

NEWSBITS  
OF THE  
GUANELLIANS  
IN THE  
PHILIPPINES



# The Servant of Charity

CELEBRATING LIFE AND LOVE

April 2011

## National Clergy Discernment Assembly



Let us rise  
from the  
death of sin  
and glorify  
God by  
detesting  
the sins we  
have  
committed.



Nearly two hundred priests from various Dioceses and Religious Communities across the country gathered on March 14-17, 2011 in San Carlos Pastoral Complex, Makati City for their Second National Clergy Discernment Assembly, to reflect on their respective role as prophets of "The Church of the Poor", in response to the call of the Spirit strongly expressed and amplified by the documents of the Second Plenary Council of the Philippines (PCP II) celebrated twenty years ago.

While prayerfully listening to that call re-echoed again by various Shepherds of today's Philippine Church, the priest participants, divided in twelve workshops (Pastoral Circles), shared their experience, analyzed the various faces of poverty and marginalization that they encounter in their daily ministry and life, reflected on the urgent need of a more integral and inclusive evangelization and came out with concrete pastoral actions.

We, Servants of Charity, represented in the Assembly by Fr. Charlton Viray, Fr. Jerin Presenna and the Provincial Fr. Luigi De Giambattista did not want to miss this beautiful opportunity to share in simplicity our story of being companions, co-journeymen and friends of the poor and to renew our commitment to continue offering our humble contributions, so that the Church in the Philippines may become more and more a community of Jesus' Disciples where the poor feel at home as full members, continually evangelized and evangelizing. (Fr. Luigi De Giambattista, SdC)



**LENTEN RECOLLECTION**



Bro. Jake Yap, a Lay Theologian sharing his Lenten Talk during our monthly recollection

Our Guanellian Family in Quezon City paused for a day of recollection as we sailed along in our Lenten Pilgrimage. The preacher of the recollection was Bro. Jake Yap, a noted theology professor at the Jesuit – run Loyola School of Theology and a lay consecrated brother of the Servants of the Word Community.

Amidst the sober and austere atmosphere of Lent, Bro. Jake’s conference on the Paschal event afforded us to all humanity in a deeply theological, ecclesiological and contextual perspectives. Joining the Servants of Charity in the Lenten Recollection last March 26, 2011 were the Daughters of St. Mary of Providence (DSMP), our Lay Cooperators, the staff members of the seminary and Guanella Center and some formands of the Caritas Sisters of Miyazawa. (Bro. Cesar Estiller)

*Whoever wishes to be my follower must deny his very self, take up his cross each day, and follow in my steps.  
Luke 9:23*

**GUANELLIAN ASSEMBLY IN THE PHILIPPINES**



It is always good to look back on our lives and evaluate it. We, the Servants in Philippines, gathered in an annual assembly last March 1 – 3 with Fr. Alfonso Crippa (Superior General) who facilitated the recollection to deepen our Guanellian Charism while Fr. Joseph Renaldo guided us to develop our relationship with our co-operators. The second day of the assembly, we performed some evaluations of the current year and proposals for the fruitful mission in the year to come. This activity helped us to realize our area in which we need much concentration. On the last day, we went for one day outing which paved the way to deepen our brotherly relationship with one another. (Fr. Jerin Presenna, SdC)



## Graduation Day for LP



The students of the Learning Program graduated last March 25 with Teachers Marsha Cruz, Luz Ramirez and Louis Llames heading the program and Fr. Selva facilitating the presentation of graduates. After the awards and certificates have all been given, Fr. Luigi De Giambattista gave an inspirational message to the newly graduates and the

program ended with a closing remark from Fr. Selvaraj Antonysamy, the Assistant Director of the Guanella Center.



Our students during the Graduation Ceremony

## Elocution Day



The Elocution Day, held last March 4, was the day to bring out the talents of our children at our Centre. This was held on March 4, 2011. During this event the kids showed their skills by reciting poems, phrases, proverbs, vocabularies, story, singing songs and dancing. This activity was facilitated by the teachers, Marsha Cruz, Luz Ramirez and Louis Llames while some of the Guanella staff served as judges. Fr. Selva facilitated the

awarding of winners which was followed by his inspirational words. Finally the program ended with some refreshments and of course, final blessings. (Fr. Antonysamy Selvaraj, SdC)



Fr. Luigi with Fr. Selva giving the award during the Program

## GRADUATION DAY FOR PWD'S

The special children of our Guanella Center had a privileged moment during the wonderful day of their graduation. The graduation took place on March 30 where a good number of special children participated actively. An opening prayer followed by opening remarks was given by Fr. Luigi De Giambattista. The children with hearing and speech impairment presented a dance number to the delight of the audience. The program's principal Dr. Florito Gereña also gave a heartwarming message to the graduates. Meanwhile, Fr. Luigi, Fr. Selva and Dr. Florita Gereña awarded the students with their respective graduation certificates. The Program ended with concluding remarks by Mr. Albert Ramos, our Shelter Home Supervisor.

(Fr. Selvaraj Antonysamy, SdC)



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**SERVANTS  
OF CHARITY  
PHILIPPINES**

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



*Now let the heavens be joyful,  
Let earth her song begin,  
Let the round world keep triumph,  
And all that is therein,  
Invisible and visible,  
Their notes let all things blend,  
For Christ the Lord is risen  
Our joy that hath no end.*

- Saint John of Damascus -

**HAPPY EASTER**  
to our Beloved  
Benefactors, Lay Cooperators  
and Friends.

In Omnibus Caritas!



**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 every-day.
- 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!