

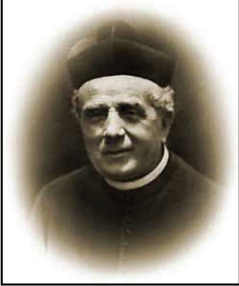
NEWSBITS
OF THE
GUANELLIANS
IN THE
PHILIPPINES

The Servant of Charity



CELEBRATING LIFE AND LOVE

OCTOBER 2009



BLESSED
GUANELLA
SPEAKS:

**“There
are no
limits
to
charity.
Our
boundaries
are those
of the
world.”**



Welcoming Home Mo. Giustina and Sr. Franca

Our Guanellinan family in Manila welcomed the Mother General of the Guanellian Sisters, Mo. Giustina Valicenti and Sr. Franca Vendramin, General Treasurer. We made this family visit of our sisters a special celebration of our family. The celebration began with the Holy Mass presided by our Provincial Superior Rev.Fr. Luigi de Giambattista.

In the name of our community, Fr.Luigi invited our sisters with his whole heart. The intention of the Mass was specifically offered for the well-being of both sisters and for all the Daughters of St. Mary of Providence. At the end of the Eucharistic Celebration, Mother General shared her spiritual insights and gratitude to every one of us. In particular, she called us to give witness to our benefi-



ciaries by following the footprints of our Founder as one family.

Soon after the Mass, we all gathered in the Refectory for

Fraternal Agape. It was a good and enriching experience to eat at the table of the Lord as one family. We indeed felt the family spirit as Guanellians. After that we had a variety of cultural programs to felicitate our Guanellian sisters. The programme was so colourful and joyful. Every one of us was thrilled by the performers. Significantly, the slide show and film clip were presented by Bro. Alfredo which highlights his life in Italy. Before concluding the Cultural Programme, Sr. Franca expressed her impression on her first visit to the Philippines. In her sharing, she brought out the kindness of the poor who live in the slum area. Finally the family celebration came to an end by the solemn blessing of our Local Superior Rev. Fr. **Eduardo Cerbito**.



Recollection by our Provincial Superior Rev. Fr. Luigi

"I want to be a sword of fire in the holy ministry"- Don. Guanella

To remember the love of God, we all gathered together for the monthly recollection of the Religious Community of Servants of Charity last September 05 and was the event was graced by our beloved Provincial Superior Rev. Fr. **Luigi de Giambattista**. His theme was "Rekindle the Fire of Mission" taken from the Gospel of Luke 12:49: ("I have come to light a fire on the earth. How I wish the blaze was ignited"). He shared about our new mission in India and Vietnam. He insisted that mission begins with prayer. During his talk, he raised important questions such as if we are burning for Christ and for the poor and how many times have we chosen to omit our mission. He also shared his visit to the tomb of Mother Teresa in Calcutta, India as part of the closing of the centenary of the congregation and during the trip remembered what the Saint often mentioned when she was still alive: "Love until it hurts". He concluded his sermon by saying that as followers of Christ, we, the Servants of Charity, gathered by God's love from various nations into one family the Divine Providence Province relying on the power of the same Spirit, are called and to be on fire for the mission and the poor. We shall search and care for the poor, wash their feet, break the bread of the Lord with them, and journey together with them to the Father, proclaiming to all the Gospel of love, promoting life and solidarity everywhere, always, with everyone. Rev. Fr. Luigi is a missionary priest from Italy and served on a mission for 18 years in Philippines. At present, he is the provincial superior of the Guanellians of India, USA and Philippines.

Staff Matters: Basic Guanellian Education and Spirituality



Guanella Center around the world has been given basic education and spiritual guidance by the Servants of Charity priests and brothers with inspiration from the Founder, **Blessed Louis Guanella**. Here in the Philippines, the education (on its formal form) has yet to be provided to the staff and volunteers.

Last September 15, 2009, Fr. **Robert Arockiam, SC**, gave the introductory session on the year-long program of Guanellian Education for its staff. The first session outlined the topics to be tackled which will be the content of once-a-month session with the staff and volunteers.

Guanella Center is grateful for having the knowledge on its founder, Blessed Louis Guanella and his vision and principles in life in accordance with the Church's teachings. Hopefully, this would also lead to a deeper knowledge and would hopefully guide all those who serve, in the spirit of Blessed Louis Guanella, the poor and disadvantaged sector in our society.

Happy Birthday, Mama Mary!



The Celebration of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary has been part of the Guanella Center tradition. Every year, the special treasures, the children, youth, elderly and families gather together to pay homage to the day that acknowledges the presence of Mary in the world, in the life of Jesus, and in our lives. A simple gathering was held at Guanella Center despite the heavy rains. Fr. **Eduardo Cerbito**, program Director, celebrated the Eucharist. A short meditation via flash movie presentation was shown before the start of the mass.

"It is clear that in Jesus' time, many wished to accord His Mother special treatment or honor by virtue "only" of the fact that she was His mother. Jesus refused to let

her Mother be reduced to a holy woman by virtue of her biological relationship with Christ. No, rather, He pointed out again that the mother of God is Holy and Worthy of veneration because she 'hears the Word of God and acts on it'...." (from the flash video presentation "A mother's Love" — Steve Silvia)



Appreciation Day- 2009



“At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.” **Albert Schweitzer**

Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all others. The Servants of Charity acknowledged the contribution of lay cooperators, staffs, affiliated institutions and friends to the mission here in the Philippines by organizing an appreciation day last September 12, 2009 at Blessed Guanella Center. The program started with Philippine National Anthem rendered by the Himig Antonio Youth Choir from St. Anthony Academy of Quezon City. It is followed by an opening prayer by **William** and **Sonya Pilarta**, active Cooperators of the community. The special children from the Guanella shelter amused the audience with a modern dance while Ms. **Cecille Molina** rendered beautifully heart-warming songs.

Rev. Fr. **Luigi de Giambattista** and Rev. Fr. **Dong Cerbito** handed the certificates of appreciation to the recipients who attended the celebration. A power point presentation of 20 years Journey of Servants of Charity in the Philippines was also shown. Appreciation is a wonderful thing. It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well. In addition the closing remarks and closing prayer, a simple snack is served.

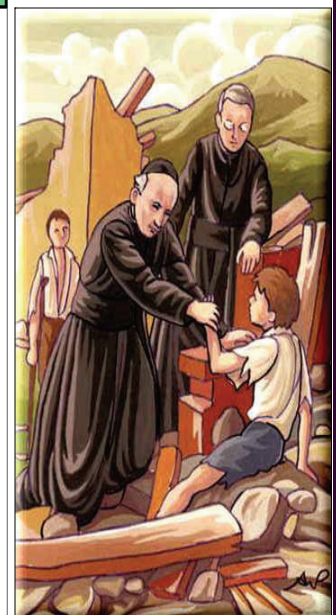


Feast of Blessed Louis Guanella



October is the Guanellian month and every year we are honoring our Blessed founder with different spiritual, educational, social and cultural activities.

For this year, we shall hold the culminating Fiesta activities with a special Eucharistic Celebration on October 25, 2009. We are expecting about five hundred friends and guests from our nearby apostolate areas and from the different groups and institutions for persons with disabilities. For more information on the activities of Guanellian month and on how to **sponsor a food for a special child on the fiesta**, please contact our office at 4568550.



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**SERVANTS
OF CHARITY
PHILIPPINES**

*20 Years of
celebrating
God's love in
the footsteps of
Blessed Louis*



SERVANTS OF CHARITY ANNOUNCEMENT

SERVANTS OF CHARITY

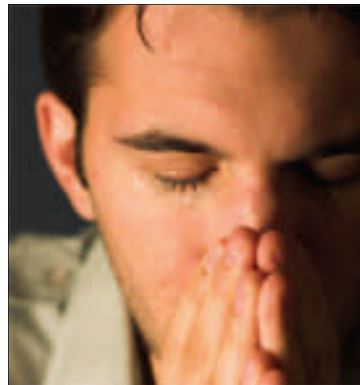
Vocation Seminar

November 13-15, 2009

- **January 29-31, 2010**
- **February 26-28, 2010**
- **March 12-14, 2010**

SERVANTS OF CHARITY SEMINARY

Centerville Subdivision, Tandang Sora,
Quezon City
Landline: 931-5549



*"I have called you by name, you
are mine"*

— Isaiah 43:1

***To our dear COOPERATORS and BENEFACTORS
Maraming Salamat Po!
Our thanks and prayers to each and everyone***