



ASINAG

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Be Full of Fire
for God

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SINAG is an official quarterly newsletter publication of the Sons of Charity Philippine branch. Published through its communication committee and as part of their evangelization and pastoral ministry among the urban poor people in the Philippines.

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SINAG is a Filipino word which means 'ray of light'. For the Sons of Charity they receive the ray of light from Jesus Christ through the charism of their founder Fr. Jean-Emile Anizan. So, this newsletter named after the same inspiration with a literal meaning of 'Sons Integrating and Nurturing Anizan's Gifts'.

Views expressed in these pages do not necessarily reflect those of the Sons of Charity Philippines, or of the editorial staff.

ABOUT THE COVER PAGE

The cover photo was taken in one of the wood craft stores in Baguio City by one of the postulants of the Sons of Charity during their year-end evaluation and retreat. The wood crucifix with lighted candle invited us to be more zealous on spreading the Good News to all human kind.

The theme of this issue is inspired by one of the books of Fr. Anizan entitled "Be full of Fire for God: Words and prayers of a priest of the people". The content of this publication get its motivation from these words. At the same way the articles will emphasize the pastoral aspect of the Sons of Charity.



Sem. Richard Adalim

FROM THE EDITOR

BE FULL OF FIRE FOR GOD REPRODUCING THE WORKS OF CHRIST JESUS: THE COMPANION OF THE POOR

It is our greatest vocation to journey with the poor people. It is the calling that God wants us to do.

Jesus' words and deeds are very alive during this present time. Though he did not write himself the Gospel; He is the source of it, but by his words and actions we could exemplify to respond and reproduce our own littleness, unworthiness of obeying him. Through the preaching of the Apostles, the Gospel of Jesus now enlightens the world. This illumination of Jesus spread widely that we as followers of him are also enjoying the privileges in savoring its blessings. Apostleship has its corresponding dedication and it is coupled with the kind of service which is rooted deeply in our hearts. Even if it is filled with struggles and difficulties, yet we are strengthened by our own creativity together with the help of the community which is founded deeply in the love of Christ. The resourcefulness of the community gives energy to continue the propagation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Part of this creativeness as followers of Christ is our pastoral ministry in each community. The way we promote vocations

is a way of proliferating the actions of Jesus. The way we share our thoughts, our realizations in life, are also examples of making Jesus alive in our chosen vocation primarily as a gift from God. There are many forms of sharing the blessings we received from God wherein we can develop the attitude of following the way of Jesus. It may be a sharing of talent, time, and a pure smile by heart, etc. These simple things are very helpful in our own home, offices, schools, parishes, that sometimes we cannot dare to share. And so we ask ourselves why?

We must reflect and do examine our lives on how effective we are in our own community, in our home, friends, relatives, parents or even to the people whom we encounter along the way. We must be full of fire for God. A fire that is constant and pure. This is a kind of fire burning in our hearts. A fire which is "Love" and a Love which is "Christ".

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Be Full of Fire for God and the Poor

By Sem. Michael Jayson S. Abao

I have been almost five years in the Sons of Charity Congregation. Looking back of those years and counting, I witness the zeal and passion of congregation dedicating itself to bring Christ to the worker, the poor and to everyone.

Making this mission alive, fervent and enthusiasm, I witness on how the Sons of Charity went through into a discerning, judging and acting moment in order to realize the mission of the congregation. In those years, I also witness the struggles and pains, the ups and down moment of the congregation. Yet, beyond of those experienced, the Sons of Charity did not give up and still pursuing the mission to bring Christ to the poor and the worker; to be the other Christ.

The Two Great Love of Fr. Anizan

Passion for God and passion for the poor are the two great love of Fr. Jean-Emile Anizan. These are the expression of the vocation of Sons of Charity. For the past eighteen years of existence in the Philippines. The congregation is living out the two great love of the founder. This is a reason why I am fallen in love in this congregation. As the young seminarians, we are always called to love God and the poor. We are sent in mission to love the poor; be passionate for those persons who are most in need. We are sent in mission to love the poor, to have the passion of the poor. "God sends us to them, and the most underprivileged must be the object of our outmost concern (Our Triple Ideal, p. 15)." We are inviting and challenge to be the other Jesus. This is not by force but it is precisely based on the gospel value. Jesus walked with the poor. He chose **as a poor, to be with** the poor. He did not live as a royal King, living in a comfortable and convenience lifestyle. He lives as a poor.

Passion for God and passion for the poor are interwoven. It cannot be separated. By loving God we should also love our brethren, especially the poor. Passion for the poor is a mere expression from the love that we experience from



Photo by Fr. Jhonas, FC

God. If we love God, with all our heart and mind but remain indifference to the poor, our love to God is not genuine. We are living out to the opposite direction of Jesus' commandments of love. "*Love one another as I love you.*" It is not enough to express our love to God. Yet, we remain silent to the poor. This is not only pertaining for us Sons of Charity. It addresses to everyone. It speaks to all. Our mission is to be like Christ to our brethren. It is very scandalous for us Christian, who are vividly follower of Christ, if we are hardened to give our heart to the poor. Jesus is full of fire for the poor. There are several instances in the gospel that Jesus makes Himself available with the poor. Then spend time with them. Allowed yourself to be evangelized with the poor. Hear their cry and lamentation.

Who are the Poor?

As for Fr. Anizan, the poor are those persons who are less privileged, "...those who earned their living day after day, and whose future are always more or less precarious (Triple Ideal, p. 14)". They are the person who robbed from any privileges and just treatment. Try to look and observe again our country today. Why there are still underprivileged in our society? Why

there are many people who received more than the others? Why there are homeless who are living in filthy streets? The litanies of why manifest our problem to live out the commandments of love: to love God is to love one another. We are not truly Christian if we remain mute and blind to the poor. This is a sad drama. Many baptize Christians who are nominal: Christian by name but not in deeds and acts. Many are the regular church goer but some of them did not have any passion to love the poor. There are many persons who are generous to the church. Give a regular donation for the church projects and advocacy. But, not to the poor person who asked something. Many are God loving but not poor loving. Is this the commandment of Christ or it is our commandment?

A Mission for all

My dear brethren, we are the brethren's keeper. Be other Jesus who's heart is filled with compassion and love to the most in need. Love the poor, the disinterested, the marginalized and the abandoned. This is not only a call but, a command, for me and for you. Begin to be filled of fire, passion for God and the poor.

From left:
Fr. Jhonas Enopia,
Fr. Pierre Tritz,
Fr. Gabriel Goullin,
Fr. Daniel Godefroy

Photo by sem. Johnny Rebosquillo



Words on his 50th Sacerdotal Anniversary

Fr. Gabriel Goullin, FC celebrated his golden sacerdotal anniversary last June 28, 2014. He entered to the Sons of Charity congregation on September 30, 1956 and professed his first temporary vows on the 5th day of November 1961. Finished his theological studies at St. Sulpice Seminary in Issy-les-Moulineaux, France on 1964 and ordained priest on the 28th of June 1964.

By many ways I celebrated my 50th anniversary of priesthood and I am very happy. On the 10th day of May was the main celebration with my two batch mate in priesthood, Fr. Jacques Robbe and Pierre Naert, both are Sons of Charity. We expressed our thanksgiving to the Lord together with our immediate family brothers, sisters, and friends. As we gathered, we were more or less fifty, in Cluny in the house of my brother and sister-in-law, a joyful and a very fraternal day for all of us.

Three weeks after, on the 1st day of June we gathered once again with my nieces and nephews in Issy-les-Moulineaux, France to celebrate not only for my golden anniversary of priesthood but also for the 50th anniversary of perpetual vows of my eldest sister Chantal, a religious of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary. Again, a very fraternal and joyful day for us. Finally, I celebrated with my dear eldest brothers Sons of Charity in their house of

retreat in Issy-les-Moulineaux on the Sunday of July 6. Indeed it was very emotional celebration for me because of our deep links of friendship.

But for me, the deepest celebration was the day of my anniversary on June 28 2014, I participated in the feast of the institution for the deep handicapped people. My younger sister Marie Annick, my God-child, is there for 52 years now, she is also a handicap person. I was and still I am very grateful to the Lord in permitting me to share the joy and sufferings of these brothers and sisters and their families on that day of celebration. It has been true light for me: it gives clearly the meaning of all these celebrations. I always consider my “silent and suffering” sister as the best “intercessor” for my vocation. Only God knows it.

What inspirational words? The only one inspired me and inspired us is the Holy Spirit, as go on in our journey. Above all, a prayer of gratitude and humble adoration for the unbelievable and generous faithfulness of the Lord calling us permanently for each one of us and for the good of many... especially for those the world does not take in account.!

“Salamat sa Inyo”

Fr. Gaby

Be Zeal with Fire of Charity for God

AN INTERVIEW WITH BRO. ARNEL BODOTA, PROFESSED BROTHER OF THE SONS OF CHARITY

By Sem. Christopher Labrador

The staff of the Sinag Newsletter interviewed Bro. Arnel to feature his pastoral insight as a religious brother for this quarter's issue. Despite of his busy schedules, he was able to accommodate our request.

Bro. Arnel Bodota, FC entered the novitiate on 2001 to 2002 and he received his final profession on May 2, 2005. He is currently in charge as director of the health program of the congregation in Old. Balara, Quezon city and a Community Social Worker of "Livelihood Program for Youth" (LP4Y), an NGO for out of school youth.



How do you feel now, living as a religious brother of the Sons of Charity?

For me it is full of challenge because as a religious, my experience is not always in a joyful mystery, there are also plenty of sorrowful mysteries. But what is my joyful feeling is to live according to the call of God as religious brother. My gladness is genuine in this call of God. I reflected that I need not to doubt the ways of God. I will accept His will. My wish before is to become a priest but he makes me a religious brother. So I need to accept it heartily because I do believe it is the grace from God

When was the first moment you feel the call of God to the religious life?

When I was a vocation promoter in our parish. I came to realize that I suppose to be the example of those who are willing to follow God's call to

become a religious or a priest. Because of it I enter in a religious life together with my sister. To my surprise, many also are following that kind of life in our parish.

What is your significant experience in your religious life?

My final profession. That was my most awaited moment. I can't imagine whether it was I or not during that time because of so much joy.

Our research mentioned that you are dedicated to the pastoral works of the congregation. What are those pastoral works?

In this choice of life, the call of the times is part of the package based of the spirituality of Fr. Anizan and the charism of the congregation. One of my pastoral work is to help the needy people of Laura (at Old Balara, Q.C.), such as to help guiding the out of school youth,

health program of the community and to let them know who is Christ in their daily experiences.

In doing so, what are your feelings?

I really give my best as if it is my last effort to help them. Here I experience the great joy in my life. It is not because it is the command of the congregation but because it is the grace from God. It is not for me but it is the charism of the congregation.

What will be your advice to someone who is considering the life of Sons of Charity?

For those who are willing to follow the footsteps of Fr. Anizan, Just live by heart what Fr. Anizan did especially for the poor. It should be without reserve in the name of the love of Christ.

AIM HIGH, WORK HARD, PRAY ALWAYS

The Gospel today is very much linked from last Sunday's Gospel. Last Sunday we heard the parable of the sower and presently we can hear the parable of the weeds in wheat fields, and the mustard seed, and the yeast.

A Sunday Gospel sharing by. Seminarian Johny Rebosquillo last July 20, 2014, from the text of St. Matthew chapter 13:24-43

Today Jesus uses the parable base on the agricultural comparison to understand the existence of virtuous and wicked. As we read and instill the gospel it says the kingdom of God is like this man, who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. Notwithstanding, these weeds are the work of the wicked. In other words as the wheat grows there sprout the weeds. When the plants sprouted and produced grain, the weeds also appeared. That is why the servants were astonished for they don't know what happened. They asked if where these weeds came from. It was the work of the enemy. Eventually the servants asked if they should pull up the weeds and he said to them no for they might uproot the wheat. Let them grow together until harvest. This brings patience and tolerance. Be patient until changes happen. And that we are invited to share patience and tolerance in our daily experiences. We don't let our enemy triumphs over us. We commit mistakes or even sinned but let it not be the greatest failures of our lives. Let us not uproot the goodness that is within us by simply putting ourselves not to move on. The kingdom of God on earth reveals that the world is suffering yet God is giving patience and tolerance.

As we move forward, there are three points I would like to share. *"Aim high, Work Hard, and Pray always."* These essential points are factual in our day to day living. **Aim high** this is the first point where in we are eager to achieve better in our lives. We are not even contented of simple things and that we add more. We climb to the top in order to reach something higher than the usual things we have. This could be in material possession and in our relationship with God. This is a positive attitude except when we afflict our neighbours for our goal. We can notice how goodness and wickedness are living in

us. In our country crimes and injustices are happening in the politics for instance. They kill people in order to win. I remember when I was assigned in NBP National Bilibid Prison; an inmate said to me "I killed for my protection and for my family." Another thing, students may study hard in school for their ambition in life. Some would cheat in order to pass the exams. There are many examples we can have but just to cope up with it. There is a good fighting spirit when we aim high but when we afflict people out of it, it's better to aim less or none at all.

Secondly **Work Hard** it is very simple thing yet brings greater meaning in our lives. Our hard labor becomes the result of what we want to achieve. Teachers, government leaders, parents, students and many others work hard for our well beings and for their family. When we go to school we can see people always in a hurry. When someone gets in the jeep, seems the jeep will no longer stop. They are busy working bodies because they are working hard. Last night I watch the voice kids. It was a good example of high ambition, and working hard to win the competition. Even ourselves we do keep busy. Let us try to ask ourselves what are we busy for?

Lastly **pray always** is a great expression of recognizing that we are not capable of doing by ourselves alone. We are simply humbling ourselves that we need God to work for us. We need God to bless our purpose and for our work. For St. Benedict of Nursia in his famous dictum *Ora et Labora* (pray and Work). We pray for strengths and zeal in our work. We pray to thank God for our work.

Indeed, we should never forget that God is accompanying us in our **"Aim High, Work hard, and Pray always"**. The three are basic essential elements in our day to day living.

Have a blessed Sunday...

FC NEWS

By sem. Osben Pantorilla



TWO NEW ASPIRANTS WELCOMED BY THE SONS OF CHARITY COMMUNITY

The call of God inspires two young men coming from the different region in the Philippines to follow the charisma of Fr. Jean Emile Anizan.

They were Jakbert Mendoza and Prence Philip Quillo. Jackbert is the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Orland and Carmen Mendoza. Jack is from Tarlac and had finished studying philosophy in Our Lady of the Angels College Seminary. Along his voyage in the Diocese he had been discover that his call is not to become a diocesan priest but for the religious community. He believes that the miracle that is happening to his life right now is because of the divine providence.

Prence Philip Quillo also is an aspirant of the Sons of Charity who is aiming to become a religious priest someday. He comes from Dumaguete, Negros Oriental. He is the second to the youngest among the five siblings of Mr. and Mrs. Ruel and Jenelyn Quillo. His life as a youth in their parish inspired him to enter in the priestly religious life.

They were welcomed by the members of the congregation last June 29, 2014 at Oblates of Mary Immaculate retreat house by a simple celebration.

Jackbert is now a second year student of Theology at Inter-Congregational Theological Center, while Prence is studying in St. Camillus College Seminary as pre-college also known as Orientation Year. The new aspirants together with the two postulants are under the supervision of Rev. Fr. Jhonas Enopia FC as their formator.



PRENCE PHILIP QUILLO

Zamboanguita, Negros Oriental



JACKBERT D. MENDOZA

Paniqui, Tarlac,

JONP INITIATED NEW PASTORAL WORKS

IN JESUS OF NAZARETH WE HAVE SEVERAL NEW INITIATIVES IN ORDER TO ANSWER THE NEEDS OF OUR PARISHIONERS



By Fr Daniel Godefroy, FC parish priest of Jesus of Nazareth Parish

For the third time, we propose a seminar for helping people to pray: 15 weekly sessions called **“Prayer and Life Workshop!”**. This seminar is now attended by 19 youth who want to learn different ways of praying.

“This is a big help for me, to be able to speak with the Lord in a silent way and relaxing myself” (Marc)

“It is a way to have a reflection about my prayer life and about the realization of all my life. This seminar helps me to look for silence and peace of mind. I see that God is present in the simplicity of our lives.” (Jennelyn)

“I discover several ways of praying. I feel that the Lord speaks more to me than I can speak to Him. It is a help to learn how to listen!” (Divine)

During August 2014, 4 **seminarians of 3rd year Theology of ICTC** are doing one month immersion in Jesus of Nazareth Parish. They are hosted by 4 families in different areas and their role is to help for creation and development of new kawans, with Basic Ecclesial Communities. They already organized several assemblies of people in three different chapels in order to explain the objective and they go around visiting families in these areas in order to create ecclesial cells of BEC. A way to promote bible sharing, some devotional activities and solidarity (pakikiramay) among neighbors. They will have a second immersion during second semester in order to follow up the beautiful work they are doing.

In our **Health Program**, since one year, pediatric student doctors from the St Lukes College of Medicine are doing

immersion in Laura Community. They visit families of the depressed areas focusing about the needs of pregnant women and the health care of small children. In connection with this activity we began since June a feeding program for underweighted children from 1 to 6 years old. Actually about 50 children attend this feeding program every day which the objective is for them to reach normal weight in 6 month. The one who organize the feeding program are 6 new “Community Health Promoters” who received a formation during 6 month by intern and clerks of St Lukes College of Medicine who are also doing their immersion in our community. The feeding program is sponsored by some families from Holy Spirit Parish and by “Kaibigan Britain”, an international NGO wanting to express their solidarity with the poor areas in the Philippines.

In behalf of the Parish Pastoral Council, our heartfelt gratitude and thanksgiving for all persons involved in these seminar, immersion and programs.



Mothers with their children during the feeding

SUPPORT US

*Be part of our mission
Take part in our journey*

THE SONS OF CHARITY IN THE PHILIPPINES NEED YOU...

Our Congregation is supported by ourselves, some friends and benefactors. That is why we need your generosity to help us Financially. Your donations will proceeds to the various ministries of the Sons of Charity:

- Formation and studies of our postulants and young brothers,
- On-going formations of our priests and professed Brothers,
- Vocation promotion activities,
- Formation houses.

Please include us too to your daily prayers.

For your donations please make cheque payable to **LSFC-Sons of Charity** and send to: **Fr. Jean Jacques Bruneau, FC** 504 Laura Street, Old Balara, Quezon City email: jjbruneau51@gmail.com

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DARE to follow JESUS

BE A SONS OF CHARITY!



The postulants with their formator Fr. Jhonas

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