



April 9, 2017

PARISH BULLETIN

We Care Because We Pray

Holy Week
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Forbes Park, Makati

A STORY OF APPRECIATION AND SACRIFICE

A young man went to apply for a managerial position in a big company. He passed the first interview and the final decision fell to the company's director. The director saw in the man's curriculum vitae that his academic achievements were excellent. From high school through to his postgraduate research, he always had top marks.

The director asked: "Did you win any scholarships in school?"

The man replied: "None."

The director asked: "Was it your father who paid for your tuition?"

The man answered: "My father passed away when I was one year old. It was my mother who paid my tuition."

The director asked: "Where did your mother work?"

The man answered: "She worked in a laundry."

The director requested the man to show his hands. The man showed a pair of hands that were smooth and perfect."

The director asked: "Did you ever help your mother wash clothes?"

The man answered: "Never. My mother always wanted me to study. Besides, my mother can wash clothes faster than I can."

The director said: "I have a request. When you go home

today, clean your mother's hands and then see me tomorrow morning."

The man felt that his chance of landing a job was good. When he went home, he asked his mother to let him wash her hands. The mother found it strange, but decided to humor her son. She reached out her hands and he began to wash them. As he did, he felt a tear run down his cheek. It was the first time he had noticed that his mother's hands were so wrinkled, and had so many calluses. It was the first time he had noticed this pair of hands that had worked hard everyday just so he could go to school. The calluses in his mother's hands were the price she had to pay for his graduation, his academic excellence, and his future.

The next morning the man went to the director's office.

The director noticed the tears in his eyes and asked: "Can you tell me what you learned yesterday at home?"

The man answered: "I learned appreciation. Without my mother, I would not be the success I am today. I have come to appreciate the importance of family."

The director said: "That is what I am looking for in a manager. I want to recruit a person who can appreciate the help of others. You're hired."

The most important thing to teach your children is appreciation of hard work and the necessity of sacrifice to get things done.

Source: Little Things. July 27, 2016. Author Unknown.

FROM THE DESK OF THE PPC PRESIDENT
Edmund Lim, KHS

Reflecting on the Stations of the Cross during the past few weeks, I was taken by the 7th Station where Simon of Cyrene helped Jesus carry the cross. All around our Parish, different people gifted with diverse talents offer themselves to help lighten the load that our Lord carries. As a community, we pray, share and care for the Church keeping our Lord’s promise alive.

In the past few years, I saw many take up the cross of leadership to spread God’s love. Many more lightened the cross by helping in their own special way. It is with gladness for me to share that this year is no different. Mrs. Bel Poe had agreed to chair our fiesta 2017. She had constantly supported the Church anonymously the past few years. This year, she and her family graciously accepted the call to lead our community in the various fiesta activities.

I know that each one of our parishioners has the spirit of Simon of Cyrene. With a few words of encouragement, parishioners eagerly volunteer to serve our community. Some write, some sing, some execute plans whose fruits we see around us inside and outside our Church. A lot has already been done resulting in my good achievements in and around our Church.... it is through the collective of all the Simons here in SSAP what we have achieved.

As we enter Holy Week, let us remember that there will always be need for more Simons of Cyrene. They will be needed even after Easter. Come and be like Simon now in Holy Week and beyond. Let us lighten the burden of our Lord together.

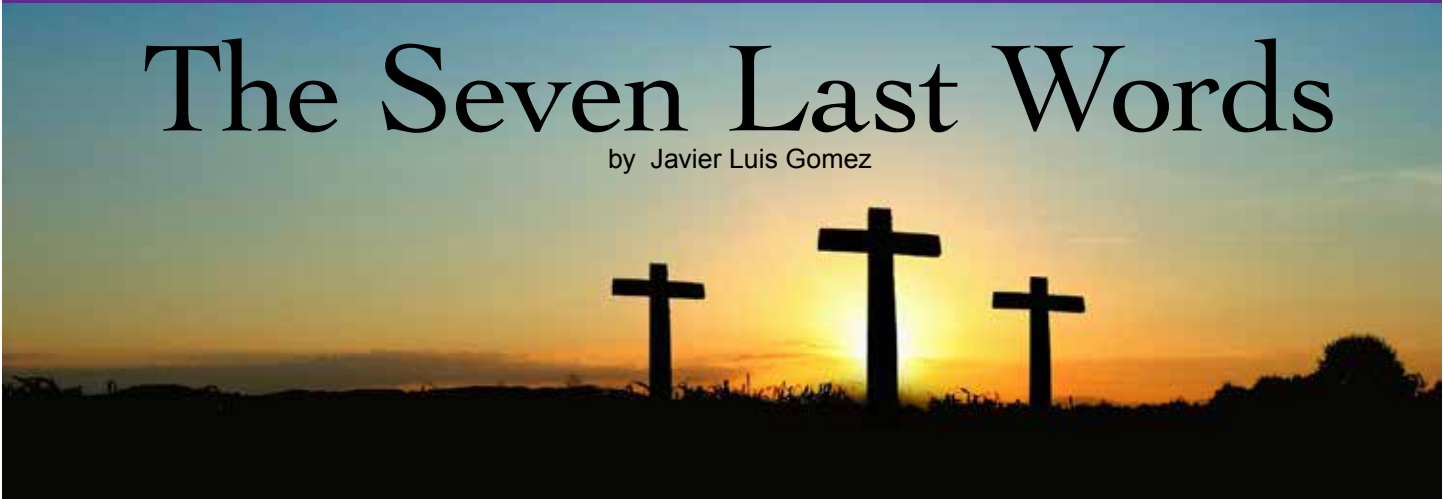


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A Eucharistic Community of Families:
The Cross as a Symbol of God’s Love

The Seven Last Words

by Javier Luis Gomez



Year after year, we enter into these days of Holy Week, trying to remind ourselves of the meaning of these days and the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. We try to meditate and enter deeply into these experiences. As we pray, we realize that the suffering of Christ, though this happened many years ago, is not something that remains in history. The Body of Christ continues to suffer today, and we each experience that suffering in our own unique kind of way.

We invite you to witness and immerse yourself as we listen to what the sufferings of Christ mean to our sharers.

1st Word: “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.”
Speaker: Nena Rosales

In this world, we experience so much pain, suffering, and injustice. How do we encounter and react in the face of all of these? Can we find the space within us to say “forgive them?”

2nd Word: “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”
Speaker: Totoy Abiog

Through the many trials and challenges in life, what would it mean to hear these words? Is Jesus able to reassure us that there is something at the end of all this pain and suffering? Often, we do not see through the darkness that we are caught in at the moment.

3rd Word: “Woman, behold, your

son!” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!”
Speaker: Jillian Roy

Jesus loved His mother very much, and He did not want her to be left on her own. We are called to reflect on our own family relationships and how they affect us especially during times of struggle.

4th Word: “My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?”
Speaker: Gina Ordonez

Each of us at some point have experience deep pain and loneliness. At this hour, when we feel most alone, do we cry out to God? Do we ask Him where He is and if He can show His face to us? How does it feel to be forsaken?

5th Word: “I thirst.”
Speaker: Caron Macasaet

We all desire for a perfect family life- a perfect marriage, or a perfect relationship with those around us. No matter how hard we try though, there always seems to be something missing. What is it we thirst for? What can fill this void?

6th Word: “It is finished”
Speaker: Marie Tycangco

All things take work. Our lives sometimes feel like great projects that we are slowly building over the course of years. Many times we feel in control, but sometimes, our lives go awry. Will we be able to look back one day and

see how everything comes together?

7th Word: “Father, into Thy hands I commit My Spirit!”
Speaker: Mel Zervoulakos

As we undergo the different trials of our lives, it is easy to just raise our hands and give up. We can choose the easy way out. Jesus too experienced this test and temptation and He ends His life by lifting everything up to God His Father.

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A Eucharistic Community of Families:
The Cross as a Symbol of God’s Love

Peace and Happiness in Pain and Sacrifice

by Gerry U. Limpo

Have you experienced pain and suffering? Most, if not all of us, at one point in our lives, must have experienced some form of pain and suffering. It can come in so many different ways, degrees and sharpness. It may be from being the subject and it may also be from seeing a loved one go through difficult trials particularly those concerning their health. Experience will tell us that nobody wants to go through pain and suffering or anything that pulls us away from our comfort zone or comfort-seeking tendencies. Expecting someone to accept or impose this upon himself would be ridiculous.

Inasmuch as we all know pain and suffering, it is by the same token that we all know love. Out of the many, many words that can be used to describe love, powerful is definitely one we can all relate to. As it is by the power of love

that God gave us Jesus to die on the cross to save us from our sins. (For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son...) It is also that very same power that drives us to do all we can for our loved ones. All the hard work, all the pain and sacrifices we endure, all the considerations that influence our decisions are all based on and centered on our love for them. Their pain and suffering in a way becomes ours too and we do everything in our power to help in anyway we humanly can. And when all these are done and given out of love, it ceases to be painful... Yes, it may still be painful if we are considering the physical aspect but it will bring with it an internal and genuine feeling of joy and peace. It no longer seems like a sacrifice or a suffering.

In 1996, my mother was in need of her second kidney transplant. We could no

longer wait to find a suitable donor as she was deteriorating much quicker than she was before. We decided to have the kidney come from within the family since less compatibility tests would be required for related donors (at that time, at least) compared to non-related donors. After initial tests, I turned out to be the most ideal donor. Perhaps a normal reaction for most, at this point, I started thinking about the procedure itself, the before and after and what I would have to go through not to mention my concern that these events may stress my wife who was 8 months pregnant with our second child. These all however, were overshadowed by my desire to be able to somewhat improve my mom's quality of life. I focused on the end result. I must say that at the end of it all, it was well worth what seemed to be pain and sacrifice but in reality, it was peace, love and joy.



A Eucharistic Community of Families:
The Cross as a Symbol of God’s Love

MAKING
SACRIFICES
FOR
SOMEONE
YOU LOVE

by Chips Guevara



June 13, 2016, we had our baby girl, Sachiko. She was born with Down Syndrome. My wife (Akiko) did not stop crying for 2 months. We were told that she would have delayed learning abilities, that she might have complications in the heart, intestines, and the thyroid, and that she will be short in stature, and will have difficulty learning how to speak because of the shape of her mouth and tongue. Many worries came to mind. Will she have friends? Will people accept her? How will she take care of herself when she grows old and we are gone?

When we started to see all the doctors and therapists, I realized our business was not enough to support Sachiko's needs and that the cash needs were immediate. I had to look for a job. By God's grace, a job landed on my lap but it was based in Bulacan. The commute was tough – 2 hours going, 3 hours coming home. So I needed to sleep in Bulacan during the week. Akiko had it even harder. She had to juggle the boys' schedule of school, tutorials and sports with Sachiko's various medical visits and therapy, while running the swim school, and nursing Sachiko at night.

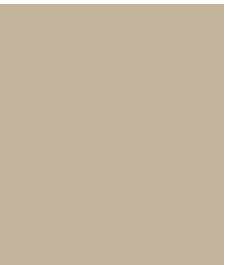
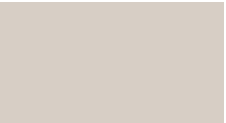
But the sacrifices we make for our precious Sachiko is something we are happy to do. We want her to reach her full potential whatever that may be. We want her to be as independent as she can be, to be able to communicate and learn as well as play and enjoy life.

Perhaps God's purpose for Sachiko was to teach us

something. Many parents of special needs children say their kids teach them Unconditional Love. I love Sachiko for all that she is. Perhaps this is God's way of giving us a glimpse of His unconditional love for us, His imperfect children. And the sacrifice we make for our children is a glimpse of Jesus' ultimate sacrifice of dying on the cross, so that we may all become the children of God.



HOLY WEEK ACTIVITIES	
April 9, 2017 SUNDAY	PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD’S PASSION (blessing of palms in all Masses)
10:30 AM	Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion (Procession from Adoration Chapel; blessing of Palms; joint choirs: CORO and CCD)
April 10, 2017 MONDAY	HOLY MONDAY
after 6PM Mass	Kumpisalang Bayan
April 13, 2017 THURSDAY	HOLY THURSDAY
6:00 AM	Mass of Chrism at the Manila Cathedral
whole day	Confessions
5:00 PM	Mass of the Lord’s Supper (Washing of the feet of 12 disciples) CHOIR: CORO
6:00 PM	Procession of Blessed Sacrament to the Altar of Repose
6:00 PM to 12 MN	Vigil : Altar of Repose at Convento Garden
6:00PM to 7:00 PM	c/o: LeCom & Marian Cenacle
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM	c/o: OFS/Health Care Ministry
8:00 PM to 9:00 PM	c/o: CWL
9:00 PM to 10:00 PM	c/o: EMHC/MSH
10:00 PM to 11:00 PM	c/o: Prison/PGH Hospital & JPIC Scholars
11:00 PM to 12:00 MN	c/o: SYA/Antioch/Luke
April 14, 2017 FRIDAY	GOOD FRIDAY (Day of Fasting & Abstinence)
8:00 AM	Village Stations of the Cross at Dasmarinas Village
whole day	Confessions
1:00 PM	Seven Last Words CHOIR: CORO
3:00 PM	Celebration of the Passion of the Lord I. Liturgy of the Word II. Veneration of the Cross III. Holy Communion CHOIR: CORO
5:00 PM	Santo Entierro Procession
April 15, 2017 SATURDAY	BLACK SATURDAY
8:00 PM	Easter Vigil in the Holy Night CHOIR: CORO
9:30 PM	Encuentro (Easter Salubong) CHOIR: CORO & Angels
April 16, 2017 SUNDAY	EASTER SUNDAY Regular Sunday Mass Schedule



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



CONTINUING CATHOLIC DEVELOPMENT (CCD)
Parish Office, Santuario de San Antonio Parish, Forbes Park, Makati City

Enrollment is ongoing for SY August 2017 - May 2018!

We are accepting applicants in the following levels:
RECEPTION: for 5 - 6 year olds
LEVEL 1 - PRE-FIRST COMMUNION: for 6 - 7 year olds
LEVEL 2 - FIRST COMMUNION: for 7 - 8 year olds
LEVEL 3: for 8 - 9 year olds
LEVEL 4: for 9 - 10 year olds
LEVEL 5: for 10 - 11 year olds
LEVEL 6 - PRE-CONFIRMATION: for 11 - 12 year olds
LEVEL 7 - CONFIRMATION: for 12 - 13 year olds
club8+ YOUTH GROUP: for 13 - 18 year olds

The Continuing Catholic Development (CCD) is an internationally recognized parochial religious education program for children. In the Philippines, it has been officially assigned as a ministry of the Santuario de San Antonio Parish (SSAP) in Forbes Park. As such, it is committed to educate its students with the basic teachings and fundamental truths of the Church. It also prepares students for the reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

CCD is currently offered to children who study in non-Catholic schools that do not provide Catechism as part of its curriculum nor as an extra-curricular activity.

For inquiries, please call or visit LEAH AZARCON at the CCD Office:
Tel # 843 8834 Tuesdays to Sundays
Email - ccd.office.ssap@gmail.com
Mobile # 0917 819 3542



Boys and Girls interested to become Angels for the Easter Salubong on April 15, 2017, Saturday, may register at the Parish Office. Costumes for the event will be provided.



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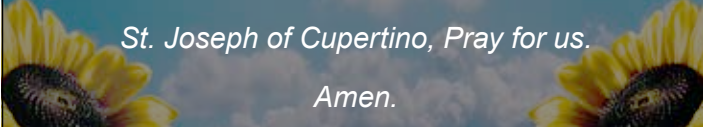
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Prayer to St. Joseph of Cupertino for Success in Examinations

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.






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