, Manila	ANF National Director
03/29/14	Imposition of Veteran Adorers, Turno Officers and Active Adorers of the Diocese of Caloocan held at Shrine of Our Lady of Grace.	National Council
04/05/14	The Central Luzon Regional Council holds its general assembly at the Lord's Transfiguration Parish in Angeles City with the theme "The Adorers are called to be Servant-Leaders".	ANF Central Luzon Regional Council
04/17/14	The ANF participates in the "Washing of the Feet" with Cardinal Tagle as main celebrant.	ANF National President
04/23/14	Conducted Diocesan Formation Seminar-Trainors Training for the Diocese of Caloocan	ANF National Council
05/15/14 to 05/18/14	Conducted formation seminars preparatory to the organization of the Regional Councils of the Ecclesiastical Provinces of Nueva Segovia and Lingayen-Dagupan	ANF National Organizing Team
May, 2014	Attended various Bihilya Espigas/Tassel Vigil (Vigil to the Blessed Sacrament with Mary Mother of the Church (Dioceses of Lucena, Gumaca, Batangas, San Pablo, Balanga, Cabanatuan, Tarlac)	ANF National Council
05/13/14 to 05/16/14	Attended the First Asian Conference on the Family held at Pius XII Catholic Center, UN Ave. Manila	ANF National President
05/24/14	Conducted formation seminar (level 1) for the Diocese of Cabanatuan at St. Nicolas of Tolentine, San Nicolas, Gapan, Nueva Vizcaya	ANF Formation Team

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SAN LORENZO RUIZ – THE FIRST FILIPINO SAINT

In our September issue, we are featuring the first Filipino saint, San Lorenzo Ruiz, whose feast is celebrated every September 28. He had shown his love to the Christian faith, a love that every Christian should bear in his / her heart most especially ANF adorers.

Lorenzo Ruiz is the first Filipino saint. He is also the first Filipino martyred for the Christian Faith. Lorenzo Ruiz was a layman, married, and had two sons and a daughter. Born in Binondo, Manila, about 1600's, he was educated in the school of the Dominicans there. He served as an altar boy and later was a helper and clerk-sacristan in the church of Binondo. He was a member of the Confraternity of the Rosary. He made his living probably as a calligrapher, one who renders documents in beautiful penmanship for private or official use. To be sure, that work denoted an accomplished and educated person, especially at a time when many an illustrious personage were far from excelling in this art. An adverse event made him leave the Philippines in 1636. When he was in his late twenties or early thirties, he became involved or was accused of being involved in a criminal case, the circumstances of which are far from clear. Whether he was involved or not, one thing was clear, he was afraid that, as a consequence of a trial or mistrial, he might be given a death sentence. Upon landing in Japan where Christians were being persecuted, he was arrested and imprisoned together with his companions. He underwent inhuman tortures and valiantly confessed his Christian Faith. Refusing to renounce his Faith, he told his executioner that he was ready to die for God and give himself for many thousands of lives if he had them. On September 27, 1637, he was hung from a gallows by his feet, his body falling into a pit. After two days of agony, he died of bleeding and suffocation. His body was cremated and the ashes thrown into the sea. He and fifteen companions, martyred in the same persecution, were beatified by Pope John Paul II in Manila on February 18, 1981 and elevated to full honors of the altar by canonization on October 18, 1987 in Rome. Their feast day is on September 28th.

SAN LORENZO RUIZ

PRAYER TO SAN LORENZO RUIZ

O most merciful and almighty God,
 You bestowed as gift to Lorenzo Ruiz
 The strength to withstand
 The overpowering forces of death
 For the sake of his faith in You.

Through his prayers,
 Help us to follow his example
 By overcoming all life's trials
 And eventually, increase
 Our hope and love in You.

O St. Lorenzo Ruiz,
 You brought honor to your country,
 Having been a level-headed
 And prudent father of the family,
 A witness of Christ in your life
 Until your death.

We present all our petitions
 To God through your help
 So that by our actions,
 We may know more and love more
 Jesus our Lord and Savior.

We humbly implore
 Your intercession O dear St. Lorenzo,
 For the infinite glory of God
 And in honor of your triumph
 As a martyr of Christ
 And defender of Christianity.

Amen



**Minor Basilica
 and National
 Shrine of San
 Lorenzo Ruiz**

San Lorenzo Ruiz
 served as an altar
 boy and later was a
 helper and clerk-
 sacristan in this
 church at Binondo,
 Manila

In previous issues of the THE REAL PRESENCE, we had reviewed the Duties and Responsibilities of Turno officers. Now, we will give the officers / leaders of ANF some guides in leading a group. A leader, especially when he / she is an ANF adorer, **MUST** practice the K.L.A.S.P. What is K.L.A.S.P.?

K - KNOW JESUS

1. What shall we do to KNOW Jesus? What will lead us to KNOW Jesus?

In order to know Jesus, we should:

- a. Read the Bible, Books of Life of Saints, other religious articles / books/reading materials
- b. Attend Mass regularly; Reflect on the homily
- c. Be an active ANF adorer

L - LOVE JESUS

1. How can we show our LOVE to Jesus? How should we LOVE Jesus?

- a. Loving Jesus is loving yourself. You don't want to hurt yourself. Therefore, you should avoid sins that will hurt and make Jesus unhappy;
- b. Loving Jesus is loving others. Do your obligation to others with love.
"A NEW COMMANDMENT I GIVE YOU, THAT YOU LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU" (Jn. 13:34)
- c. Practice humility.
- d. Be an active ANF adorer.

A - ADORE JESUS

1. How do we ADORE Jesus? What is EUCHARISTIC ADORATION?

- a. Understood simply, Eucharistic Adoration is adoring or honoring the Eucharistic Presence of Christ. In a deeper sense, it involves "the contemplation of the Mystery of Christ truly present before us".
During Eucharistic Adoration, we "watch and wait", we remain "silent" in His Presence and open ourselves to His Graces which flow from the Eucharist ... By worshipping the Eucharistic Jesus, we become what God wants us to be! Like a magnet, The Lord draws us to Himself and gently transforms us. In its fullest essence ... Eucharistic Adoration is **"God and Man reaching out for each other, at the same time!"**
- b. Believe in Jesus as the Son of God, the Redeemer, and He is truly present in the Eucharist.
- c. Be an active adorer.

S - SERVE JESUS

1. How do we SERVE Jesus?

- a. We are serving Jesus when we serve others. Service is a manifestation of the agape, or of a love that "does not insist on its own interests" (cf. 1Cor 13:5) but that of others; it does not consist in self-seeking but in giving. Service is not a virtue but it springs from virtue, especially from charity; greatest expression of the new commandment.
- b. Serve first your family, then serve others. Our immediate FAMILY as the center...PARISH and COMMUNITY as our family and the ADORERS as our extended family.
- c. Commit yourself to SERVE others. Commitment is synonymous to generosity. Somebody who is committed must give. And somebody who is not good does not give; even if he says he is faithful to his promise, he is actually a liar. Somebody who is committed must give all the time because it was by an act of generosity that God saved all of us.
- d. Be an active adorer.

P - PROCLAIM JESUS

1. How do we PROCLAIM Jesus?

"This is our preaching. We warn and teach everyone true wisdom, aiming to make everyone perfect in Christ."
(Colossians 1:28)

- a. To make everyone perfect in Christ, **K.L.A.S** must be part of everyone's daily living before he / she can proclaim Jesus; meaning, he / she must KNOW, LOVE, ADORE and SERVE Jesus.
- b. By proclaiming Jesus: We believe that He is the image of the unseen God, for all creation He is the first born, for in Him all things were created, visible and invisible; thrones, rulers, authorities, powers, all was made through Him and for Him. He is the head of His body, the Church; He is also the first raised from the dead. Through His blood shed on the cross, God establishes peace on earth as in Heaven. (Colossians 1:15-20)
- c. An active and good adorer **MUST** strive to Know, Love, Adore, Serve and Proclaim Jesus. It will be a perfect quality of a leader.
- d. An active adorer practicing K.L.A.S.P. fully understands Servant Leadership.

BIRTHDAY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Feast Day: September 8

The Church believes that from the very moment of her conception, she was totally free from sin and remained free of sin for her whole life. Our Lord Jesus, the Son of God, should be conceived in a body without the taint of sin. Mary’s birth, then, is clearly something to celebrate. Her parents were Joachim and Ann, wherein the church celebrates its feast day on 26th of July.

Both the Eastern Church in Constantinople and Western Church in Rome have been celebrating Mary’s birth since the 6th and 7th centuries.

The liturgy traces its origin to the consecration of St. Ann’s Basilica in Jerusalem sometime in the 6th century, though there is a (5th century) basilica in honor of Mary on a site known as the “Shepherd’s Field” said to be the home of Joachim and Ann. In the 6th century however, a new basilica was consecrated to St. Ann as a replacement.

Eastern Church monks brought the feast to Rome in the 7th century and spread through the Western Church. By the 13th century, it was raised to a solemnity with a major octave, a vigil, and Pope Sergius at that time (687-701) instituted a procession from the Roman Forum to the St. Mary Major basilica.

The feast has a simple octave, following the liturgical reforms of Pope St. Pius X, but in 1955 Pope Pius XII abolished the octave altogether. The Liturgy now has the rank of a “feast”.

September 8 was chosen as the octave day of the former Byzantine New Year. Although the feast was celebrated on various dates over the centuries, September 8 predominated. The feast celebrating Mary’s Conception without sin on December 8, was later set to correspond to nine months preceding Mary’s birth (just as the Annunciation precedes the birth of Jesus by nine months).

In the Eastern Church, Mary’s birthday is celebrated as one of the twelve great liturgies, their title is “The Birth of the Exalted Queen, The Birth giver of GOD and Ever-Virgin Mary”.

We, Catholics should join the whole church in remembering the birthday of Mary, the Mother of GOD, and our mother, too. Mary, listened to the WORD of GOD, acted on it, and humbly cooperated to the plan of GOD’s salvation to mankind. Let us show our gratitude, filial love and devotion by responding to her request to all of us,- “Please, Pray the Rosary”, which contains the Mysteries and the Life of our Lord Jesus Christ in the GOSPEL.

THE SEVEN SORROWS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Feast Day : September 15



THE SORROWFUL BVM



I. Prophecy of Simeon



II. The Flight to Egypt



III. Loss of Child Jesus for 3 Days, Found Later in His Father’s House



V. The Crucifixion of Jesus



VI. Taking Jesus Down From the Cross



VII. The Burial of Jesus



IV. Witnessing Jesus carry His Cross

Holy Mother, pierce me through; In my heart each wound renew.

LETTER OF APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE FROM THE APOSTOLATE DIRECTOR OF THE DIOCESE OF BALANGA

The National Formation Team received a letter of appreciation from Rev. Msgr. Vic Ocampo, the Apostolate Director of the Diocese of Balanga. Msgr. Ocampo, in his letter expressed his high regards to Adoracion Nocturna Filipina for ***“the love and devotion to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ”***.

To Msgr. Vic Ocampo, your letter inspires us to work harder in promoting the love and devotion to our Lord Jesus Christ. Please extend to Bishop Ruperto Santos our sincerest thanks for allowing our team to conduct seminars in your diocese.

Following is the letter of Rev. Mnsgr. Vic Ocampo:

ST. DOMINIC DE GUZMAN PARISH
Abucay, Bataan

September 25, 2014

Bro Nestor Concepcion
Chairman, Formation Team
Bro Renato Bobot T Ferrer
ANF CLRC President
289 F Navarette St
Bgy Arkong Bato,
Valenzuela City

Dear Brothers,

Mabuhay si Hesus.

I am very happy to have received so early the Attendance list and your complements for my homily. Of all the church organizations, I have the highest regard for the Adoracion Nocturna Filipina for they hold the most authentic way of expressing love and devotion to Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. No other religious activity surpasses the Holy Eucharist. As the Holy Eucharist is made possible through ordained ministers, the Lay people on the other hand complement the priests by extending the time of worship to the Holy Trinity through the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

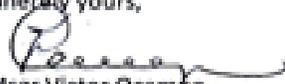
In this letter, Bishop Ruperto wished to acknowledge having received your letter and to thank you for your continued support to this organization.

I wish to commend you, brothers, for devoting your time in the propagation of this devotion and to lead and provide formation to our Laity in this sublime endeavour to respond to the command of Our Lord, “Take and Eat this Bread” and His modest request, “Could you not watch an hour with me?”

May you have a longer life to continue your apostolate and give benefits to our Church in this particular devotion to the Holy Eucharist that is so close to Our Lord Jesus Christ.

One with you in the love of Our Lord,

Sincerely yours,


Msgr Victor Ocampo
Spiritual Director

NEW SET OF YOUTH ADORERS ORGANIZED IN SECTION 123 OF VALENZUELA CITY

Section 123 of Valenzuela City assigned Bro. Sesinando Santos as the vice president for Tarcisian. Bro. Sen, as he is called by friends, was given this assignment because of his experience as Jefe de Turno of Turno 1535 of the Parish of the Risen Lord. Last August 30, 2014, there were 43 youth from the Sta. Cruz Parish, Paco, Obando, Bulacan, who attended the Basic Orientation for tarcisians.



Bro. Sesinando Santos conducts Basic Orientation at the Sta. Cruz Parish, Paco, Obando, Bulacan.

The participants posed for a picture taking during break period.

THE NATIONAL TARCISIAN COUNCIL CELEBRATED ITS 41ST ANNIVERSARY



The Nat'l Tarcisian Council under its Spiritual Director, Rev. Fr. Socrates Montealto celebrated its 41st Annual Tarcisian Vigil in honor of St. Tarcisus last Aug. 16, 2014 at the Nuestra Senora de Arranzazu Parish Church in San Mateo, Rizal. Tarcisian Turno 177 hosted the celebration. Among those who graced the occasion were Bro. Minoy Lanuza, Jr- Nat'l. Tarcisian Promoter, Bro. Bong Dayap, Jr. - NC Tarcisian Organizer, Bro. Tammy Tamunda - NC Asst. Tarcisian Organizer, Bro. Nards Atienza - Southern Tagalog Reg'l. Council Tarcisian Organizer, Bro. Rod Fermin- Nat'l. Organizer, and the untiring Rev. Fr. Soc Montealto. ANF Nat'l. Council Director Rev. Fr. Manny M. Flores celebrated the mass at 4pm.

(Continuation from page 9) THE NATIONAL COUNCIL PREPARES

Art. 166 –No proposal shall be accepted by the National Eucharistic Assembly unless the following requirements are complied with:

- a. An Adorer who wishes to submit an amendment to the Constitution must do so in writing. He hands his proposal to his Jefe de Turno three days before the Turno’s regular monthly meeting vigil immediately preceding the General Convention of the Section.
- b. The Jefe de Turno reads the proposal at the vigil meeting; but the proposal itself is not discussed. At the end of the vigil meeting, and before the closing of the minutes of the meeting, the Jefe de Turno asks for a simple vote of yes or no from the Adorers present. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of those present is required before the proposal is submitted to the Executive Board of the Section.
- c. All amendments proposed by the Turnos are taken up by the Executive Board of the Section at its regular meeting, or if the President deems necessary, with the consent of the Section Director, at a special meeting. But in order that the proposed amendments be the fruit of mature discussion and deliberation, it is expedient that they be studied by a committee formed by officers of the Executive Board. A two-thirds majority vote of approval by the members of the Executive Board is necessary before the proposed amendments are sent to the National Council.
- d. The National Council is likewise authorized to propose amendments, such proposal shall be referred to the Permanent commission.
- e. The National council, through the Permanent commission and one or two committees created for the purpose, shall study the proposed amendments submitted by the different Sections and/ or the National Council. Then a draft of the parts of the Constitution amended is sent to all Sections for study and comments, The Sections then submit their comments and suggestions on the draft to the National Council, which will then deliberate on their merits. The National council prepares the final draft of the parts of the Constitution affected by the proposed amendments, for submission to the National eucharistic assembly.
- f. As an exception to the requirements set forth in Paragraphs a), b), and c) above, amendments to the Constitution may also be proposed and submitted direct to the National Council by anyone of the officers of the National Council listed in Paragraph a) of Article 137.

The Approval of Proposals.

Art 167 – In order that an amendment to the Constitution be considered passed, a two-thirds majority vote of approval by the National Eucharistic Assembly is required.

Once an amendment to the Constitution is approved by the National Eucharistic Assembly – and by ecclesiastical authorities, should it be necessary- the amendments shall take effect immediately.

ATTENTION : ALL REGIONAL COUNCILS, DIOCESAN COUNCILS, SECTION EXECUTIVE BOARDS, TURNOS
Please start meeting with your respective units / groups, and discuss the changes or amendments you think will improve further the ADORACION NOCTURNA FILIPINA. Your proposals must be submitted to the National Council.

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