



THE TRUMPET

Alliance of Filipino Catholic Charismatic Prayer Communities
www.afccpc.org

May your New Year be filled with God's joy and blessings.

January, 2009



HUNDREDS GATHER AT THE THE STOCKTON REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Once again, the Holy Spirit blessed this Alliance regional conference held in Stockton, CA, November 7, 8, and 9, 2008, the third offered by the North Pacific Region of the AFCCPC, and chaired by National Coordinator, Bob Canton, assisted by Delia Tabasa and Sandi Ramirez, and an army of core committee members numbering in the 50s. Despite the seemingly insurmountable situational hurdle of a venue, the Stockton Hilton, that was under ongoing renovation, the Conference proceeded with reasonable smoothness, accomplishing its goal of ministering to the attendees on a theme based on Philippians 4:10, "Rejoice greatly in the Lord." Spiritual guidance was provided by AFCCPC spiritual advisers Fr. Jose Maghinay and Fr. Dean McFalls. The opening night was blessed by the presence of The Most Reverend Stephen E. Blaire, Bishop of Stockton, and The Most Reverend Oscar A. Solis, Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles, who concelebrated the Mass that followed an elegant welcome fundraising dinner.

In addition to the roster of anointed speakers (a summary of their messages is provided by Ramon Mescalado elsewhere in this newsletter), this Conference had several highlights. The Conference theme song was composed by Bob Canton. There were more than a hundred youth that participated and they were ministered to by Leoni Kiamco and Mario Vieneza. Worship sessions were enhanced by liturgical dance provided by the Seed of Life Ministries youth of Las Vegas, choreographed by Leoni Kiamco. Praise and worship music was supplied by 5 music ministries: Children of God (Stockton) led by Emmanuel Sauro, Seed of Life (Las Vegas) led by Aldrin Ejercito, Lord's Flock (Los Angeles) led by Mikmik Flores, Spirit of God (Los Angeles) led by BJ Mangaliman, and Great Harvest of the Lord (Antioch) led by Sidney Edoria. The "hit" of the opening night was the choral performance of the Singing Priests of San Francisco. Bob Canton's healing service on Saturday night was attended by hundreds and witnessed many healings. A loving and generous group, Stockton's Our Lady of Manaoag Prayer Group, managed the meal part of the Hospitality Room for speakers and Alliance officers. The drawing for the Alliance first-ever Raffle, a project managed by Irni Tabasa and Marico Enriquez, was also done during the conference. Post-conference events included the election of Alliance officers and a surprise birthday celebration of Alliance first lady, Chita Canton. Photos of the Conference are inside this issue. ***The next Alliance gathering is scheduled for the weekend of June 26, 2009, the 15th National Convention to be held at the Baltimore Convention Center in Baltimore, MD, hosted by the Mid Atlantic Region and chaired by Agnes and Joe Nepomuceno (contact: 410-987-1694).***

RENEWAL LUMINARIES SHED LIGHT ON CONFERENCE*Ramon Mescallado*

Rejoice greatly in the Lord (Philippinas 4:10) was the Conference theme. Weaving a tapestry of enlightening, edifying, joyful talks, seven anointed speakers shed light on this theme and on the Conference. Their presentations proffered a plethora of perspectives enlivened by their own personal experiences and involvement in the Charismatic Renewal Movement.

Bishop Oscar Solis cuts to the chase and momentarily brings the kinetic congregation to a screeching pause for spiritual pensiveness with his incisive ***What Are We Rejoicing For?*** A priori, His Excellency concludes that we should, therefore: *Rejoice in the Lord always! I say it again . Rejoice! Everyone should see how unselfish you are. The Lord is near. Rejoice always, never cease praying , render constant thanks; such is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:4-5; 1 Thessalonians 5: 16).*

Fr. Bill Halbing then deftly threads us back to ***Jesus, The Source Of Our Rejoicing***. Obeying and yielding to the Will of Jesus Christ lead us to the inner joy of tapping the graces from the Very Source Himself. When we crucify the flesh, we get rid of unbelief (*Romans 6*). Amidst the world view of relativism and secularism we spread the Gospel without compromise or lowering of the standards. Only then can we truly *Rejoice in the Spirit*, Fr. Bill explains. By baptism we are all gospel preachers. And it is normal to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. The Great Pentecost is yet to come. Signs of the coming of the Lord abound and are all around us. There will be a great tribulation. We have nothing to fear if and when we are grounded in our Faith. Let us put back Jesus and His Real Presence in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Then we have Faith that conquers.

In ***Rejoicing through the Power of Praise***, Bob Canton declares that it is our duty to praise God. The Holy Mass is the highest form of worship and God actually dwells in the praises of His people. Praise is thanksgiving and vice-versa. Either and both should be a way of life, even (especially?) through tribulations. Bob, in fact, shows us *How to Rejoice in the Midst of Trials and Tribulations*. Early Christians joyfully faced their deaths. God has purpose for our trials; God's perspective is very much unlike ours. We rejoice not over trials but what becomes of us after the trials. Praise God always and in all circumstances.

Fr. Matthew O'Donnell joins our Blessed Mother in the *Magnificat*, ***My Heart Rejoices in God, My Savior***. Through the Incarnation of Our Lord, His Passion and Resurrection, victory has already been won. Our Blessed Mother, the bearer of Christ, wants to give us Her Son. Mary brings about Life and Joy. The key to Mary's joy is the Lord being within her. As we draw close to our Blessed Mother, she brings us closer to Jesus Christ.

Fr. Dean McFalls makes the case ***Mary: The First Charismatic*** and is the model Catholic Christian Charismatic. She has been Spirit-filled from the beginning, full of grace and hailed by the angel, "the Lord is with you." Radically open to the Holy Spirit, she is totally dedicated to the Lord and intimately united to Jesus as she was a woman of prayer and contemplation.

Deacon Bill Brennan empathizes with St Paul, ***Rejoice With Those Who Rejoice, Weep With Those Who Weep***. Celebrate the Amazing Grace of our gifts. And so blessed as St Paul, we are "impelled to go forth and lay my life down for others." It is not enough to know Jesus; we must bring Him to those who don't know Him. Jesus promised to the missionary disciples: "Rejoice because your names are written in heaven (*Luke 10:20*). We evangelize in two ways: what we say and how we live. Baptism in the Holy Spirit equips and empowers us to do what Jesus was doing

Sr. Linda Koontz confidently confirms, ***We Are Gifted People Therefore We Rejoice***. God wants us to be happy. Therefore, let us open ourselves docilely to the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit brings us peace when we are continually cleansed from all that is not according to God's will. It is God's will for us to have joy. Joy is a divine gift that comes from the inside. Let the Lord be in control of your life. *John 15:10 "You will live in my love if you keep my commandments as I kept my Father's commandments,*

Reflection: Lord, You have given me every thing; please, let me remember to LOVE happily ever after.



Photos taken during the Stockton Regional Conference. The power and joy of the Holy Spirit is evident in the faces of the attendees, including the youth who numbered in excess of 100. Many people worked to make this conference a success among whom are three ladies who worked hard in Registration: Cindy Scheublein, Sandi Ramirez, and Vicky Fuentes-Evans (second from top right). Icons of Filipino musicianship in the Alliance are Sidney Edoria and Manny Sauro (top panel, right). The Singing Priests of San Francisco thrilled the Conference attendees. Beloved Bishop Oscar Solis graced the event.

GOD IS STILL ON THE THRONE

Americans Prepare for Transition

By **Deacon Dean Lopata**

Spiritual Adviser, Severna Park, MD

Adjusting to ‘transitions’ in our personal lives, as well as in the life of our nation, is a normal part of the challenges we all face on a regular basis. Our faith and trust in the love, mercy and sovereignty of our God allows us to pass through these transitions, even the most difficult ones, with peace, love and even joy in our hearts. A new and very significant national transition is upon us.

Congratulations are in order for President-elect Barack Obama who will take office on January 20, 2009. For the first time in U.S. history, an African-American has won our nation’s highest elective office—a significant breakthrough in our country’s racial history. Americans of all nationalities can be proud that the dark shadow of slavery in U.S. history has, largely, been put to rest. In the midst of the election-related hype surrounding us for the last two years, we must be careful not to put our hope, a gift from God, in our politicians—they are only human. One day, those politicians will turn to dust just as all of history’s greatest and worst leaders did. The banner we wave says this: ***My hope is in the Lord, who made heaven and earth.*** Our Lord and our Savior, Jesus Christ, is singularly risen from the dead and lives and reigns forever—even over the White House. As Christians in America, we all have an important task to play in this transition to new leadership in our country. The Bible commands us to pray for those who are in leadership over us. Let us pray for Obama fervently and faithfully, and cooperate with him whenever our conscience and the teaching of our Church do not bind us otherwise.

The focus of our prayer must always be: *“Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”* More specifically, though, what should we pray for? Here are a few things to consider:

- ◆ That Obama will personally turn to the Lord in daily prayer during his Presidency, continually seeking the Lord’s wisdom, knowledge and understanding for his ongoing deliberations and decision-making.
- ◆ That Obama will soon recognize his personal need, and our national need, for God’s mercy and grace. That God will continue to: (1) reshape his heart, (2) sharpen his mind, and (3) strengthen his hands to enable him to humbly, yet boldly, pro-

claim God’s truth in love.

- ◆ That the Holy Spirit will sovereignly fall upon Obama and grant him a powerful anointing to: (1) bring him healing and wholeness; (2) soften his heart toward the things of God, and (3) enable him to provide holy and righteous leadership on behalf of all Americans—born and unborn.
- ◆ That the Holy Spirit will open Obama’s spiritual eyes and ears, that he might: (1) see the face of God in all Americans—from conception to natural death, and (2) hear the voice of God daily throughout his Presidency.
- ◆ That, under the leading of God’s Spirit, Obama will soon come to recognize the foundational and essential value of traditional marriage and family life, as defined by God, in maintaining a just and peaceful society.
- ◆ That Obama’s staff members, cabinet members and advisors will regularly provide him, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, with Godly perspectives, guidance and recommendations.

In Luke 18, Jesus tells the parable of the unjust judge. The wronged widow finally gets her way with the judge by persevering in her quest for justice—by not giving up. For all Christians in America, this is a parable of encouragement for us today. We must not lose heart regarding the advancement of those things closest to the heart of God. Jesus said, *“Seek first the Kingdom of God and all these other things will be given you.”* We must continue to persevere in prayer and in prayerful action. Jesus said, *“Ask and you shall receive. Seek and you shall find. Knock and the door will be opened.”*

The theological virtue of hope assures our hearts that God is still on the throne. No matter who sits in the Oval Office, God, in Christ, is still our ultimate leader. The living hope within us tells us that we are still ‘one nation, under God,’ not a nation under the whims of popularity or presidents. God is not an elected official, but an eternal Father who faithfully loves His children deeply and passionately, and is with us always, even to the end of the age. As Christians, we are a privileged people in that we already know how the story ends. Ultimately, and for all eternity, we are victorious.

REGIONAL COORDINATORS

EAST ATLANTIC REGION

- Dr. Dave Armesto (NY)*
- Luz Delin (NJ)*
- Rowena Yaptangco (NJ)*

MID ATLANTIC REGION

- Rod Vicente (VA)*
- Bibian Encomienda (MD)*
- Carmen Sotto (MD)*

SOUTHEASTERN REGION

- Greg Aceda (NC)*
- Joe Calicdan (NC)*
- Dr. Linda Carder (FL)*
- Jean Gervais (FL)*
- Dr. Babette Dompok (FL)*
- Ramon Mescallado (FL)*

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

- Terri Albarracin (OH)*
- Teresita Pal (WI)*
- Leo Vitangcol (WI)*
- Dr. Mina Vitangcol (WI)*

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

- Romy Baptista (TX)*
- Betty Gounah (TX)*
- Ben del Puerto (TX)*

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

- Joy Concepcion*
- Philip Garcia (NV)*
- Val Kiamko (NV)*
- Bertie Krehnovi (NV)*
- Virginia Nuval (NV)*
- Marietta Ravasco (AZ)*
- Dr. John Valles (AZ)*

PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION

- Remy Carrillo (AK)*
- Arlene Lumbah (AK)*

NORTH PACIFIC REGION

- Vicky Alonzo (CA)*
- Norma Calip (CA)*
- Eli Madrudejos (CA)*
- Iner Pugat (CA)*
- Leni Robins (CA)*
- Tess Viernesa (CA)*

MID-PACIFIC REGION

- Diana de Guzman (CA)*
- Ted Lim (CA)*
- BJ Mangaliman (CA)*
- Gus Mora (CA)*
- Ludy Rustia (CA)*

SOUTH PACIFIC REGION

- Rolly Rivera (CA)*
- Evelyn LaMountain (CA)*

HAWAII/PACIFIC ISLANDS REGION

- Nora Etrata (HI)*
- Aida Javier (HI)*

EASTERN CANADA REGION

- Ralph Ferrer (ONT)*
- Fe Santos (ONT)*
- Don Quilao (ONT)*

WESTERN CANADA REGION



ALLIANCE RAFFLE DRAWING

Drawing of raffle tickets was done on the last day of the Conference. **Carole Lew** won the first prize, a round trip ticket to the Philippines. **Nilo Canton** won the second prize, a 46-inch plasma Panasonic TV. Angelina Yap Hopper won the special prize, a round trip ticket to Hawaii. There were more than 20 consolation prizes. Above, **Patti Isaac** accepts her prize from Al Pineda in the presence of Alliance National Treasurer, Delia Tabasa. This Raffle project was spearheaded by Vice National Coordinators of Funding **Irnie Tabasa** and **Marico Enriquez**. Total raffle ticket sales amounted to \$10,318 and the Alliance realized a net profit of \$6,780. Thanks to all officers and regional coordinators who participated and cooperated in the selling of tickets. Credit and thanks are due **Bro. Marico** and **Bro. Irnie** for envisioning and implementing this fundraising project, an Alliance first.



OUR LADY OF MANAOAG HOSPITALITY

The AFCCPC sincerely thanks Rose Punzalan, Amelia Laminero, Chona Etulle, and Carol Astronomo, devotees of Our Lady of Manaoag, who played the role of “Martha” making sure that none of the speakers and officers who visited the Hospitality Room during the Stockton Conference left the area hungry. Our Lady of Manaoag’s shrine in Pangasinan continue to draw thousands of pilgrims each year. People from all walks of life flock to her to thank her for favors received through her intercession or simply to honor her.

PROFILES



VAL KIAMCO

Member, Board of Directors

LEONI KIAMCO

Seed of Life Youth Ministry



DON QUILAO

*Regional Coordinator
Eastern Canada*

The partnership and Christian witness of **VAL AND LEONI KIAMCO** is awe-inspiring in its passion and total commitment to our Lord. Both are abundantly gifted not only in good looks but also in natural abilities. Their college degrees are in Business Administration. Val was a rising star in sales and was one of the youngest supervisor and trainer in the largest insurance company in the Philippines. In college, Leoni (nee Leonida Fae Casurra) majored in Management and “minored” in a lifelong passion – dancing – devoting her spare time as a college coed to dancing lessons and participation with the University Dance Troupe and Choristers of the University of San Carlos in Cebu City. Initially she juggled her corporate career in business administration and her passion for dancing, but eventually relented to her interest in dance by opening the Artistique Ballet Center in Surigao City and founding the De La Rose Ballet School at Virra Mall in Greenhills, Philippines.

Both Val and Leoni fell “victim” to the Catholic Charismatic Renewal – she in 1979 and he in 1981. Although at different times, both found deeper meaning in their personal relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Despite bright and promising careers in business, both concurred with St. Paul that to live is Christ and the rest is trash. To Leoni, to proclaim the Good News of Jesus and sharing God’s word through dance and drama became her passion. To Val, his dynamic personality and presentation skills were re-directed towards winning souls for Jesus.

Val and Leoni married in 1991 but even prior to their marriage each had a long list of accomplishments in the Lord’s vineyard – establishing and supporting prayer groups in parishes, offices, schools, and homes, involving travel throughout the Philippines, conducting Life in the Spirit and Growth in the Spirit seminars, and also retreats, recollections, and leadership training. Val co-hosted a weekly program in Radio Veritas, a Catholic radio station in Quezon City. Leoni established ministries for household helpers, the orphanage, the poor and the homeless in Manila.

In 1993, Val and Leoni founded the Seed of Life Ministry in Los Angeles, CA. When the couple moved to Las Vegas, they founded the Seed of Life Ministry, a Catholic Charismatic Outreach ministry in “sin city.” Both are members of the Evangelization and Teaching Team of the Southern Nevada Renewal Communities, the leadership arm of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Communities in the Diocese of Las Vegas and Southern Nevada. They also co-host “Seed Sowers” which is a weekly radio program in station KKVV at 1060 AM in Las Vegas.

Val is a new member of the Alliance Board of Directors, elected to this post in the Elections held in Stockton in November, 2008. Val and Leoni chaired the first Rocky Mountain Regional AFCCPC Conference held in Las Vegas in March 2008, a most successful conference animated not only by its outreach to the youth but also in the presentation of choreographed liturgical and meditation dances directed by Leoni. May the good Lord continue to bless their ministries abundantly.

DON QUILAO is a Catholic Lay Preacher based in Toronto, Canada, and is AFCCPC Coordinator representing Eastern Canada. He started preaching at the age of 19. He has been all over the Philippines, Asia, Europe, and America preaching. His mission is more on giving Catholic Life in the Spirit Seminars, Growth in the Spirit Seminars, Discipleship & Leadership Seminars, Healing Seminars, Speakers’ Seminar-Workshops, Equipping the Saints and Deepening Talks, Retreats & Recollections and Community Building Seminars. He is married to Norma Abuyo Quilao, who is also a preacher, and graced with 5 religious children. His wife, children and community (Disciples of Christ Catholic Charismatic Community) are his partners and prayer warriors in the ministry.

His charismatic experiences include: founder and presiding elder, Disciples of Christ Catholic Charismatic Prayer Community; speaker, 1997 National Convention, AFCCPC, Regal Constellation Hotel, Toronto; past chair, Catholic Lay Teachers of the Philippines; founder and past head servant, Joy of the Lord Foundation International; past spiritual adviser, Servants of Christ and Mary Community (Medical City Hospital, Manila), Living Bread Community (RFM Group of Companies, Manila), Asian Development Bank Prayer Group, Manila. Since 2004, he has been Process and Document Control Manager of East Metal Products, Ltd., of Toronto. By education and training, Don is an engineer. He retired from Manila Electric Company (MERALCO), Philippines, as manager. May the good Lord continue to bless his ministry abundantly.

MY NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

Greg Acedo

Coordinator, Southeast Region

God loves you. Because of this love He died for us on the cross to bring us salvation. Out of this love He is reaching out to you now and offering you a personal relationship and a new life in the Holy Spirit. The good news I share with you today is that a new life is indeed available through a fuller reception of the Holy Spirit. The new life I found after I was baptized in the Holy Spirit centers on an experiential relationship with the Lord.

Being a cradle Catholic, I did what most Catholics do: went to Mass and received communion daily if possible, say the rosary and other devotions, and visit the Blessed Sacrament. So when somebody invited my husband and me to a prayer meeting in Durham, my first reaction was: *I don't need that!* We got invited again and on the third time I stopped resisting and went just as a courtesy since they were friends from U.P. Los Banos, our *alma mater* in the Philippines. I had no idea then what a prayer meeting was, but their vibrant singing and the lyrics of their songs appealed to my heart. The group also seemed to love and care for one another like a family. From then on I continued to attend the weekly prayer meetings. That same year we went to Toms River, NJ, to attend a *Life in the Spirit Seminar*. I don't know what overcame me that day but tears just started to flow when we began praising. I could not stop crying. I thought it could have been tears of joy because I was upbeat that morning but someone told me later it was a process of purification -- the Lord was washing away my sins! This is also mentioned in Ezekiel 36: 25 which says: "I will sprinkle clean water upon you to cleanse you from all impurities..." When I was prayed with for the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, I saw a vision of the Risen Lord sitting right in front of me. He was robed in white, His face was so full of compassion and love. This made me so elated and touched to realize that Jesus loves me, and that I must be very precious to him. This realization brought a profound sense of peace and joy and these feelings stayed with me. The Risen Christ continues to do awesome work and deeds through our lives today.

The love that filled my heart that day was overflowing and when I came home that weekend I ran up the stairs to tell my husband and my daughter that I

wanted them to experience what I had just gone through. The same love that filled me that day is what impels me now to desire to bring the Catholic Charismatic Renewal to others so that they too can "taste and see the goodness of the Lord." (Ps. 34:9). In my new life, the transforming power of the Holy Spirit manifested in many other ways. The more obvious ones of these is, first, ***my thirst for the Scriptures***. When I read the Bible I perceive a new and greater meaning in the message God wants to impart on me, whereas before I did not retain much of what I read. Second, I became ***attentive to what is going on at Mass***. *I listen intently to the homily. I go to Mass every chance I got and visit the Blessed Sacrament more often.* Third, ***my prayer life changed to desire for deep prayer, from asking things from God to prayers of praise and thanksgiving for His greater honor and glory***. My desire to know and love Jesus comes from this deep prayer life and from surrendering to the aspirations and guidance of the Holy Spirit. Fourth, God in His goodness gave me ***the gift of tongues*** and this greatly reinforced my prayer life. Fifth, I had the ***desire for greater involvement in the Church***. I am aware that the spiritual gifts bestowed on me were not for me to keep but to serve others. In my parish I serve as a Eucharistic Minister, a bread baker and member of other committees. With others we organized a quarterly Festival of Praise at Holy Infant Parish as our outreach to neighboring parishes. We also reach out to the poor, college-bound students in the Philippines desirous of an education by sponsoring an undergraduate scholarship administered by the Philippine American Association of NC. In the Alliance of Filipino Catholic Charismatic Prayer Communities, the organization ministering to you now, I serve as one of the Regional Coordinators of the Southeast Region which includes the Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida. I also served as a Board member of the Alliance from 2000 to 2004.

From the abundance of God's love, I have become a more patient, humble, compassionate, and caring person than before. Now I can easily see the face of Jesus on those who are difficult to love and show them God's unconditional love. I show by example what it means to love unconditionally, bringing them the light and warmth of Christ.

I feel my Baptism in the Holy Spirit is making me live my Christian life abundantly and to the fullest. I realize now that there is much more joy and satisfaction doing work for the Lord as you come closer to

Continued on next page

Him in love. We have to do our best to accomplish what God designed us to be. The Holy Spirit will give us the power to expand beyond our limits as Jesus said (Acts 1: 5), “John baptized you with water but in a few days you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes to you.” It is a mighty power He is giving us in order to be able to minister to others—with such power you can “cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, drive out demons” (Matthew 10: 8). You can make a difference in this world by spreading the Good News. You can do anything in the name of Jesus “for nothing is impossible with God.” (Matthew 19:26).

The lavish love of God poured out in my heart is so empowering and overflowing, I cannot keep this love to myself. I must let others experience it too. I thank the Lord for this grace and fire that burns in me to this day. It is this burning desire to let other people experience the transforming and life-changing power of the Holy Spirit in other peoples’ lives that makes me continually want to form and nurture prayer groups. Living the abundant life brings me immense peace and joy. In my new life in the Spirit I see God’s beauty in all things and in all people around me. God in His goodness has showered me and my family with many blessings especially the healing of my granddaughter Lauren from deafness and the gift of a new heart to my husband, Juanito.

I feel that in my New Life in Christ, I’ve ascended to new spiritual heights and in these higher places, there is much more beauty and wonder in everyone and in everything. I see visions which are lovelier than anything I’ve seen so far. One such vision was in the Mt. of Beatitudes at the Holy Land. One day we set up for our daily Mass under the trees. Brother Bob Canton saw the dancing sun which attracted the attention of the rest of us. I gazed at many objects which came to my view, like a heart, a bird, an empty cup and many more. The loveliest of this vision was the Sacred Host in the monstrance surrounded by rays of many different brilliant colors that together exquisitely formed a lace around it. It was so beautiful! Continuing on in our pilgrimage to Oberammergau, I saw the host again as big as a saucer surrounded by petunia flowers of different colors. The flowers were partly a foretelling of what awaited us because when we got to town, there were lots of petunias on the lawns and window sills of most homes. The performance of the play itself on the “Passion of Christ” was superb, something coming from the nobility of Christ’s people.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, to me these manifestation of God’s love is the *life in abundance* here on earth that our Lord Jesus Christ promised us in John 10:10, “I have come that you may have life and have it in abundance.” To have a life in abundance is to experience God’s love, peace, and joy to the fullest. It has much to do with how we love God, and care for other people here on earth. It means how easily we forgive those who hurt us, and doing what is truly necessary in life. I feel so grateful that God showed and directed me to what is truly important in this life and for allowing me to set my priorities making Him the center of everything I say and do. In sharing with you my life-changing experience, I hope and pray that you will experience also the abundance of Christ’ love, proclaiming always that Jesus is Lord in your home, in your families, in your work and in everything. May our awesome God be praised and glorified forever and ever!

(Excerpts of a talk on “New Life” delivered during a Life in the Spirit Seminar held in Charlotte, NC, on June 10, 2006. Sister Greg was part of a Speakers Bureau that accompanied Bob Canton in his teaching and healing ministry. A PhD researcher, she is a Coordinator of the Southeast Region and has served as a Board member of the Alliance).

OFFICERS

Bob Canton
National Coordinator

Delia Tabasa
National Treasurer

Judy Labaria (West)
Linda Moreno (East)
National Secretaries

Pablo T. Malana
Auditor

Dr. Ray Caparros
VNC Funding

Irni Tabasa
Marico Enriquez
Asst VNC Funding

Grace Bernardo
Mario Vienezza
VNC Youth

Michael Tupaz
VNC Logistics and Resources

◆
VNC Administration

Rhomic Ramirez
Director of Information

Prime Abiado
Systems Administrator

Lourdes Patricia Isaac
Chair, Renewal Service Relations

Liza Jablonski (East)
Dey Pinzon (West)
Fe Enriquez (West)
Fe Lachain (West)
Chairs, Intercessory Ministry

Sidney Edoria
Chair, Ministry on Music

Celso Roxas
Chair, Word Gift Committee

Marcy Rivera
Special Events Coordinator

Gus Mora
Legal Adviser

Dr. Jose Nepomuceno
Dr. Anastacio Pinzon
Leonardo Lachain
Special Advisers to the National Coordinator



SPIRITUAL ADVISERS

◆
Fr. Ramon Valera
Head Shepherd
 St. Cyprian Church
 Long Beach, CA

◆
Fr. Bill Halbing
Assistant Head Shepherd
 St. Antoninus Church
 Newark, NJ

◆
Bishop Oscar Solis
Vicar for Ethnic Minorities
 Archdiocese of Los Angeles CA

◆
Deacon Ernest Abad
 Diocese of Newark
 New Jersey

Fr. Alex Aclan
St. Mary Magdalene
 Los Angeles, CA

Msgr. Fred Bitanga
 St. Patrick Parish
 San Francisco, CA

Fr. Joe Cadusale
 Jamaica, NY

Fr. Raymond Ellorin
 St. Theresa
 Kihei, Maui, HI

Deacon Dan & Rita Guinaugh
 Honolulu, HI

Fr. Perry Kenaston
 St. John by the Sea
 Klawock, AK

Fr. Pete Literal
 Alexandria, VA

Deacon Dean Lopata
 St. John the Evangelist
 Severna Park, MD

Fr. Jose Maghinay
 St. Luke Church
 Stockton, CA

Deacon Rolando Nolasco
 Archdiocese of New York
 New York

Fr. Louis Olive
 Baltimore, MD

Fr. Rey Reyes
 St. Anne of the Sunset
 San Francisco, CA

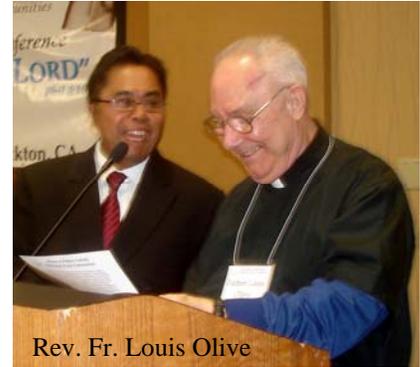
Deacon Bob Rosales
 Scarborough, ONT

Fr. Lorenzo Salandanan
 St. Mark Parish
 Stouffville, ONT

Fr. Vic Paloma
 Our Lady of Victories
 Jersey City, NJ

NATIONAL CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN BALTIMORE, MD

The 15th AFCCPC National Convention will be held June 26-28, 2009, at the Baltimore Convention Center, One W. Pratt Street, in Baltimore, MD. The over-all Chair for this event is Agnes Nepomuceno who can be reached at 410-987-1694.



Rev. Fr. Louis Olive

Hosting this Convention is the Mid Atlantic Region. The Alliance Coordinators of this region are Rod Vicente, Bibian Encomienda (410-967-6147), and Carmen Sotto (410-757-3464). Agnes Nepomuceno is a member of the Board of Directors. The Spiritual Adviser involved in this event is Rev. Fr. Louis Olive. Also involved in organizing this big event are Lita Milan (410-266-5275), Danny Batac (410-526-3820), Joanne Manalad (443-627-1289), Myrna Ortega (410-518-6683), Gonette Caparros (410-757-3464), and Toni Grandea (410-821-9573).

The theme of the Convention is based on Isaiah 61:1: *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me*. Four bishops will grace this event: **Bishop Edward O'Brien, Bishop Oscar Solis, Bishop Luis Antonio Tagle, and Bishop Teodoro Bacani, Jr.** Also speaking in this Convention are Patti Mansfield Gallagher, Robert Canton, James Murphy, Grace Bernardo, Fr. Daniel Leary, Fr. Bill Halbing, Fr. Richard Loch, and Fr. Leo Patalinghug. **Mark your calendars** and plan on attending this exciting gathering where attendees for sure will be blessed by the liturgies, praise and worship in music, the messages of the speakers, meeting new friends, and renewing old friendships.

Photo above: Taken during the Stockton Regional Conference. Fr. Olive gleefully announces the Baltimore National Convention and invites the audience to attend. National Coordinator Bob Canton watches and shares in the excitement.

AFCCPC ELECTION RESULTS

Board member Ging Mangaliman conducted the elections with assistance from Alliance legal adviser Gus Mora, with Assistant Head Shepherd Fr. Bill Halbing supervising the process. Elections were held on November 9, 2008, at the Stockton Hilton after the Conference. Results are as follows:

National Coordinator: **Bob Canton**

National Treasurer: **Delia Tabasa**

National Auditor: **Pablo Malana**

Board of Directors:

Val Kiamko

Gus Mora

Ging Mangaliman

Agnes Nepomuceno

Purita Vazquez

From the Head Shepherd's Pasture

THE HEART OF A SERVANT

Fr. Ramon Valera, *St. Cyprian Church, Long Beach, CA*

Before I entered the seminary, the vocation director asked me, “*why do you want to become a priest?*” My immediate response was, “*I want to serve God and His people.*” Now that I am 33 years in the priesthood, I still can honestly declare, “*I want to serve God and God’s people.*”

“To serve God and His people”, one must have a heart that is aimed towards service. Jesus said, “*You know that the rulers of the gentiles lord it over them, and their officials exercise authority over them. It will not be so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you, must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first, must be your slave – just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.*” (Mt. 20: 25-28). In this passage Jesus says that service is greatness in His kingdom.

What does it mean to be a servant? It can only mean to love and serve others. God created us for service, not for self-centeredness. There is always the temptation to misuse our gifts and talents, and use them for personal gain. Love fundamentally entails servanthood. Paul says in his letter to the Corinthians, “*If I speak in the tongues of men and angels, but have not love, I have become a sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal. And if I have prophecy and know all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And if I dole out all my goods, and if I deliver my body that I may boast but have not love, nothing I am profited.*” (1 Cor. 13:1ff).

Allow me to share some qualities of the heart of a servant. The first quality that comes to mind is “**Willingness to Serve.**” Real servants do not fill up their time with other pursuits that could limit their availability. They are always ready to jump into service when called upon. If you only serve when it is convenient, you are not a real servant. Real servants do what is needed, even when it is inconvenient. A good test here would be to ask oneself: “Am I available to God any time? Can God mess up my plans without me becoming resentful?” Being a good servant is giving up the right to control my schedule and allow God to interrupt it whenever he needs to. A servant sees interruptions as divine appointments for ministry which become opportunities to practice service.

A second quality is “**Focus.**” Servants pay attention to needs. Galatians 6:10: . . . *Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.* Servants are always on the lookout for ways to help others and are always sensitive to the needs of people. When God puts someone in need right before you, He is actually giving you the opportunity to grow in servanthood. We miss many opportunities to serve because we lack sensitivity and spontaneity. You may only get one chance to serve that particular person, so take advantage of the moment.

A third quality is “**Do your Best.**” Servants do their best with what they have. They do not make excuses, procrastinate, or wait for better circumstances. They just do what needs to be done. They never say, “One of these days” or “When the time is right.” God expects us to do what we can, with what we have, wherever we are. You may not have much, but offer what you have. Grow with it, whether it be, praying for the sick, leading in prayer meetings, teaching in a meeting, preaching, or the like. As God’s call is there, His hand is there too.

Continued on next page

“Dedication and Perseverance” is the fourth quality. True servants do every task with equal dedication. Listen to what St. Paul has to say here: *“Whatever you do, do it with all your heart.” Col. 3:23.* The size of the task is irrelevant. The only issue is: does it need to be done? It is in small services that we grow like Christ. Jesus specialized in menial tasks (unskilled work) that everyone else tried to avoid: washing feet, helping children, fixing breakfast, and serving lepers. In the last analysis, Jesus demands that we follow his example. Small tasks often show a big heart. Your servant’s heart is revealed in little acts that others do not think of doing. Do not look for great tasks to do for God. Just do the not-so-great stuff, and God will assign you whatever he wants you to do.

Another important quality is **“Faithfulness or Commitment.”** True servants are faithful to their ministry. They keep their promises and complete their commitments and responsibilities. They do not leave a job half done. They do not quit when they get discouraged. They are trustworthy and dependable. Anyone can count on them.

Finally **“Humility.”** Real servants maintain a low profile. They do not promote or call attention to themselves. Instead of acting to impress, they “put on the apron of humility, to serve others.” (1 Peter 5:5). Self-promotion and servanthood do not mix. Real servants do not serve for the approval or applause of others. They are content with quietly serving in the shadows.

These qualities serve as the starting point for anyone to become more involved in any ministry of the Church, especially in the Charismatic Renewal. May Paul’s exhortation encourage us to have the heart of Jesus Christ, *“Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.”* (1 Cor. 15: 58)



Fr. Ramon leading Filipino liturgical music during Mass at the annual Charismatic Leadership Meeting held in Miami, FL, in January, 2008. From left: Ging Mangaliman, Dr. Joe Nepomuceno, Agnes Nepomuceno, Bob Canton, Gus Mora. Taking turns in providing ethnic liturgical music were the Hispanic, Haitian, and Korean delegations attending this meeting. Next year’s Gathering of National Leadership Groups will be held in Lutz, FL, in the Tampa area.

REGIONAL REPORTS

East Atlantic Region:

A Regional Mini-Conference was held May 30-31, 2008, at the School Auditorium of Our Lady of Victories, Jersey City, NJ. Both days were Spirit-filled and everyone felt the presence of God as manifested in the Healing Sessions led by Bob Canton. On Friday evening, we witnessed an outpouring of the gift of tongues to many attendees.

Attendance was not limited to Filipinos; 20% were non-Filipinos coming from parish-based prayer and devotional groups. The Music Ministries did a fantastic job — you'd think that angels came and sang with them to give glory to God! The Word Gift Ministry delivered their prophetic word towards the end of each Eucharistic celebration. Jim Hughes is the head of the Word Gift Ministry for the East Atlantic Region.

The rest of the Ministries did their part in a wonderful coordination, with every member doing their assigned task with joy and love. Reorganization of the East Atlantic Region with permanent appointment of each individual to their respective ministry was initiated by Purita Vazquez, Lead Coordinator for the Region. Details will be furnished by her on a separate report.

Despite the meager \$10 registration fee, food was abundant during the conference (multiplication of bread). Coordinators, officers, ministry heads all pledged money and shared their talents to carry out the event to its successful culmination.

Sister Ofelia, a member of Liza Jablonski's prayer group, donated 400 pieces of "turon" and Luz Delin, a regional coordinator, baked cookies and cupcakes for snacks. These were unplanned but appreciated and well-received.

(Reported by Linda Moreno, National Secretary, East)

THE TRUMPET

c/o Narciso S. Albarracin, Jr.
P.O. Box 20147, Columbus, OH 43220

To:

