



March 12, 2017

## PARISH BULLETIN

We Care Because We Pray

Second Sunday of Lent

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Forbes Park, Makati

# Let Go & Let God

by Barbie Lu-Young

When we were kids, we had our superheroes and idols. They couldn't do any wrong. They were perfect. We wanted to be like them. As we grew older, this mindset continued to flourish in our life. "I am capable of everything---all by myself" and "I am invincible" were our favorite mantras. We thought that the world revolved around us. We led a life of self-entitlement. We let success get into our heads.

Then, one day, just like a flash of lightning, life catches up with us: frailty of body, setbacks, misfortunes, failures, adversity, sorrow, misery, tragedy creep in one by one. Suddenly, we feel vulnerable, helpless and powerless. The fragility of our health and the ephemerality of life lead us to embrace humility and contemplate on the emptiness of a life of pride and self-aggrandizement.

Humility comes from the Latin word *humus*, which means earth, soil, or dirt. Humility signifies a recognition of our human origin in the dust of which Adam was made. The virtue of humility consists in the living out of a realistic appraisal of our comparative insignificance as creatures who are totally dependent on God. (*R. Garrigou-Lagrange, "The Three Ages of the Interior Life," II, p. 118*)

As we slowly learn to let go and let God take control of our lives, the virtue of humility is taking root in our persona. Joey Albert, a famous singer struggling with cancer, succinctly expressed the real essence of humility of the body and spirit when she said, and I quote: "The real battle is within yourself, how you keep your head above water. I never asked why me. You know, you just end up disappointing yourself if you ask why. You humble yourself and accept and then you let God take over."

**A Eucharistic Community of Families: Humility in Our Community**

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PPC PRESIDENT

*Edmund Lim, KHS*

As we celebrate the beginning of Lent, I want to express my deepest gratitude to all the ministries and organizations who participated in our Buling-Buling 2017. Once more, members of our ministries and mandated organization rallied and took our yearly revelry to the next level. As the pictures in today's bulletin will attest, our members gave their best.

Another thank you to our Execom and Pastoral Team for organising our annual event.

Truly, we are a Eucharistic Community of different families serving Our Lord in Solidarity, Sharing our Time, Talent and Treasure.

May we all have a meaningful Lenten celebration. Please join us in all of our liturgical activities leading to the Paschal Triduum this April.





Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem

# A FILIPINO CHAPLAINCY IN JORDAN

by Ambassador Jesus P. Tambunting, KGCHS  
Lieutenant of Honor

December 19, 2016 was a significant date for the Philippine Lieutenancy of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. On that day, a Filipino priest specially chosen for the mission of establishing the Philippine Chaplaincy in Jordan left for Amman - the culmination of a "journey" that started in the Holy Land five years ago.

The Filipino Chaplaincy project in Jordan began during a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2011 when the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem at that time, His Beatitude Fouad Twal, requested for a meeting with the Philippine Lieutenancy's Grand Prior, His Eminence Luis Antonio Cardinal Tagle and some members of the Order. His Beatitude expressed the need for a Filipino chaplaincy in Jordan. There are around 45,000 Filipinos who reside in Jordan, he said, and they need a deeper opportunity to practice the Faith and to receive spiritual guidance.

Upon coming home, the Lieutenancy began to meet and laid the groundwork for the chaplaincy project in Jordan. The Lieutenancy also sought the assistance of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines' Episcopal Commission for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People (CBCP-ECMI), especially in choosing the priest who would do the challenging task of ministering to overseas Filipino workers in a conflict-ridden region.

Father Gerald Metal, the priest chosen to set up the chaplaincy in Jordan, has been warmly received by the Filipinos. He is now working hard in fulfilling his mandate, taking over and "Filipinizing" Masses dominated by Filipinos as well as conducting visits to and saying Masses for abused domestic

helpers at the OWWA (Overseas Workers Welfare Administration). He goes around the communities of Filipinos, which comprise the largest group of overseas workers in Jordan.

Aside from saying Masses, Father Gerald spreads the Word of God and ministers to Filipinos there through visitations, Internet broadcasting and the social media, and by establishing links through organizations such as Couples for Christ and FilOrg.

With the necessary documents from the Bishop of Amman and the assistance of an Arab staff from the Jesuit Center, Father Gerald filed for residency visa and received confirmation on January 18, only one month after his arrival. Indeed, as Ambassador Tambunting puts it, "everything is falling into place, five years after the idea of putting up a Filipino chaplaincy in Jordan was discussed in the Pilgrimage of 2011."

## SUPPORTING THE CHRISTIAN PRESENCE IN THE HOLY LAND

The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem is the only lay institution of the Vatican State charged with the tasks of providing for the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem and all activities and initiatives to support the Christian presence in the Holy Land. It is headed by the Cardinal Grand Master who is appointed by the Holy Father to lead and govern the Order.

The Philippine Lieutenancy of the Equestrian Order was established in 1953, and its official headquarters is the Santuario de San Antonio Parish.

Joining the Order means "taking on a commitment for life: the commitment to be a Witness to the Faith, to lead an exemplary



At the Solemn Investiture of New Members held on September 15, 2016 at the Santuario de San Antonio Parish. From left: Ambassador Jesus P. Tambunting, Lieutenant of the Order; His Eminence Luis Antonio G. Cardinal Tagle, Grand Prior; and His Eminence Edwin Cardinal O'Brien, Cardinal Grand Master.

Christian life of continuing charity in support of the Christian communities in the Holy Land, to practice the true charitable commitment of a Christian. Being accepted to the Order is the highest Papal award which can be bestowed on the clergy and the laity of the Catholic Church."

On September 15, 2016 the Cardinal Grand Master of the Order, His Eminence Edwin Frederick Cardinal O'Brien presided over the Investiture of new Knights and Dames in solemn ceremonies held at the Santuario de San Antonio Parish. It was the first time in the Philippine Lieutenancy's history that Cardinal Grand Master of the Order visited the country and solemnized over an Investiture.

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Father Gerald Metal with members of the Filipino community during the celebration of the Feast of the Baptism of Christ at the River Jordan.

In his e-mail to Equestrian Order Lieutenancy, Ambassador Jesus P. Tambunting, Father Gerald wrote:

"Filipino attendance at the Baptism site was the largest Filipino assembly in the history and we were the largest single group, bigger than all the communities combined: Jordanians, Sri Lankans and other groups. We filled up 8 buses...they were so proud to see a Filipino priest lining up in procession side by side with the Arab clergy. They even cried, for their dignity was raised up to a new level."





It was the last day of February. Kulang-kulang, as many were wont to describe it, but in SSAP, no day could have been more perfect to mark Buling-Buling, our version of a village fête. Eyes sparkled with anticipation as we moved past the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, into the brightly lit gardens, through to the hallways and up to the social hall, agog with a festive crowd hurrying through their burgers, shawarma, salpicao and snacks.

**CWL** ladies kicked off this round-the-world musical journey with a tribute to **INDIA**. They wore belly “bedlah” costumes in flowing chiffon, picking up the soft shades of Spring. Their heads and hips were accentuated with beads, sequins, crystals, coins, beaded fringes and embroidery, enough to drive the crowd pleasingly woozy. When they moved in motion with the famous landmarks in India that were projected on a screen, as well as injecting a bit of Bollywood in their frisky steps, the room broke into cheers, whistles and applause. They were zesty and fragrant like India’s exotic spices: curry, cumin, capers, and cardamon.

The **OFS, the Marian Cenacle and Contemplative Ministry** focused on **GREECE**. Ah! The center of early civilization.

Remember Greek mythology with its gods, goddesses and muses - who came to life and walked the floor - King Zeus and his family of deities, not to forget the poets, the Greek plays, chorus and tragedies? Garbed in different costumes of the Greek Isles, the ladies delighted the audience with their version of the Greek hasapiko, danced to native music as well as Abba’s music in Mama Mia. They certainly succeeded in re-educating and captivating the crowd.

**HEALTH CARE** wowed the crowd in their black ruffled skirts with embroidered manton tied to their waist and cabbage roses on their hair as señoritas and damas hermosas from **ESPAÑA**. With a handsome toreador in the corrida de toros as the background, the ladies moved with grace and precision turning on their magnetism with every flick of their Spanish fans. Red was the color of passion. Olé!

Like a gentle wave from the sea, the **CORO de San Antonio** made their entrance not to dance but to sing with an **Arabian Nights** theme. Garbed in silk robes and onion-shaped turbans, the Coro sang stirring memories of love, gallant and true. Who wouldn’t dance to “Dawn’s promising skies, petals on a pool drifting; imagine these in one pair of eyes and this



## Music Ministry - Africa



is my beloved"? From the Broadway musical Kismet. The crowd's applause was deafening. Encore!

The **SCHOLARS** of the Parish showcased the **PHILIPPINES**, with a rolling background imagery of all the famous attractions of our islands. What was more engaging was to watch young, promising and enthusiastic faces moving and dancing with hip and nimble steps that didn't miss a beat. It was synonymous with being young. This night, we all were.

No one spoke Portuguese but the moment the first sound of Brazilian music filled the hall, in timing with the video of the incredible sights in **BRASIL**, the crowd reacted with a heightened sense of excitement. And **LECOM** didn't disappoint. Rhythmic salsa with exuberant hand movements kept the tempo high and the carnival atmosphere alive. The rainbow, polychromatic colors of their costumes and headdresses were authentically *Bem vindo ao Brasil!*

They called it K-Pop and my guess was it meant Korean Pop? The **YOUTH OF SAN ANTONIO** were eye-popping all right - sleek, robust, and a foot-stomping assembly of adrenalized energy who never lost steam. Keeping pace with a medley

of Korean MTVs, the dancers suddenly parted like the Red Sea to point our attention to a sole dancer wearing shades and a shiny dark suit. The crowd simultaneously gasped and roared approvingly to recognize Father Adame. The Youth pulled an ace with their overnight star.

Sean Cannon of LeCom and EMHC, couldn't help but reminisce. *"The a cappella song staged by the MUSIC MINISTRY tugged at my heartstrings because for 40 years, I've listened to this passionate sound. It's the emotional resonance of AFRICA. I could almost smell the veldt, (the grassland of South Africa), of home. Ngiyabonga, ngiyabonga kakhulu!"* In keeping with this poignant image, the singers wore black, accented by a uniform geometric fabric print in black and white. For makeup, white bold dots outlined the brows and faces that heightened the overall appearance and the drama of this presentation.

It took an effort to switch from a fiesta mode to a more subdued tone after such a fully charged evening. Father Reu simply took the lead and went down to the gardens to begin the ceremony of the burning of the palms. With a grateful heart, we bowed our heads to give thanks to all and for all.



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**BULING-BU**





# FOR MORE PHOTOS AND VIDEOS OF JULING 2017





Coro de San Antonio - Arabia



Coro de San Antonio - Arabia



Health Care Ministry - Spain





OFS, Marian Cenacle & Contemplative Ministry - Greece



Youth of San Antonio - Korea



Youth of San Antonio - Korea





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# BULING-BULING 2017

A FESTIVAL of SONGS & DANCES

Emcees - Suzette Gatmaitan & JJ Yulo



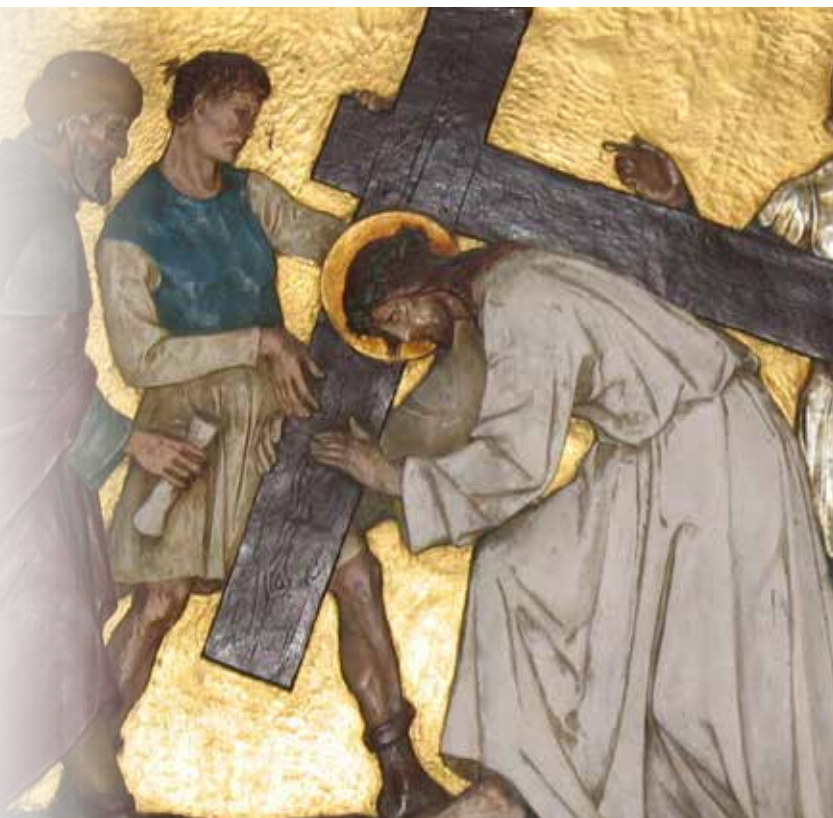
## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

# Stations of the Cross

at the Jardin de Cruces

DATE	SPONSOR
March 10, 2017	OFS/Marian Cenacle
March 17, 2017	LeCom/Health Care Ministry
March 24, 2017	EMHC/MSH
March 31, 2017	SYA/Antioch/Luke
April 7, 2017	Scholarship/MBMG
April 14, 2017	Village Stations of the Cross at Dasmarias Village

\*assembly inside the church at 4:30 pm



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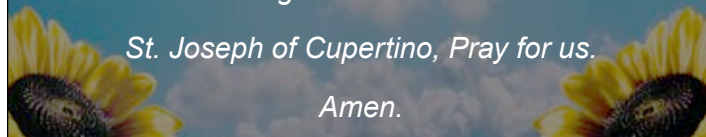
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## Prayer to St. Joseph of Cupertino for Success in Examinations

O Great St. Joseph of Cupertino who while on earth did obtain from God the grace to be asked at your examination only the questions you knew, obtain for me a like favour in the examinations for which I am now preparing. In return I promise to make you known and cause you to be invoked.  
 Through Christ our Lord.

St. Joseph of Cupertino, Pray for us.

Amen.



## PAZ-SUCAT

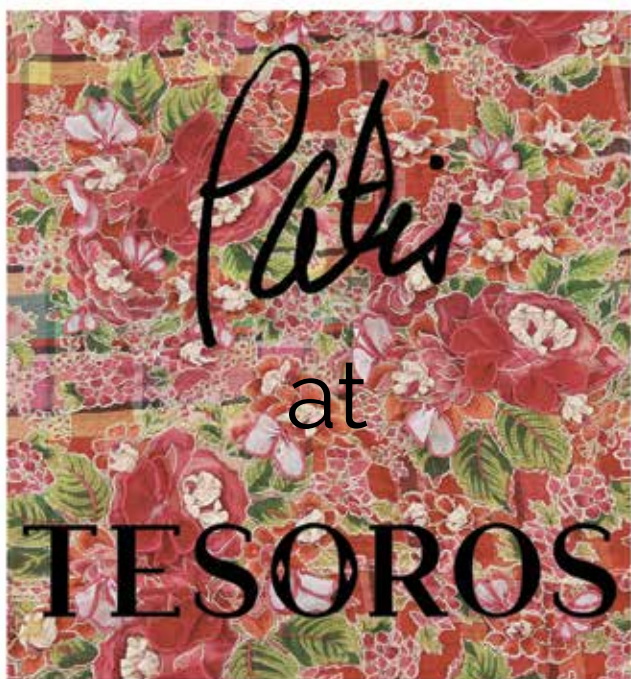
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