

NEWSBITS  
OF THE  
GUANELLIANS  
IN THE  
PHILIPPINES

# The Servant of Charity



CELEBRATING LIFE AND LOVE

May 2011

## Blessed Louis Guanella fascinated by the Eucharist



We deeply  
love Our Holy  
Lady of  
Providence:  
we should  
love Mary  
and speak to  
everyone of  
Mary, For she  
is Mother to  
all.



In the Eucharist lies the secret of his holiness. Before the presence of Jesus in the tabernacle he remained enchanted with wonder. "What great treasure we have in the Eucharist", he exclaimed.

And really, it is our best treasure. Nothing can stand in the front with the presence of Jesus among us, marked by the same sentiments that he had at the Last Supper, on the Cross and in his Resurrection. Here, we have the point more interesting and valuable in the

Soon Blessed Louis Guanella, a real hero in the charity, will be proclaimed "Saint". He will be canonized by Pope Benedict XVI, on October 23 with a solemn liturgy at St. Peter's Square.

He will be canonized along with two other great apostolic figures: the founder of "Xaverian Missionaries" Mons. G. M. Conforti (1865-1931) also Italian, Archbishop of Parma, and the Blessed Bonifacia Rodriguez de Castro (1837-1905), founderess of the "Servants of St. Joseph" for the promotion of Christian social workers. With this simple page I would like to send a particular message of Blessed Fr. Louis Guanella about his experience with the Holy Eucharist.

Fr. Louis had an "instinct" of love for the Eucharist. Precisely in his inner and lively connection with Jesus.

world, because here, it is God with us, the saving presence. Here, you can find new life, beauty, hope, joy. No one else in the universe is so important as this.

Just a bit of faith is enough to see that. Try closing your eyes for a moment and think: Here, in this little consecrated bread in front of me, is an alive and risen Jesus. Think with faith: You have here the Lord Jesus, the Son of God, the Savior of mankind, the Alpha and Omega of the Universe. And He is all for you! You can meet him and receive him and talk to him. What a treasure of the world can stand in front?

A contemplation of this wonder, Blessed Louis Guanella adds a second thought very beautiful and deep. He says: "God does wonderful things with little things".(to be continued in page 2 ).

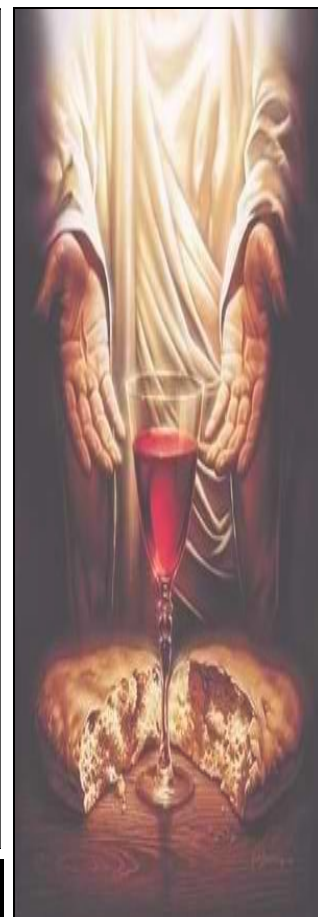


It is true. The Eucharist is presented in a form very simple, very humble. Yet, it remains an infinite mystery: A divine presence, but veiled. In a few drops of wine in a small host of wheat, by the words of consecration pronounced by a priest, Jesus in person is present here among us today, as He was baby in Bethlehem, in poverty, or in the garden of Gethsemane. The same he is in the humility of a small chapel in a remote village of our world.

This event can take place every day, humble and simple in appearance, but more magnificent than the revelation of God to Abraham, or the burning bush of Moses or the experience of the prophet Elijah. I leave you with this scene contemplative: I'm profoundly touched by this humility of the Son of God, who through so small things of bread and wine achieves marvels of infinite splendor. But that belongs to the style of normal working of God. Also in the same thing happens: our cosmos, so immense, surrounded by boundless beauty is surprisingly formed from very simple elements: water, air, earth, light. We who are in the Philippines could say that its islands are so luminous beyond imagination: the colors, and form of the ocean with the background of mountains and volcanoes: What an amazing scenery!

Thus is the Eucharist: so poor, so humble and simple in his mystery of his appearance, but so immensely marvelous and magnificent and full of joy, realizing the promise: "I will be with you every day until the end of time".

(Fr. Domenico Saginario, SdC)



**The joy of Communion in the Community Outing**



The Community of the Servants of Charity had its community outing for all the people who are connected to the life and mission of the Community last April 26, 2011. The said community outing was held at the Manila Water Swimming Pool, Old Balara in Quezon City. There were priests, brothers, beneficiaries (PWD's, Elderly people, youth and parents),

staff, volunteers, caregivers and all those who are very much involved in the community activities. We started this annual outing with a prayer lead by Fr. David Anburaj. The children enjoyed the outing with the whole vicinity especially reserved just for Guanella Center. The day ended at 4:00pm with a closing prayer lead by Fr. Selva. *(Fr. Selvaraj Antonisamy, SdC)*



Fr. Selva lead the Opening Prayer before the whole day activity in Balara

## PILGRIMAGE TO LEPROSARIUM

The Holy Week reminds us of the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ and it is good to read and reflect upon it. We, Servants in Manila, made our Holy Week worthwhile by deciding to do a Lenten Pilgrimage to the leprosarium located at Tala, Caloocan City with the kind help of FMM sisters and Martinian Brothers. We spent the day of visit by speaking and consoling the patients affected with leprosy. We tried to show them that through our visit, God has never forsaken them.



We ended our visit with the celebration of the Holy Mass. *(Fr. Jerin Presenna, SdC)*



Fr. Mimi sharing his time with the Sinagtala Resident

## EXPERIENCE WITH ELDERLY MINISTRY



We started our immersion program (also known as Vocation Camp) in April 1<sup>st</sup>. We were fortunate to have two good souls who wanted to join our mission with the needy and they had been with us for past month. They were Andrelo Rabanes and Winston Makawili. They had gone to poor households to visit with our seminarians, and also mingled with the center's special children. They did their best and eventually they enjoyed doing so. We also decided to give them an experience with the elderly. Fr. Jerin along with Sem. Alfie Matulac, took them to Bataan to an

Institution called 'Bahay Puso' which serves as a shelter to 41 male and female elderly. At Bahay Puso, they had 2 days of experience which opened their eyes further on what to expect from the whole Guanellian Mission. *(Fr. Jerin Presenna, SdC)*



## MAKING THE CHILDREN TO SHINE THROUGH SUMMER CLASS



This year's Summer Class at the Guanella Center provided an opportunity of study, prayer, values education and other extra-curricular activities for the Center's less-fortunate children. This activity began last April 4. During the Summer Class, children benefited from various services such as Spiritual Enrichment, Tutorial Classes, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Special Education, Socialization, Games and other activities. The activities would start early in the morning at about 8:30 am and would last until 5:00 in the afternoon. Merienda was also served. The Summer Class was facilitated by all the staff of the Center and two volunteer teachers, Louella Suque and Febbmark Llames. The said classes ended last April 31.

*- (Fr. Selvaraj Antonisamy, SdC)*



Fr. Selva teaching catechesis to the children

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**SERVANTS  
OF CHARITY  
PHILIPPINES**

*Celebrating  
God's love in  
the footsteps of  
Blessed Louis  
Guanella*



**Servant hood in Action**



The Holy Thursday Liturgy does not simply signifies the beginning of the Paschal Triduum as it offers to us Jesus' new and greatest commandment to all His followers of every time and place, "Love one another as I have loved you." Otherwise known as Maundy Thursday from the Latin term "mandatum"; the liturgy is rich in symbolism and offers a rich paradigm of life as Jesus showed the true dignity of love and servant hood to His disciples by washing the feet of His apostles before He entered into His passion, death and resurrection. Reliving that decisive moment in the life of Christ, our Guanellian priests with Fr. Charlton as the main preside of the Holy Thursday Eucharist, they took turns in "washing the feet" of some of our special children, elderly and guests. Indeed, the Guanellian way of life epitomizes that profound drama of ser-

vanthood that took place in the Upper Room. (Bro. Cesar Estiller)



**SPONSOR A  
SPECIAL CHILD**

**And be an  
angel of hope  
to God's poor**

*Guanella Home for Special Children*

**WHEN YOU  
BECOME A  
SPONSOR**

- The seminary community and our special children will pray for you everyday.
- Your special intention will be remembered in our prayers.
- A special Mass will be offered for you on your Birthday.
- A special tribute will be given to you on our Day for Benefactors
- You will have the opportunity to help not only the poor but also those who offer and dedicate their lives in helping the poor.

Thank you very much!