

# THE TRUMPET

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

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me ... (Isaiah 61:1)

May, 2009

# 15<sup>th</sup> AFCCPC NATIONAL CONVENTION

June 26-28, 2009
Baltimore Convention Center
One W. Pratt Street
Baltimore, MD
Sheraton Baltimore City Center Hotel

Hotel reservations: 866-837-5182 or 410-752-1100 For general information: 410-987-1694

Baltimore's Convention Center will be the venue for the 15th Biennial National Convention of the Alliance of Filipino Catholic Charismatic Prayer Communities. Hosting this Convention is the Mid Atlantic Region. The over-all Chair for this big event is Alliance Board member Agnes Nepomuceno and the Spiritual Director is Fr. Louis Olive. Previous national conventions had been held in Toronto, California and New Jersey. This is the first time that a national convention will be held in Maryland although in 1999 the 10<sup>th</sup> National Convention was held in nearby Washington, DC, and also hosted by the Mid Atlantic Region of the Alliance. The Convention theme is a taken from Isaiah 61:1 and is most familiar to us because the very same words were read by Jesus in the synagogue when he began his ministry (Luke 4:18): "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, and to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord." A dozen anointed speakers will teach and expound on this theme: Baltimore Archbishop Edwin O'Brien, Bishop Oscar Solis, Bishop Luis Antonio Tagle, Bishop Teodoro Bacani, Reverend Father William Halbing, Reverend Father Daniel Leary, Reverend Father Richard Loch, Reverend Father Leo Patalinghug, Sister Patti Gallagher Mansfield, Brother James Murphy, Sister Grace Bernardo, and Brother Robert Canton. Early registration fee is \$40 for adults (\$50 for on-site registration) and \$20 for youth (\$30, on-site). The Convention will start on Friday, June 26, with Registration beginning at 9 a.m. and the Sessions starting at 10 a.m. The convention will end on Sunday, June 28, at 2:00 p.m. The recommended hotel for accommodations is the Sheraton Baltimore City Center Hotel (see above for telephone numbers) which charges \$149 per night (mention the AFCCPC Convention when you book).

For more information and a PDF version of the Registration form, please access the National Convention website: <a href="www.afccpc15nc.co.nr">www.afccpc15nc.co.nr</a>. (If this site takes you to the Baltimore Convention Center website, click on the link provided at "more information.") This is actually the website of the hosting prayer group, the Joy in the Spirit of the Lord Prayer Community of Severna Park, MD. For queries about this prayer group and the Convention, you can access this site: <a href="www.jits\_md@yahoo.com">www.jits\_md@yahoo.com</a>.

For those interested in touring Washington, DC, while in Baltimore, contact Amphitrion Travel at 1-800 -424-2471. A whole-day tour on June 29 will cost \$70.

This Convention promises to be an exciting gathering of charismatic brothers and sisters who will be blessed by the liturgies, praise and worship in music, the messages of the anointed speakers, meeting new friends, renewing old friendships, and personal healing. The Alliance officers and coordinators are hereby reminded that the first 2009 national leaders' meeting will be held in conjunction with this Convention. More information about this meeting is provided elsewhere in this issue.

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# FROM THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR'S DESK

I just came back from the Philippines two weeks ago, fresh from giving teachings and ministering healing during the 24th Airkcabs Catholic Charismatic Convention in San Carlos City, Negros Occidental. After the Convention, we went to Bacolod City, Silay City, Dumaguete City, and Iloilo City to conduct Healing Rallies and Crusades wherein thousands came to hear the word of God being proclaimed and to receive the healing touch of the Master Healer, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. A day before I flew into Negros Occidental, we had a Healing Crusade in my former hometown of Cebu City. What a privilege and a great joy it was for me to minister to my relatives and friends and former neighbors, and classmates in high school and college days. It is an experience beyond description because it was the Lord who touched them and healed them in His love. The Lord allowed me to feel deeply the gift of compassion for the sick and to empathize with them in their suffering. We have seen and witnessed the lame walking, the deaf hearing, the blind seeing, the deaf-mute hearing and talking for the first time in their lives, and tumors and cysts melting away. It was a very uplifting and faith-strengthening experience to witness those healing and miracles, praise the Name of Jesus. Jesus is truly alive and the power and anointing of the Holy Spirit are indeed very real and tangible. Yes, it was taxing physically to minister to thousands of people, but the Holy Spirit continues to strengthen and refresh us. My prayer for them is for the Lord to continue to draw them unto Himself and to transform their hearts and minds so that they and we will become more like Jesus in every way. I also pray that the Lord will continue to heal them and set them free from the spirits of affliction and infirmity and all kinds of bondages by the precious blood of Jesus. Amen!

In two weeks, I will leave for Kkttongnae, South Korea to attend the International Catholic Charismatic Conference and the Council meeting of the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services (ICCRS). This 9-day international gathering which is sponsored by the ICCRS has three sub-themes: "Love in Action," which is the first part, the second part is "The Holy Spirit," and the third part is "Evangelization." It will be held from June 1-9, 2009. This gathering is unique in that it requires the participants to do volunteer works in the hospitals in KKttongnae, to do actual works of evangelization aside from attending workshops and lectures. As a Council member, I've been assigned to conduct and to facilitate the Healing Workshop for three days. I'm looking forward for the opportunity again to minister to God's people in Jesus' Name and to witness the great move of the Holy Spirit, the uncreated power of God. Let us join our prayers for the Lord to touch His people through this event in ways that they have not experienced before because our God is a God of love and power. If you could not attend this Conference, please pray for the attendees and for the members of the ICCRS Council. We will again meet, at the conclusion of the Conference, to plan and to discern as to how to serve the worldwide Catholic Charismatic Renewal and to map out the events and initiatives that would best serve God's people all over the world. This task is not easy but with your support and prayers, we achieve many things by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Here in the homefront, the Mid Atlantic Region, particularly our sisters and brothers in Baltimore, MD., is all set to host our 15th National Convention. I ask all of you to continue to pray for the success of this Convention. As we all know, with prayers, the heart of God is always moved. In Jeremiah 29:12-14, the Lord God says, "When you call me, when you go to pray to me, I will listen to you. When you look for me you will find me. Yes, when you seek me with all your heart, you will find me with you, says the Lord and I will change your lot." I'm sure that this is another avenue for God's myriad graces and blessings to flow unto us. The Planning Committee of the Convention is very positive and hopeful indeed of a very Spiritfilled National Convention in spite of some hardships that they have encountered. I encourage all of you also to continue to invite people to come so that they too may receive the wonderful and awesome things that the Lord has prepared for those who will come. Allow me to remind the AFCCPC Regional Coordinators, Officers, and Spiritual Advisers to attend our National Leaders meetings on Thursday evening, June 25, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sheraton Hotel and on June 28, 2009 in the late afternoon, at the end of the closing Mass of the Convention. We will meet in the same venue which is the Sherator Hotel. Before I forget, I would like to inform you that the members of the Board of the AFCCPC have decided to collaborate with ICCRS in sponsoring a weeklong North American Leadership Training Course to be held in the second week of September, 2010, in the Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio. This is a very comprehensive Training Course and it is designed to strengthen the leaders in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal and to help them become better more effective leaders. I attended the ICCRS Leadership Training Course in South Korea last year and I have no qualms in recommending it to everyone. I will pass on to you more information about this event as they become available. Please start planning on attending this Training Course next year.

May the Lord continue to bless all of us and fill us with His presence and love and His mighty power. Have a nice and safe and Spirit-filled summer everyone! Remember, God loves you and so do I. To God be the glory forever and ever. Amen!

#### **Bob Canton**

Nat'l Coordinator, AFCCPC Council Member, Vatican-based ICCRS

### **Lenten Reflection:**

# OUR LIFE AND SUFFICIENCY IS IN JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD By Val C. Kiamco (Las Vegas, NV, 3-9-09)

We all know that Lent is a period of penitence, fasting and almsgiving. But what does lent really mean for us?

The word "Lent" is derived from an old English word, Lencten, which means springtime. As a noun, spring means "a time or season of growth or development." As a verb, it means "to grow as a plant or to arise."

During Lent we do not fast because we just want to lose weight or are on a diet. We do it because we desire to be filled by God in His word and to be washed clean from our sins by His most precious blood. That is why we come to the Lord Jesus in repentance, prayer, and fasting because our life and sufficiency is in Him!

John 1:3-4 says that God does nothing except through His Son Jesus our Lord! "Through Him all things came into being and apart from Him nothing came to be. Whatever came to be in Him, found life, life for the light of men." Jesus taught His apostles the fundamental principle that "He alone is the life." John 10:10 says "I came that they may have life, and have it to the full." John 14:6 says "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father but through me." (Continued on next page)

# Easter Reflection: CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

By Don Quilao (Toronto, ONT, 4-23-09)

Maybe some of us are wondering why in spite of the fact that we have good speakers and leaders, the community is still not growing as it should be. We try to justify that community growth is not based on quantity but on quality. We sometimes forget that quantity is the product of quality.

The big question or challenge is, "Are we really building a Christian Community or just a group?" If we go back to the time of early Christians which we can read on Acts 2: 42-47, we will note how deep and strong the love of every member for one another was. They did not consider what they have as their own but for everyone in the community.

A Christian Community should be a place of love, hope, peace, joy and healing. Everyone should be an instrument of love, more so, a blessing and inspiration to one another. Everybody should speak, act, and work for the salvation of every member. It should not be a place of intrigue, gossip, judgment and condemnation.

We need to TRUST one another as God trusted us so much. We need to understand that we have different levels of spirituality. Our weakness can be the strength of others and their weakness can be our strength. Although our goal is to be perfect, we cannot be, for only God is perfect. Let us accept the truth that we need one another. Let us support the strength of others and help them (Continued on next page)

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## Lenten Reflection, continued

John 15:2, 5-6, "He prunes away every barren branch, but the fruitful ones He trims clean to increase their yield. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who lives in me and I in him will produce abundantly. For apart from Me you can do nothing. A man who does not live in Me is like a withered, rejected branch, picked up to be thrown in the fire and burnt."

In order for us to share our new life in Christ to others with power and anointing that draws people to God, we must be grafted to the vine. We must be totally attached to Jesus! We must become God's reservoir and not just a channel. Always receiving from God and being filled by His holy unction so that it can overflow to the lost, the unbelievers, the broken hearted and the unwanted.

Churches and ministries today are looking for better methods and designing new ways to draw people to God. But God is looking for prayerful, steadfast and faithful servants who will draw people to Him! St. Bernard said, "It would be in vain to try to save other people's soul while you lose yours." St. Alphonsus D' Ligouri also said, "I love Jesus so much that is why I desire to bring souls to Him, my own soul first."

# OUR INTIMACY WITH GOD GLORIFIES HIM MORE THAN ALL OF THE GOOD THINGS THAT WE'VE DONE OR INTEND TO DO FOR OTHERS BECAUSE OUR LIFE AND SUFFICIENCY IS IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD.

(Bro. Val Kiamco was Coordinator of the Rocky Mountain Region and has recently been elected to the Board of AFCCPC. He and wife Sister Leoni founded the Seed of Life Ministries of Los Angeles and Las Vegas, and chaired the First Rocky Mountain Regional Conference. He is a member of the Evangelization and Teaching Team of the Southern Nevada Renewal Communities. The Kiamcos co-host a weekly radio program, Seed Sowers, in station KKVV at 1060 AM in Las Vegas.)

# Easter Reflection, continued

on their weaknesses. Let us be humble also to accept the truth that we need the help of others to overcome our weaknesses.

False spirituality is when we become self-righteous as if we are the only ones who are good. True spirituality is when love, patience, understanding, and forgiveness go wider. When we learn to accept the strength and weakness of others and accept our own weaknesses, too.

We need to move forward from the emotional level of love to the spiritual level of love. Emotional level of love focuses so much on feelings, emotions and expectations. If this is not satisfied, it leads to frustration and condemnation. Spiritual level of love is to love like Christ, to understand that we need one another. We need to trust the goodness of the person. Let us not forget that whatever and no matter how big the sin of a person is, God is still doing everything for his salvation, as what He is doing for us, up to the point that He even gave His only begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to save us. Do not act the other way around, for we have no right to destroy what God is trying to save.

Let us always remember that we are all so precious to God and the value of each one of us is Jesus Himself on the Cross.

### Christian Community should be Christ-Love driven!

(Bro. Don Quilao is Eastern Canada Regional Coordinator of AFCCPC and is a member of the Editorial Staff of The Trumpet. He is the Head Servant of the Filipino Canadian Charismatic Prayer Communities, the umbrella organization of Filipino Catholic charismatic prayer communities in Eastern Canada, endorsed by the Archdiocese of Toronto, and affiliated with the AFCCPC. He has recently been honored to be chosen to chair the Canadian National Catholic Charismatic Conference to be held during the same weekend that the Baltimore National Convention will be held.)

# REGIONAL COORDINATORS

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WESTERN CANADA REGION

# **REGIONAL REPORTS:**

East Atlantic Region (*Purita Vazquez, Lead Regional Coordinator*): A Revival mini-conference will be held May 22-23, 2009 (Friday night and Saturday) in Our Lady of Victories Parish in Jersey City, NJ, with Fr. Bill Halbing, Bro. Bob Canton, and Linda Koontz as the speakers. The theme of the conference is Acts 1:8: *You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you.* Healing rallies by Bob will be held Friday evening and Saturday p.m.

Eastern Canada Region (Don Quilao, Regional Coordinator): Charismatic Filipino Catholics in the Toronto area will attend and participate in the Canadian National Catholic Charismatic Conference, held under the auspices of the CCRC on June 26-28, 2009, at St. Michael's Cathedral Hall and at the Direct Energy Centre Hall. The main speakers during this Conference are Bishop Sam Jacobs, ICCRS President Michelle Moran, and Archbishop Thomas Collins of Toronto. The Catholic Charismatic Renewal Council (CCRC) is a service body created by the coordinating committees to attend to the needs and activities of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the general area of Toronto and vicinity. The coordinating committees are associations of several Catholic charismatic groups in the same geographic zone or with common characteristics such as ethnic groups, ministries, communities, and youth groups. Filipinos are represented in the CCRC by Alliance Regional Coordinator Don Quilao, who holds the honor of chairing this year's National Conference. Other ethnic groups participating in the CCRC are: Italian, Portuguese, Hispanic, Indonesian, Korean. The umbrella organization for Filipino Catholic charismatic prayer communities in the Toronto area is the FCCCPC (Filipino Canadian Catholic Charismatic Prayer Communities) which maintains an informative website (www.fcccpc.com). A calendar of activities for the year are published in this website.

Southeastern Region (Ramon Mescallado, Regional Coordinator): National Coordinator Bro. Bob Canton conducted several days of Parish Mission in the Sarasota (Florida) area on March 1-4, 2009. Members of the Couples for Christ Prayer Group of Cape Coral attended the March 4 morning session and assisted Bro. Bob in music ministry. Also in attendance was Regional Coordinator Linda Carder. In the photo below, front row from left: Terri Albarracin, Victor and Norma Pavone, Dr. Rose Creus, Luisa Creus, Al Albarracin. Back row, from left: Theresa Rufener, Dr. Pete Creus, Bob Canton, Fr. Marco DeLeon, Roger Rufener. Behind the camera: Dr. Jess Creus. Fr. DeLeon heard over 200 confessions during the duration of the Parish Mission. The Rufeners of Kinsman, OH, made Bro. Bob's visit in this area and diocese possible.



# 15<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL CONVENTION SOUVENIR PROGRAMMES

To support the National Convention in fund-raising you may purchase advertising space in the Convention Programme at the following rates: Full-page for \$100, half-page for \$60; a quarter page for \$30. Mail your check to: Agnes Nepomuceno, 462 Blackshire Road, Severna Park, MD 21146. For queries, Call Sister Agnes at the phone number given in the front page of this issue.

# AFCCPC NATIONAL LEADERS MEETING

There are generally 2 National Leaders Meeting of the AFCCPC per year. Officers and Coordinators are required to attend at least one National Leaders' Meet. The first such meeting in 2009 will be held in conjunction with the National Convention. *National Coordinator* Bob Canton has called a meeting of officers, regional coordinators, Board, and spiritual advisers to be held on **Thursday, June 25, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.** (that's the night before the Convention) at the Sheraton Baltimore City Center Hotel. A second session will be held immediately after the conclusion of the Convention in the same hotel. The Agenda will be emailed by Bro. Bob to the leaders in mid-June or earlier. Expect as an agenda item a call for reports from the officers and the regional coordinators. Written reports are encouraged in the interest of time and efficiency. Another certain item to be discussed is the venue of the next National Convention (in the year 2011). A recent Board decision may be presented to the general body for comment or discussion – the decision to co-sponsor with ICCRS a week-long North American Leadership Training Course scheduled for September 2010 to be held at a most interesting venue, the Franciscan University in Steubenville, OH. For the AFCCPC to be asked to work together with the ICCRS in this worthy project of training leaders is quite an honor.

## NATIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE NEWS

The National Service Committee (NSC) and the Association of Diocesan Liaisons are convening the 2009 National Leaders' and Ministries' Conference, October 23-25, 2009, in Raleigh, North Carolina. The theme for this conference is "Equipping for the Mission." You are invited to this conference if you are (1) a Diocesan or prayer group leader in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, (2) serving in any ministry in your prayer group, parish or diocese, such as music, healing, prophecy, teaching, LISS, (3) an itinerant or ethnic ministry in the Renewal, (4) exercising any charisms and have participated in a Life in the Spirit Seminar or equivalent and seeking growth, (5) new to the Charismatic Renewal and life in the Spirit and want to grow in your charismatic life. The Conference will have 4 Workshop Tracks: (1) Charisms, (2) Leadership Formation, (3) Outreach, (4) Strengthening Prayer Groups.

There will be a Healing Service and an Empowerment Service praying for fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit. Speakers include: Ralph Martin, David Thorp, Aggie Neck, Mark Nimo, Arlene Apone, Judith Hughes, Fr. Richard Loch, Fr. Bob Hogan, Chuck Hornsby, Brent Heiser, Bishop Michael Burbridge, Johnny and Leslie Bertucci, and Jane Guenther.

# ICCRS NEWS: Love in Action

Vatican-based International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services will be sponsoring an important, international event in South Korea in early June, 2009. The theme of the event is "Love in Action." Apart from the daily Eucharist, various talks and workshops, the program includes a Festival of Praise, Korean worship and traditional dances, silent adoration, three workshop streams concentrating on healing, intercession, and charisms. There will also be a special youth stream. Various testimonies, youth ministry, drama on evangelization, visits to various sites and voluntary service to the poor will be features.

After the conference, participants will be able to join in pilgrimage to many places that are sacred to Catholics in Korea. Korea has a very unique Church history in that Catholicism was first accepted and spread by lay people.



# PROFILE: Michael Joseph V. Tupaz VNC Logistics and Resources

Bro. Mike is AFCCPC's Vice National Coordinator of Logistics and Resources, a new office created by the National Coordinator. A member of the St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Tarzana, CA, Bro. Mike is currently the Head of the Teaching

Ministry of the parish's English Charismatic Prayer Group and the keyboardist/pianist of the group's music ministry. He has been active in organizing Life in the Spirit and Growth seminars and has been commended for his skills at coordinating and integrating the Evangelization, Teaching, and Pastoral ministries. He served as Master of Ceremonies during the 2008 SCRC (Southern California Renewal Communities) Convention held in Anaheim, CA. He serves his parish as catechist, lector, Eucharistic minister, and as one of the planning coordinators for Young Adult Ministry.

Bro. Mike is from Quezon City where he joined in 1993 the Catholic Charismatic Renewal after completing a Life in the Spirit Seminar conducted by the God Loves Catholic Charismatic Prayer Community. His academic background is in Political Science, holding a Bachelor's degree (1997, San Sebastian College, Manila) and Master's degree (2001, University of the Philippines, Diliman). He studied Theology and Church History at the University of Dayton (Ohio) under the Pastoral Initiatives distance education program. He is in the second year of a 3-year Bible Certification course at the Catholic Bible Institute based in the Loyola Marymount University-Los Angeles. His long-term goal is to pursue studies in Church History and Medieval Philosophy. He lives in California with his wife and son.

As VNC of Logistics and Resources, Bro. Mike under the direction of the National Coordinator will direct the search for the best venues for national conventions and regional conferences of the Alliance, monitor compliance to rules and guidelines and policies relating to the election and replacement of lead regional coordinators and to fund raising activities, and evaluate the frequency and effectiveness of evangelization outreach activities such as LISS, Growth Seminars, and Days of Renewal.



**SINGAPORE**: Catholics and non-Catholics packed the Church of the Risen Christ in Singapore for Bob Canton's Healing Rally on February 16-17, 2009. The event was organized by the Singapore Archdiocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal (SACCRE). The healings convinced the inter-denominational crowd that God heals everyone.

#### SPIRITUAL ADVISERS

•

Fr. Ramon Valera

Head Shepherd St. Cyprian Church Long Beach, CA

Fr. Bill Halbing

Assistant Head Shepherd St. Antoninus Church Newark, NJ

**♦** 

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# ON NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

Narciso S. Albarracin, Jr.

We look forward with much anticipation to another National Convention. Our 15<sup>th</sup>! Baltimore will host it for the first time. Here is what I wrote about the 14<sup>th</sup> held in Burbank, CA in a 2007 issue of The Trumpet: "... to most of us ordinary inexperienced folks, putting up a National Convention is mind-boggling. I have been to Alliance national conventions since the 9<sup>th</sup> held in Toronto in 1997. All were successful but the recently-concluded 14<sup>th</sup> National Convention has a flavor and uniqueness all its own which I attribute to the Holy Spirit's doings of bringing closer together the clergy and the laity, the shepherd and the flock, in a manner that is loving and warm and cognizant of each other's strength and weakness and their common sinfulness and humanity." For sure, the 15<sup>th</sup> National Convention will have its own uniqueness and message and memories. To give us some sense of Alliance history, here is a listing of past and coming National Conventions:

- 9<sup>th</sup> July, 1997 Toronto (Deacon Bob Rosales, Glenn Jover, Ralph Ferrer)
- 10<sup>th</sup> July, 1999 Washington, DC (Alex Yadao)
- 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2001 Los Angeles, CA (Ging Mangaliman)
- 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2003 East Brunswick, NJ (Purita Vazquez)
- 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2005 East Rutherford, NJ (Purita Vazquez)
- 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2007 Burbank, CA (Ging Mangaliman)
- 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2009 Baltimore, MD (Agnes Nepomuceno)

Plan on attending our 15<sup>th</sup> National Convention and be a part of on-going Alliance history.

# THE TRUMPET

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

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