



Religious Life Begins

Sch. Benjie M. Ang, MI

"Christ, who lives through faith in our hearts, revealed himself to us in the call to follow him. Drawn by him, we become his followers, consecrating ourselves to God in the service of others by the profession of the evangelical counsels" (Camillian Constitution, Art. 25).

Evangelical counsels are sacred promises. They reflect a life orientation and profound loving commitment. After a period of formation, the persons who are ready to commit themselves to a life of consecration for the service to the Kingdom of God publicly profess such vows of chastity, poverty and obedience. Evangelical counsels joyfully free a person to live for God and through that first love to serve others with love and be witness to God's faithfulness, compassion and care for all.

On July 25, 2016, Elson Pastrano and I had our first profession of vows. It was a meaningful and memorable day for us because on that day, we

made our promises to God with free will, to live with faithfulness, love and joy, the life of consecration to work on His Kingdom by serving the sick even in danger to our own life in perfect chastity, poverty and obedience. The rite of profession and the Holy Eucharist was presided by Fr. Rolando J. Fernandez, MI, Provincial Superior of the Order of the Ministers of the Infirm in the Philippine province. In his inspiring homily, he first expressed his gratitude to our parents for their never-failing support and for offering their children unconditionally to God and to the Order. He also stressed in his homily that in professing the evangelical counsels, we respond to the love of God to us. He added that God called us to religious life because He first loved us. Moreover, he said that we should not take our first profession of vows as a "temporary" one. Rather, we should take and consider it already as a "life-time" commitment. The homily of Fr. Rolando indeed touched our hearts and gave us encouragement to live religious life with sincerity and faithful heart.

As we begin to live religious life, I believe that there will be many challenges that will test our faithfulness to the vows that we professed. Challenges and trials are always present in our lives as religious, thus, we have to take them as part of our life. Our conviction says that only through this kind of life that we will be able to praise, love, and serve God better. No matter how difficult it is, I truly believe that God is always at our side guiding us on the right path and giving us the courage and strength to work on His Kingdom through serving the poor sick with compassion and love.





God's Mercy Transforms a Person's Heart

It is in the Parable of the Good Samaritan where the essence of God's mercy could be found. Biblically the word mercy denotes compassion and love. The word mercy conveys strong feelings of pity, sympathy and affection. It is not only just feelings and emotions. It is the very expression of God's loving kindness to us sinners and wounded humanity. And "the Samaritan traveler who came upon the victim, was moved with compassion at the sight. He approached him, poured oil and wine over his wounds and bandaged them. Then he lifted him up on his own animal, took him to an inn and cared for him" (Lk 10:33-34).

The other biblical passage that illustrates perfectly God's mercy is the Parable of the Prodigal Son. The son coming to his senses knew that he did not deserve the mercy of the father. Thus he said, "I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers" (Lk 15:19). But the mercy of the father was far greater than justice. "He was still a long way off, he caught sight of his son, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him" (Lk 15:20). He ordered his servants, "Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take and slaughter the

fatted calf. Then let us celebrate with a feast" (Lk 15:22-24). From then on he wore the robe of repentance and committed his life to him in response to his loving kindness. He recommitted himself to walk in the steps of the loving father and continually nurtured his relationship with him.

The mercy of God is continually being offered to all of us. Those who accepted it with faith in their hearts experienced personal transformation as illustrated in the Parable of the Prodigal Son and as experienced by our father founder St. Camillus and the rest of the Saints. Truly through God's mercy, persons are helped and challenged to nurture, develop and bring out the best in them. Thus, they become God-centered and other-oriented persons. They are merciful as the Father is merciful to them especially to the poor, the sick, the weak and the voiceless.

As we celebrate the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, may we allow the Spirit of God to dwell in our hearts and in our communities to help us continually transform ourselves into persons that could make a difference in the lives of people as we witness the mercy and love of God.

May our celebration of the Feast Day of St. Camillus be full of mercy and compassion.

POSTCARDS FROM TAIWAN

Fr. Giuseppe Didonè, MI



June 25: More than 700 students graduated from St. Mary's College of Nursing. Among the guests present were Fr. Emilio Balliana, MI, from Kenya and Br. Jose Emmanuel Cabarles from the Philippines.



July 9: The Holy Mass in celebration of the feast of St. Camillus was held at the 11th floor of St. Mary's Hospital to accommodate all hospital personnel. Before the mass, a parchment was sent by the Vice Presi-

dent of the Republic of China addressed to Fr. Antonio Didone, MI, for his meritorious service especially towards sick children. The award was consigned to him by the director of the hospital.

July 16 (no picture): At St. Camillus Garden in Tayin, the feast of St. Camillus was celebrated with the graduation of a few handicapped persons. Both children and the elderly performed some dances before the Holy Mass was held.



July 18: The ambassador of the Republic of China to the Holy See came to St. Mary's Hospital for a short visit.

ST. CAMILLUS FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS

THE NOVITIATE: The Special Month

Nov. Yeongmin Kang

All of us have our own special month in a year. For some, the month where Christmas is, for others, the month where their birthday is, still for others, the month where the turning point of their lives is, and what not. We do have varied reasons for a special month. For us Camillians, I would say that the month of July is indeed so, for it is the month where the feast of our founder St. Camillus de Lellis is. That is why, in our Order, we do celebrate this special occasion magnificently and meaningfully.

We, too, the St. Camillus Novitiate Community in Baguio City, celebrated the feast of our founder last July 5–14, 2016. We began with the nine-day novena to St. Camillus at the chapel of our community. During the 9 days of novena, each day we prayed for different intentions: for the Camillian Order; for the increase of Camillian vocation in our Province; for the seminarians; for the sick; for the healthcare institutions; for the priests and religious; for the healthcare workers; for the families, friends, and benefactors; and for the church



the words of St. Camillus, “Think well, speak well, do well. These three things, through the mercy of God, will make a man go to Heaven.”

July was indeed a very special, joyful and meaningful month. Through this occasion, we came to know deeply the thoughts of our holy founder and we were also challenged to put more love into our hands as we witness the ever present love of Christ in the sick.



AT ST. CAMILLUS PROVINCIALATE

Fr. Vicente “Dan” Cancino, Jr., MI and Fr. Joseph Wang, MI concelebrated the Eucharist in honor of the feast day of St. Camillus on July 14, 2016 for the staff and employees at St. Camillus Provincialate Compound.

In his homily, Fr. Dan thanked the employees and staff for their untiring support for the Camillians and that, they (the Camillian religious), are forever thankful for their service as he remembered the previous employees who had rendered work for them in the past. He reiterated the Camillians’ “love” for them, just like St. Camillus’ love for others. The staff shared a simple *salu-salo* after the Mass.



leaders. Each member of the community shared his respective reflection on the said intentions and the novena was concluded by our superior, Fr. Ivo Anselmi, MI, sharing his reflection on the letter of transit of St. Camillus.

On July 14, the feast day of St. Camillus, at 9 o’clock in the morning, a solemn Healing Mass was celebrated at the chapel of Pines City Doctors’ Hospital presided by Rev. Fr. Benedict Castañeda, Vicar General of the Diocese of Baguio, and concelebrated by Fr. Ivo, who serves as the hospital Chaplain, and Fr. Placido De Jose, MI, our Novice Master.

Fr. Benedict, in his homily, stressed on practicing charity for the sick and for the needy, as he quoted from

DAVAO INVADED BY CAMILLUS' HEAT

July 14, 2016—Archbishop Romulo Valles of the Archdiocese of Davao led the celebration of the Holy Eucharist on the feast day of St. Camillus in Southern Philippines Medical Center, Davao City. He inspired everyone especially the sick and led them in prayer through St. Camillus' prayers. Thanks to Archbishop Valles.

In the heart of Camillus lies GOD in the sick especially the children. And so in celebration of St. Camillus Day, the sick children accompanied Camillus in the TV mass in ABS-CBN Davao with Camillian Fathers: Fr. Ruben Mandin, MI and Fr. Primitivo Gunit, MI. Indeed, it was an invasion happening: THE HEAT OF LOVE AND FAITH HAS INVADDED US...



MABUHAY: National Kidney and Transplant Institute

St. Camillus Feast Day at NATIONAL KIDNEY AND TRANSPLANT INSTITUTE and Healing Mass for the Sick, July 14, 2016—Following the readings of the day's

feast, TOTAL SERVICE is not limited to an act done when you do kindness to others nor serving the sick, but TOTAL HUMBLE SERVICE is like what Jesus did, giving your life for the other, giving your life to the little ones—the orphans, the marginalized and especially the sick.

Camillians inspired the sick present that they are in the hearts of both Jesus and St. Camillus. And that our suffering now is our greatest offering to the Father.

In July 14, 1614, St. Camillus de Lellis saw God being one with him in his suffering and that he was never abandoned by God. Two hundred and four years ago today,

that kind of spirituality, being the sick in the heart of God, still lives on.

May we, inspired by the lead of St. Camillus, give total service, not only to the children, the orphans, the poor and the elderly but most importantly to the ones feeling little because of their sickness and suffering.

Viva, San Kamilo!

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AT OUR LADY OF LA PAZ PARISH and ST. CAMILLUS POLYCLINIC MAKATI

Our Lady of La Paz Parish and St. Camillus Polyclinic celebrated the feast of St. Camillus de Lellis with the theme: St. Camillus' merciful love for the sick and the poor in the light of the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, meditated on the gospel of Mathew, "I was sick and you visited me" (Mt. 25, 36).

Several activities highlighted the celebration of the feast of St. Camillus in the year of mercy.

The celebration commenced with the Novena Masses that started on July 5, 2016 at 6:00pm. Camillian priests from different communities offered novena mass everyday. On July 9, the Sunday before the feast day, there was a bloodletting and healing mass at 9:00am. There were 70 blood donors. During the feast day proper, a solemn Mass was concelebrated by Camillians from the Makati and Marikina communities at

6:00pm. After the mass, a simple agape was held in the community.

On Saturday, July 16, 2016, we continued the celebration with the following activities:

- 7:00am – Motorcade around Barangay La Paz, Singkamas, and Tejeros
- 8:30am–12:00pm – Medical Mission. We served 160 patients with different illnesses. More than 20 medical practitioners volunteered on this occasion.
- 4:00pm – Launching of the third batch of feeding program this year. There are 35 children beneficiaries from La Paz and Singkamas
- 7:30pm – Film showing on the life of St. Camillus organized by the youth of the Parish.

It was indeed a fulfilling celebration of the feast of St. Camillus this year. Through his intercession, we were able to bring Christ to the sick as we strive to be Christ to them. Viva San Camilo!



AT ST. CAMILLUS MEDHAVEN NURSING HOME

In preparation for the celebration of the feast of St. Camillus de Lellis, the staff and caregivers of St. Camillus MedHaven Nursing Home held a sportsfest (team-building activities) that started with a parade on July 1, 2016 with the theme, "A Team that Works Together, Stays Forever." Four groups were formed and named after the followers of St. Camillus, namely: Blessed Ma. Domenica Brun Barbantini, Blessed Fr. Enrico Rebuschini, Blessed Luigi Tezza and Blessed Guiseppina Vannini. Coinciding with these activities was the Search for Mr. and Mrs. Camillus Medhaven 2016. Both a fundraising contest and a campaign against climate change, the search was open to all MedHaven residents who would collect and sell recyclable materials. The residents with the highest earnings would win the Mr. and Mrs. MedHaven 2016 titles, which eventually went to Mr. Mandap and Mrs. Cortez, respectively. The proceeds of the contest were used throughout the celebration of the feast.

The main objective of the team-building activities was to boost camaraderie and unity among the staff and caregivers.

On July 14, 2016, the feast day celebration started with a parade of floats that were designed using recycled materials. The team of Enrico Rebuschini won the best float. Then, Fr. Reynante Sentillas, MI, led the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, concelebrated by Fr. Bon Arimbuyutan, MI, Fr. Michael Gimena, MI, and Fr. Eliseo Navarro, MI, MedHaven's administrator.

After lunch, the program ensued with Ms. Ilsa Reyes, an anchor from DZMM Teleradyo, as host. Ms. Judy Camer with the Marikina Band came as guests. One of the highlights of the program was the MedHaven Lip Sync Battle. Each team gave their greatest performance, complete with costume, make-up and props. The visitors enjoyed the show. The team of Domenica Barbantini beat the other teams and won the Lip Sync Battle. The team of Giuseppina Vannini, on the other hand, emerged as the overall champion for the sportsfest.



A Pilgrimage to the Holy Door in Mati

It was Saturday, June 11, 2016, the day that the medical staff of St. Camillus Hospital of Mati went on a day of Pilgrimage to the Holy Doors in the Diocese of Mati. It was a day of prayer and reflection guided by Rev. Fr. Evan Paul Villanueva, MI. Before they left, they were gathered at the Camillian Martyrs' chapel of the hospital where Fr. Evan gave a brief orientation for the day's activity. He explained to them the meaning of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy and the reason for passing through the Holy Door. Pilgrim booklets were prepared and handed to them individually and some doctors were given tasks during the pilgrimage. For every Church the group entered into, Fr. Evan gave a short reflection based on the gospel verse that was

read, helping them to be in touch with themselves. At the end of the pilgrimage, they found a space where they would share the day's experiences. The doctors shared their feelings and the experience of being in touch with themselves and with God, an experience of healing expressed by an analogy of an "open door." Their simple and concrete sharing where each one listened to attentively help them see the reality of a world that each medical staff is living in every day. The pilgrim/recollection ended with the Eucharistic celebration at San Salvador del Mundo church in Caraga, Davao Oriental. This church, which dates back to 1884, bears a Christ symbol and is considered to be the seat of Christianity in the Diocese of Mati.



Expression of Gratitude

Sch. Almar S. Roman, MI

The St. Camillus Hospital of Mati (SCH-Mati) celebrated the feast of St. Camillus de Lellis with the theme "Pusong Kamilyano, Patuloy na Nag-aalay sa Inyo." It was a meaningful and fruitful celebration because there was Triduum prayer, a three-day period of prayer followed by Mass in preparation for the feast day on July 14, 2016.

The Triduum was on July 11–13, 2016. The first day's intention was for the Camillian religious vocation. Sch. Almar S. Roman, MI, who was having his pastoral exposure at SCH-Mati, was the sharer in the Mass and he talked about his own vocation and encounter with the Lord and his personal experiences with the sick. In the Mass for the Sick on the second day, Fr. Marven Ruyeras, MI, the hospital director, was the homilist and

he shared his experiences with the sick while he was still a seminarian. He said that almost all the unpleasant smell from the sick he attended to in his apostolate seemed unbearable, but because St. Camillus said, "seeing Christ in the sick and being Christ for the sick," it made him meek and humble that he kept moving on, more delighted in serving the sick. After the mass was the blessing of all healthcare workers and the anointing of the sick, officiated by Fr. Ruyeras and Fr. Roderick Tampis, MI, the general services director. The third day was intended for the Lay Camillian Family in Mati. This time, Fr. Tampis shared his vocation story. In his homily, he said that for him prayer is not only limited in the four corners of the chapel but through his good works so that he could also impart

OUR LADY OF LA PAZ: Change Begins @ 60!



Our Lady of La Paz Parish prepared a surprise party for the 60th birthday of Fr. James Roa, MI, last July 25, 2016 at the parish backyard with the theme, “Change begins @ 60.” The celebration coincided with the first State of the Nation Address (SONA) of the newly elected President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, who is claimed to be a distant relative of Fr. James. With this happy coincidence, the party adopted the theme Change with the checkered cowboy attire as motif.

The celebration started with a Thanksgiving Mass with the Camillians in the Province and some priest friends of Fr. James from Iloilo. After the Mass, the cowboy party delighted Fr. James with blast of entertainment and well wishes. It was a memorable night for Fr. James who used to spend his birthday in silence. But at 60, he could not escape from this “big change” to celebrate the beginning of his “dual citizenship”—that of being a Filipino and a senior citizen. Happy birthday, Fr. James!



good example to the employees especially in the general services directorate where he is now assigned. Although he finds it difficult sometimes but with the intercession of St. Camillus and our Blessed Mother, all things are possible, he added. A procession of the statue of St. Camillus in the hospital compound followed after the Mass.

On July 14, 2016, the feast day of St. Camillus, the Eucharistic celebration was led by Rev. Fr. Edito Baño, apostolic administrator of the Diocese of Mati, together with concelebrating priests. The celebration would not be complete without dinner and a short program attended by all employees, visitors, guests, families and relatives. The program which was hosted by Sch. Almar Roman, MI and Mr. Merrill P. Esperat (a pharmacist) started with an invocation given by Mr. Allan Albacite,

ward department head, followed by a welcome address by Mrs. Aneleu M. Bernido, nursing director. The audience was well-entertained by a dance number from different directorates.

Fr. Marven Ruyeras, MI, expressed his gratitude to all who supported the activities of the feast day celebration, adding that he saw the employees’ sincerity while doing their individual tasks.

He then relaunched the Lay Camillian Family of Mati and invited everyone to join because the LCF will no longer be exclusive to SCH-Mati employees, but rather it is now open to everybody.

The program ended with expression of love and gratitude by Mrs. Fe Samson, administrative director, particularly to all the sponsors for this year’s successful feast day celebration.



My 1-1/2 months of pastoral exposure in St. Camillus Hospital-Mati were indeed meaningful and fruitful. I was given an opportunity to grow responsibly, deepen my vocation and broaden my knowledge in hospital administration that was assigned to me by Fr. Roderick Tampis, MI, General Services Director.

My assigned tasks in the hospital were to assist the Property and Inventory Management Section (PIMS) head in the inventory and in the liturgy and spiritual activities of the hospital like the preparation for the feast of St. Camillus de Lellis. It was a memorable experience for me!

People in Mati are very respectful and kind. Life in Mati is simple, yet it encouraged and pushed me to deepen my personal and professional growth by the opportunity given to me during my stay in the hospital. At the same time, it challenged me to go on with my chosen vocation.

Being with the employees, I really felt their sacrifices through their hard work and dedication to the hospital. Suddenly, I realized that in order to achieve

something in life one ought to undergo some sacrifices in reaching one's goal. Besides, what counts most is the willingness to make an effort everyday and to strive hard for the glory of God. I knew from the start that life is not a bed of roses but I have to pass through some difficulties for me to become strong and to prepare myself to the life that I have chosen.

As a temporary vowed Camillian religious, I learned from my experiences in the hospital that I have to prepare myself for whatever future ministry the Order may prepare for me. By that time I know already how to handle things in relation to my future ministries.

My seminary formation is a way to deepen and put meaning in everything I do, to put a little sacrifice and to be more zealous and dedicated in my commitment. I can say that life is not easy but if I put meaning into it, everything would be fine especially when I feel God's presence is in me.

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to my two confreres, Fr. Marven Ruyeras, MI and Fr. Roderick Tampis, MI, for giving me this great opportunity to grow and be molded to become a good religious and to be committed to the task that they entrusted to me. I really felt accepted and belonged to the community in Davao and in SCH-Mati Hospital. I hope and pray that my experience here in Mati will be my inspiration to serve the sick and will cherish it in my life's journey.



DELEGATION OF INDONESIA: Canonical Visit of the Provincial

Fr. Cyrelus Suparman Andi, MI



The Provincial Superior of the Camillian Philippine Province, Fr. Rolando J. Fernandez, made his canonical visit to the Indonesian Delegation last July 3–16, 2016. He visited the Delegation's two communities: the Formation House for the Aspirants in Ruteng, West Flores and St. Camillus Seminary in Maumere, Flores where the Philosophy and the Novitiate and Scholasticate students reside.

Part of his canonical visit was the officiating of the liturgical rites of acceptance of the new postulants and pre-novices on the eve of July 14. The postulants are 11 candidates who just finished the one-year Aspirancy program and will soon begin the four-year Postulancy program while taking Philosophy studies in the SVD School of Philosophy and Theology, Ledalero. The pre-novices are four candidates who just finished the four years of Postulancy program and obtained a bachelor's degree in Philosophy. They will be distributed to the two Camillian communities for one year during this immersion program.

On July 14, Fr. Rolly Fernandez officiated the liturgical celebration of the feast of St. Camillus, the formal opening of the Novitiate–Maumere, and the investiture of the new novices.

In his homily, Fr. Rolly emphasized the significance of moving up in the formation, that it is not just a change of name of the formation program, but it has to strengthen them in their commitment to be full-fledged Camillians or Ministers of the Infirm in the future.



Feast of St. Camillus de Lellis and the Opening of Novitiate in Maumere–Indonesia

The feast of St. Camillus on July 14, 2016 has marked a new milestone for the Camillian mission in Indonesia. It coincided with the opening of St. Camillus Novitiate in Maumere, island of Flores, which is under the Philippine Province.

The ceremony was integrated in the Eucharistic celebration presided over by Fr. Rolly Fernandez, MI, the Provincial Superior, who was in the country for his Pastoral visit to the delegation on July 4–15, 2016.

After the Delegate Superior, Fr. Luigi Galvani, MI, read the Acts of the Consulta on the canonical erection of St. Camillus Novitiate and the appointment of Fr. Alfons Oles,



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ECHOES FROM THE HILL: Progress in Formation

Nov. Richard Ricky Fajardo

The feast of St. James the Apostle on July 25, 2016 was a red letter day for the Order of the Ministers of the Infirm, Philippine Province for having two important celebrations. They witnessed the first temporary profession of Schs. Elson Pastrano and Benjie Ang where the confreres joyously welcomed them as members of the Camillian Order. Fr. Rolando J. Fernandez, MI, the Provincial Superior, received the profession of vows of the two new scholastics. In the same celebration, the investiture rite was conducted where the Order admitted Brs. Richard Ricky Fajardo, Andrew Yeongmin Kang, and Dennis Morales to the Novitiate. The celebration was held at Sts. Camillus de Lellis and Lorenzo Ruiz Church in Varsity Hills, Loyola Heights, Quezon City. The Eucharistic celebration was presided over by Fr. Fernandez and concelebrated by Camillian confreres from the different formation houses and communities.

The newly admitted novices expressed common feelings during the celebration where they felt a combination of emotions: excited, tense, afraid, and joyful. Besides that experience, they are very thankful to God for His enabling grace throughout their formation years. They are grateful to their formators in the College Seminary and Adult Formation Centre and to their supportive and empowering formators in

St. Camillus Novitiate, Fr. Ivo Anselmi, MI and Fr. Placido de Jose, MI.

With ardent desire to deepen their relationship and love with God and the Order, they are facing their Novitiate formation with much enthusiasm and excitement in the hope that they can be generous to respond to God's call to Camillian consecrated life with joy and interior freedom. As they are initiated to the Camillian consecrated life, they are hopeful that their Novitiate will be a year to deepen their understanding and commitment to love and serve God and his sick people as an expression of their gratitude for all the blessings he poured out on the three of them and their respective families.



(Feast of St. Camillus de Lellis and the Opening...continued from page 11)

MI, as Novice Master, the two candidates who finished their bachelor's degree in Philosophy and had undergone one year of pastoral immersion in two Camillian communities in Indonesia were admitted to the Novitiate.

Fr. Alfons is one of the pioneers of the Indonesian Mission. He was ordained to priesthood on Oct. 18, 2009. He was sent to Italy and finished his Licentiate in Pastoral Health Care Theology in Camillianum in 2012 and Licentiate in Theology of Spirituality in Facolta Teologica del Triveneto, Padova in 2015.

At present, the Indonesian Delegation

consists of five priests (four Indonesians and one Italian), one scholastic, two novices, four pre-novices who have finished philosophy and are taking immersion program, and 35 postulants who are taking the four-year Philosophy program, and a dozen of aspirants.

The Camillian mission in Indonesia was canonically opened on May 4, 2011 and from that time on, the Camillians continue to expand their presence in the country through pastoral ministry in local hospitals, handicapped centers and to the sick in their houses in various villages in the island of Flores.



Knowing the Unknown

Nov. Dennis E. Morales

St. Thomas defined prayer as the lifting up of our minds and hearts to God. More than the concepts of prayer, it is ought to be fervently worked on and personally experienced. There are so many kinds or methods of prayer, but all are basically aimed for us to personally know God, feel the effects of His presence and discern His will for us. How are we going to attain that state where we can personally know the Lord, feel His presence and discern His will? St. Ignatius' spiritual exercise is very helpful to aid us who sincerely seek God's presence and will. This method will dispose the persons to be conscious of their desire to be "different with God" and to be "indifferent with others." Our facilitator, Rev. Lee explained that to be different with God is to cling on Him; to be ardent in His will; and to resolve everything for God. On the other hand, to be indifferent is not to cling on them (things that are not for God); to be freed from them; not to be influenced by them and to take them as worthless. The spiritual exercises are aimed solely for God and Him alone. Therefore, we have to be indifferent with the rest who are not for God. To reach the state of indifference is difficult; however, the process is very enriching. We begin to be conscious of our distractions and become aware of the thoughts and emotions that will dissuade us away from God. When we will to want God's presence and reveal to us His will, the evil will vigorously work to block the realization of this goal. The evil works in our strengths, weaknesses, prejudices, attachments, biases, misconceptions, plans, hurts, desires, motives, pride and all other aspects of our life in order to prevent us to meet the Lord. The intelligence, cleverness and shrewdness of evil are much higher than the person himself. Man alone cannot defeat the promptings of the evil spirit in him. The evil knows us deeply and it is more aware of our weakness as broken persons. The evil does it for obvious reasons; it does not like the person to move away from the state of sinfulness. However, the entire capacity of evil is only a grain of sand compared to the shore of God's grace; only a leaf compared to the forest of the goodness of God; a minute drop of poison

compared to the ocean of mercy and healing of God. Due to these reasons, then we should neither underestimate the evil nor have over self-confidence. This dynamic should lead the person to be humble before the Lord. When we become aware of our limitation, all the more we desire God and beg His enabling grace to know oneself deeply, notwithstanding the fact that God gave us intelligence, the faculty which we can also use to understand the dynamics of evil and how it instigates in us. Who am I? Why do I behave this way? Why do I feel hatred or rage towards certain individuals? If a human person is made in the image and likeness of God, what happened in my life that caused my distorted paradigm and character? What made me what I am now? These are few among the questions that we can sincerely ask the Lord. I asked our reverend facilitator how the Lord can personally talk to us. He explained that when we pray and beg the grace we need, the Lord generously provides. When the grace of God is sincerely desired, we enter into the realm of our spirit which is the domain of God and it is there where God can personally instruct the person. To be conscious of our spiritual reality is to be aware of our passage to personally meet the Lord. It is in our spirit where we can access God and vice versa in prayer.

When the Holy Spirit guides and brings us to the holy presence of God we will be brought to a different dimension of our own being. God will bring us to know the unknown. He will personally let us see the answers to our questions which will lead us to diverse emotions and enlightenment. The Lord can bring us to an experience where we can see who we truly are; our inner resources; our handicap; the values that impede us to mature; our freedom; how God had been nurturing us; the vastness of His love and mercy; the astounding awesomeness when we are with the Lord; the consoling peace in His presence. In prayer we come to experience the warmth of God's love which heals our brokenness and wicked understanding of our own self and relationship with others. When we lift up our minds and hearts to God, He will take us to an interior journey where we will know the unknown.

Back to the Place Where They Belong

It was raining cats and dogs and yet the joyous spirit of reunion, of coming home, filled the entire Saint Camillus College Seminary (SCCS) compound as she once again gathered into one her beloved sons on the occasion of the 7th Grand Alumni Homecoming last Aug. 13, 2016. The celebration focused on the theme: "Reigniting the Past with the Fervor of the Present." The homecoming was made possible through the efforts of the SCCS Alumni Association who gave honor to the Silver Jubilarians this year—Batch 1991, in which the present SCCS rector, Fr. Renante "Rey" Sentillas, MI, belonged to. It was not a mere reunion or homecoming but it was also a tribute to the revered SCCS founder, Fr. Ivo Z. Anselmi, MI, on the occasion of his 69th birthday.

As early as 8:00 in the morning, although it was too dark and cold because of the bad weather, the seminary corridors were once again filled with many stories shared by the alumni. Most were stories of the past, the memories hidden in the different corners of the seminary and a bit of the present state of each alumnus. Everyone was blessed to visit again the place that was their home for five years. Most of the shared memories were treasured in the SCCS Museum and everyone enjoyed viewing the different memorabilia from the past. SCCS commemorative watches and shirts were sold as well to serve as souvenirs for this momentous event.



The celebration of the Holy Eucharist started at 11:00 in the morning presided over by Fr. Ivo and concelebrated by the alumni priests. The Holy Mass was graced by the presence of the SCCS faculty, staff, personnel and some of the past and present seminary benefactors. Fr. Ivo, in his homily, reminded the alumni, especially those who

did not pursue priesthood, that they are still part of the Order. He challenged them though to help produce seminarians who will once again fill the seminary and who will respond to the call of the Lord to priesthood and religious life. He urged them to become the Vocation Promoters of the present time. After the homily, special

prayers for the deceased members of the SCCS Community were offered.

Subsequently, sumptuous lunch was served at the seminary refectory. During lunch, a simple program was held, emceed by John Paul Alvarado and Fr. Michael "Mike" Gimena, MI. Serious matters regarding the SCCS Alumni Association



were tackled by Fr. Rey and Dr. Rene Escalante, the SCCS Alumni Association president. Some words were given as well by Dr. Estrellita Madriaga, the current SCCS Dean of Studies as to the present situation of SCCS and her following of the new K-12 program on education. The seminarians who did a lot of preparations for this celebration presented a song and dance number which the audience applauded happily. Tokens of tribute were given to the Silver Jubilarians, and as a response, one of them gave a few words of gratitude. Before the program's end, a cake and a birthday song were presented to Fr. Ivo and he responded with much gratitude. The program ended with the community singing of the "Hymn to Saint Camillus." Some of the alumni stayed until evening, enjoying each other's company through videoke singing, drinks, and most of all, the unwavering stories of memories.

It was just a one-day affair, yet, the day seemed endless as each alumnus once again returned back to the place where he belonged and was nurtured. The darkness of the day turned into light with all the shared memories treasured from the past. The cold became



warm with the unchangeable bond from the past up to the present.

Camillian Seminarians' Retreat 2016

Sem. Joshua Villanueva

The seminarians of St. Camillus College Seminary (SCCS) had their annual (end-of-long vacation) retreat on July 28–30, 2016 at the SCCS audio-visual room. Fr. Anthony Jeorge Kunnel, a Camillian priest from India, was the retreat master.

The seminarians still getting the hang of the spirit of summer were expected to be prepared physically and spiritually for the new school year through this retreat. Providentially Fr. Anthony, with his conversational style of discussion, made the activity endearing and lively.

On the first day, our first session with him was about formation and how important it is to be faithful to it through following its aspects. With this, the seminarians were asked to make their own personal prayer. It was a good instruction to start the 3-day retreat. In the afternoon session, the group discussed and reflected what the day's readings meant. The speaker asked the seminarians to pick a word from the first reading and Gospel and explain it. After the sessions, a leeway was given to the seminarians to take their snacks and prepare for the mass. Fr. Anthony celebrated the mass in an engaging way that made the seminarians participate. On the Kyrie, he asked everyone to tell something personal that needed forgiveness while the group answered "Lord, have mercy on us." And after his homily each seminarian offered something that represents himself accompanied with a prayer.

The morning session on the second day was called

"Sandals on and off"; this represents the importance of loving our charism, particularly the sick. The session was followed by the Holy Eucharist to give time for Benediction later that afternoon. In the second session "Inner House," we talked about the rooms inside our experience, either a pleasant or unpleasant room. We were asked to write our experience and look into it whether it belongs to the pleasant or unpleasant room. At the Benediction Fr. Anthony accommodated the seminarians who wanted to have confession with him, while others were on adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

On the last day of the retreat, we watched the film entitled *Moses* the whole morning. Then it was followed by Bible sharing. A seminarian read a Bible passage and others tried to reflect and share something from the passage, while Fr. Anthony was hearing confession in the sacristy. In the afternoon session, he talked about the spirituality of a seminarian and the consecrated community life. In conclusion, each participant was asked what lessons that struck him the most during the 3-day retreat. Then, the last to share his lesson was asked by the facilitator to continue his sharing in the homily. Fr. Anthony celebrated an anticipated Sunday mass and as promised, the seminarian that was chosen by Father shared during the homily.

It was comforting for the seminarians to be back in the seminary. The retreat was a good refocusing of the new School Year and a semester's stay in the seminary.

Mass of the Holy Spirit

On the first day of August 2016, St. Camillus College Seminary officially opened its doors for Academic Year 2016–2017.

The event kicked off with the rites recited by the Dean and the Student Council President as they opened the gate of the school, followed by a procession of mass servers, seminarians, staff and teachers from the lobby going to the auditorium for the Holy Spirit mass. Before the Holy Eucharist, the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit were enumerated while candles were carried to the stage.

The Holy Eucharist was presided by the college

President, Fr. Renante "Rey" Sentillas, MI. It was celebrated by other formators from different congregations. In Fr. Rey's homily he said, "If you fail to prepare, you are preparing yourself to fail" as he talked on the essential of preparations and anticipating what is to come. After the mass, the General Assembly followed with some announcement from the Dean of Studies, Dr. Estrellita Madriaga.

Having no regular classes yet, the rest of the morning was spent in preparation for the new academic year by electing officers of each class and meeting in each circle or department of the college. – Sem. Joshua Villanueva

Filipino Woodwater Advocates Join International Conference in Africa

The 21st International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2016) was held in Durban, South Africa on July 15–23, 2016. The International Aids Conference is a biennial gathering for those working in the field of HIV, as well as policy makers, persons living with HIV and other individuals committed to ending the epidemic.

Two brave advocates to stop HIV from the Camillians' Woodwater Center for Healing and CBCP-ECHC, Daren Paul Katigbak and Owie Franco, participated in this gathering. Both dreamers and visionaries in their own right, this conference is a good springboard for future successful leaders like them. Keep it up!



Owie Franco, right



Darren Paul Katigbak, extreme left



Topics

- Day 1: October 17 (Monday) Reflection**
a.m.: Sessions
p.m.: Small Group Sharing
- Day 2: October 18 (Tuesday)**
a.m.: View of Obedience (Biblico-theological Dimensions)
p.m.: View of Obedience (Canonical Dimension)
• Dinner at Chaplaincy Community, Mabuhay, Quezon City
- Day 3: October 19 (Wednesday)**
a.m.: Abuse and Misconduct Among Religious
p.m.: Use and Misuse of Social Media in the New Evangelization
- Day 4: October 20 (Thursday)**
a.m.: Current Bioethical Issues and the Humanization of Healthcare World
p.m.: Amoris Laetitia
• Eucharist in MedHaven, then Dinner at SCCS, Marikina City
- Day 5: October 21 (Friday)**
a.m.: Rereading of the Camillian Charism and Spirituality in the Light of the Jubilee Year of Mercy
p.m.: Small Group Sharing
- Day 6: October 22 (Saturday) Visita Iglesia: Holy Doors**
• Lunch Outside
• Eucharist and Dinner at La Paz Parish, Makati City

Note: Please send your name of participation either to:

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ANNIVERSARIES

JULY			
<i>Birthdays</i>			
Fr. Matteo Kao Kuoching	01/07/1949	Fr. Thomas C. Welu	18/07/1967
Fr. Bon L. Arimbuyan	05/07/1986	Fr. Henry Angupa II	04/07/2015
Fr. Gian Carlo Michelini	07/07/1935	<i>Presbyterate Ordinations</i>	
Fr. Jung Ju Seo	11/07/1985	Fr. Joseph Wang Chenyang	04/07/2009
Sch. Juegene R. Cafe	29/07/1991	Fr. Renato P. Sales	14/07/1990
Fr. Marven G. Ruyeras	23/07/1981	Fr. Thomas C. Welu	22/07/1967
Fr. Luigi Galvani	24/07/1941	AUGUST	
Fr. Domingo S. Barawid	25/07/1971	<i>Birthdays</i>	
Fr. Jaime A. Roa	25/07/1956	Fr. Remigio E. Jamorabon	04/08/1948
<i>Perpetual Professions</i>		Fr. Ivo Z. Anselmi	14/08/1947
Fr. Rodel R. Enriquez	03/07/2004	Fr. David Lee Taichuen	16/08/1944
Fr. Tex Rico V. Buntol	11/07/1998	Fr. Robert S. Chua Jr.	30/08/1967
Fr. Robert S. Chua Jr.	11/07/1998	<i>Perpetual Professions</i>	
Fr. Rolando J. Fernandez	14/07/1984	Fr. Ruben J. Mandin	14/08/1999
Fr. Joseph Yang Gaochao	14/07/2012	Br. Paul Han Kuo-Chien	20/08/2000
SEPTEMBER			
<i>Birthdays</i>			
Fr. Aristelo D. Miranda	03/09/1967	Fr. Ignasius Sibar	25/09/2011
Fr. Amelio Troietto	05/09/1950	Fr. David Lee Taichuen	28/09/1996
Fr. Avenius Harung	11/09/1978	OCTOBER	
Fr. Rodolfo V. Cancino Jr.	15/09/1973	<i>Birthdays</i>	
Fr. Marcelo L. Pamintuan Jr.	16/09/1968	Fr. Renato P. Sales	07/10/1960
Fr. Diosdado C. Haber	28/09/1965	Sch. James Virgil Gerald A. Agting	11/10/1992
<i>Presbyterate Ordinations</i>		Sch. Ronnel B. Agpay	14/10/1992
Fr. Jacob Wong Haw Ran	04/09/2006	Fr. Angel V. Crisostomo	30/10/1975
<i>Perpetual Professions</i>			
		Fr. Domingo S. Barawid	04/10/2000
<i>Presbyterate Ordinations</i>			
		Fr. Alfons Oles	18/10/2009
		Fr. Cyrelus Suparman Andi	24/10/2010
		Fr. Avenius Harung	24/10/2010
		Fr. Mushtaq Anjum	28/10/2011

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