



# THE TRUMPET

Alliance of Filipino Catholic Charismatic Prayer Communities  
[www.afccpc.org](http://www.afccpc.org)

*Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give your rest (Matt 11:28)*

**MARCH 2006**

## AFCCPC CELEBRATES 10 YEARS

By Bob Canton, *National Coordinator*

Glory to God in the highest! Our God is indeed a God who loves us so much that He gave us His only begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens! He has blessed those of us in the Charismatic Renewal with the AFCCPC -- the *Alliance of Filipino Catholic Charismatic Prayer Communities*.

Exactly ten years ago, in March of 1996, leaders from all over the US and Canada met at the Marriott Hotel in Lisle, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago, to form the organization that we now know as the *AFCCPC*, thus fanning the flame that has been burning in our hearts to continue to make Jesus the Lord and Center of our lives, to continue to promote the baptism of the Holy Spirit with greater zeal and determination, to be loyal to the Magisterium of the Church, and to serve God's people with His love and by the power of the Holy Spirit. Ten years seem just only yesterday. This is indeed a time to celebrate God's mercy and great favors upon us because the fire that He has enkindled in us continues to burn with even greater intensity. It is a time to celebrate because the Lord has taken us, in spite of ourselves, to heights we have not imagined possible ten years ago. Indeed, the Filipino Catholic charismatic prayer groups and communities in North America are more **united** than ever before through all your works and sacrifices and prayers. Before the existence of the AFCCPC, we were looked upon as a *disunited* and *fragmented* stream of the Renewal. That is no longer the case, praise God and thanks to the grace of unity from the Holy Spirit. That fact alone is a reason to celebrate, although there are still works to be done to achieve greater unity among our different groups.

Another reason to celebrate is that during the past ten years, the Alliance has held five National Conferences, eight Regional Conferences, and many other activities including retreats and national leaders meetings. I'm sure many of you would agree that the Lord Jesus has *touched* and *changed* and *healed* many lives and has drawn many people unto Himself through these activities sponsored and initiated by the AFCCPC. Our organization has been abundantly blessed with people who serve the Lord without counting the cost and who freely give of their gifts and talents, time and treasure, for the glory of God!

I am indeed very blessed to have the opportunity to know all of you and to work with you in the precious Name of Jesus through the AFCCPC. I believe that our organization is one of the serendipitous blessings from the Lord Jesus through the baptism of the Holy Spirit. It is very humbling to realize that the Lord in His love for all of us has allowed us to participate actively in His continuing work of salvation in spite of ourselves. What a tremendous blessing this is for all of us! We have seen the fruit of your labor in Jesus Name through the AFCCPC. Without an iota of a doubt, I believe that the Lord is very pleased by what you have been doing and continue to do to save as many lost souls as possible. However, the Lord is not finished with us yet. There are still works to be done for His glory and greater tasks still lie ahead. Let us continue to raise our voices to our Lord for more outpouring of His Holy Spirit. We shall see greater things that will surpass our expectations if we continue to obey Him and serve Him and His people with the power of His Holy Spirit. And there is no better time to do this but now!

Lastly, I would like to remind you that we are an "Easter people." Let's therefore live a Resurrection-style living. Jesus lives and so do we! In the meantime, have a joy-filled Lenten Season! God bless you all!

## *From the National Coordinator's Desk*

**Bob Canton**

### **A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE AFCCPC**

In 1985, Father Leonardo Polinar of the Philippines conducted a retreat for the Filipino leaders of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the USA. The retreat was held in Dallas TX and gathered some 50 charismatic leaders, most coming from Texas and a handful from Louisiana. Three leaders came from California. It was during this retreat that the organization of Filipino-American prayer communities was formed. The purpose of this organization was to serve the Filipino Catholic charismatic prayer communities in the US. Tony Azores (Dallas, TX) was elected as National Coordinator, Bob Canton (Stockton, CA) as Assistant National Coordinator, and Angelina Sarmiento (Houston, TX) as Secretary.

A National Convention was held in Virginia Beach in 1988. The organization however remained dormant. In 1995, Tony Azores resigned his post as National Coordinator. Thereupon, Bob Canton took over the helm as National Coordinator. Bob called a meeting of all the Filipino leaders of the Renewal including the leaders in Canada. The meeting was held at Marriott Hotel in Lisle, IL, in March of 1996. In that meeting, California was represented by Deacon Bill Capati, Modie de los Reyes, Bob Canton, Ging Mangaliman, Jojo and Lita Bravo. Dr. Romy and Nora Dator represented Florida, and Greg Acedo and Walter Besas represented North Carolina. Also in the meeting were Fely de Guzman of Missouri and Ben del Puerto of Texas. Tony Azores, Alex Yadao, Ramon Korionoff came from Maryland and Virginia, and Romi Verdera, from New York. Evelyn Pia came from Calgary, Canada, and Glenn and Julie Jover, Fe and Sante Santos, and Merle de Guzman, from Toronto. Fronni Ninni, Oscar and Evelyn Manicad, and May Virata came from Chicago. The group decided to change the name of the organization to "Alliance of Filipino Catholic Charismatic Prayer Communities in North America" with Bob Canton as National Coordinator. The group subdivided North America into 12 regions. In 1997, the first National Convention under the auspices of the AFCCPC was held in Toronto, Canada. This drew 3,500 attendees from all over North America. In 1999, the official By-laws were adopted and the first election of officers under the newly-adopted Constitution of the organization took place in the year 2000 during the National Leaders meeting held in Chicago. The rest is history.

### **NATIONAL LEADERS' MEETING FOR 2006**

Our National Leaders' Meetings will be held in conjunction with the *East Atlantic Regional Conference* in East Brunswick, New Jersey, on July 7-9, 2006, and the *Pacific Northwest Regional Conference* in Anchorage, Alaska on Sept 8-10, 2006. Our By-laws require leaders to attend at least one National Leaders' Meeting every year. Attending both meetings is even better and strongly recommended! The meeting will begin on Friday morning, July 7, 2006, at the Hilton Hotel in East Brunswick and will continue until late afternoon, before the start of the Conference on Friday evening. We are urging all of you to be in East Brunswick on Thursday evening, July 6<sup>th</sup>, at the latest, in order for you to attend the Friday meeting. Our second National Leaders' Meeting will be held on Friday morning, Sept 8, until late afternoon at the Captain Cook Hotel in downtown Anchorage. Please be in Anchorage on Thursday evening, September 7<sup>th</sup>, at the latest.

### **REGIONAL CONFERENCES FOR 2006**

The chairperson of the *East Atlantic Regional Conference* (East Brunswick, NJ) is Purita Vazquez (201-424-0075). Regional Coordinator Karen Smith (907-232-6416) is the chairperson of the *Pacific Northwest Regional Conference*. This is the very first Conference to be held in that region. Sister Karen is very excited about this conference and she is expecting all of us to come to Anchorage in September. She is assisted by Naida James, another Coordinator for that region, and Fr. Perry Kenaston, one of our dynamic and enthusiastic spiritual advisers.

### **ICCRS INVITES AFCCPC TO PENTECOST 2006 CELEBRATION IN ROME**

Oreste Pesare, Director of the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services (ICCRS) office-based in Vatican City, has invited the AFCCPC to participate in the Pentecost 2006 Celebration to be held in Rome in June. He also invited me to be among the 300 leaders around the world for a "Leaders Worldwide Colloquium" on June 9-11, 2006. Attendance to this gathering is "by invitation only" and the invitation is not to be passed on to anyone without ICCRS' permission. Indeed it is an honor not necessarily to me but to the AFCCPC to be invited to this exclusive gathering.

### **LETTER TO THE ALLIANCE**

*May the Lord reward you for being a cheerful giver. We are much grateful to you for your response to ICCRS and for your generous donation of USD 500.00 following the "Special Appeal for Funds" launched by the President of ICCRS, Mr Allan Panozza, on behalf of ICCRS and the entire Councilors. Truly, ICCRS is living in a critical financial situation and cannot fulfill the important tasks the Lord has called it to fulfill in the worldwide renewal. Most of our services and commitments have been relegated due to financial situation we are going through. Your timely intervention and your donation would go a long way to help us accomplish some of our committed duties. May the good Lord reward and bless you for your generosity to promote His Kingdom and for helping ICCRS to live up to its goals. God bless you forever. Yours in Christ, Oreste Pesare, Director, ICCRS.*

**THE ALLIANCE IN 2005**

- The *13th National Convention* was held in July in East Brunswick, New Jersey, another great success.
- The *3rd Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference* was held in Baltimore, Maryland, in September.
- The *1st South Pacific Regional Conference* was held in Ontario, California, in November.
- A *National Leader's Conference* was held in Las Vegas.
- Bishop Oscar Solis, Msgr Lio Rotor, Fr. Raymund Llorin, Fr. Pete Literal, Fr. Ramon Valera join roster of Alliance Spiritual Advisers.
- Opens a 13th region: *Hawaii/Pacific Islands Region*
- Donates to Katrina Hurricane victims through Catholic Relief Services.
- Contributes to *National Service Committee*.
- Contributes to *ICCRS*.
- Distributes an *Alliance Handbook and Directory*.
- Alliance *website* attracts 25,000 hits per month.
- Starts a system of giving out appreciation awards to deserving members.
- Puts together a *Speakers Bureau*.
- Participates in planning the 2006 regional conferences to be held in East Brunswick, NJ, and Anchorage, AK.

**UPCOMING 2006 EVENTS**

- July 7-10, 2006: *East Atlantic Regional Conference* in East Brunswick, NJ. For information, call PURITA VAZQUEZ (201-424-0075). For hotel reservations, call The Hilton East Brunswick (800-445-8667). For local calls, 732-828-2000, ask for Reservation Desk.
- September 8-10, 2006: *Pacific Northwest Regional Conference* in Anchorage, AK. For information, call KAREN SMITH (907-357-2442 or 907-232-6416). For hotel reservations, call The Hotel Captain Cook (800-843-1950) or book on-line at [www.captaincook.com](http://www.captaincook.com).
- June 9-10, 2006: *Healing Rally*, Bob Canton and AFCCPC Speakers Bureau, St. Matthew Church, Charlotte, NC. Contact: Joe Calicdan (704-321-1878).

**NEW APPOINTMENTS**

- **Fr. Ramon Valera**, Assistant Head Shepherd/Western Region. He is the Pastor of St. Cyprian Church in Long Beach, CA. Fr. Ramon has also joined our Trumpet *Editorial Staff*.
- **Fr. Pete Literal**, Spiritual Adviser, Mid-Atlantic Region. He is Head Chaplain of Federal Prisons.
- **Ceres Ojeda**, Regional Coordinator, East Atlantic Region. She is one of the elders of Our Lady of Peace Prayer Group in Manhattan, NY.
- **Luchie Santiago**, Assistant National Secretary. She put together the first AFCCPC Handbook and Directory in 2005. She is with the St. John Prayer Community of Our Lady of Victories Parish in Jersey City, NJ.
- **Bertie Krehnovi**, Regional Coordinator, Rocky Mountain Region. This was announced last issue but "Bertie" was mis-spelled, for which we apologize.

**2006 REGIONAL COORDINATORS**

## EAST ATLANTIC REGION

*Dr. Dave Armesto (NY)**Nenett Barbilla (NY)**Max Gutierrez (NY)**Stella Ojeda (NY)**Rowena Yuptungco (NJ)*

## MID ATLANTIC REGION

*Rod Vicente (VA)**Bibian Encomienda (MD)**Carmen Satto (MD)*

## SOUTHEASTERN REGION

*Greg Acedo (NC)**Josefina Tallonghari (FL)**Jean Gervais (FL)*

## NORTH CENTRAL REGION

*Terri Albarracin (OH)**Roy Coloma (MI)*

## SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

*Romy Baptista (TX)**Betty Gounah (TX)**Ben del Puerto (TX)**Yolanda Sison (TX)*

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

*Mila Bautista (AZ)**Marietta Ravasco (AZ)**Linda Carder (NV)**Val Kiamko (NV)**Bertie Krehnovi (NV)*

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION

*Morris Carrillo (AK)**Remy Carrillo (AK)**Naida James (AK)**Karen Smith (AK)*

## NORTH PACIFIC REGION

*Norma Calip (CA)**Judy Labaria (CA)**Mandy Labayen (CA)**Delia Tabasa (CA)**Tess Viernesa (CA)*

## MID PACIFIC REGION

*Rency Biagan (CA)**BJ Mangaliman (CA)**Gus Mara (CA)**Dey Pinzon (CA)**Ludy Rustia (CA)*

## SOUTH PACIFIC REGION

*Jojo Bravo (CA)**Lita Bravo (CA)*

## HAWAII/PACIFIC ISLANDS REGION

*Nora Etrata (HI)**Aida Javier (HI)**Jesse Myers (HI)*

## EASTERN CANADA REGION

*Maxima Arat (ONT)**Ralph Ferrer (ONT)**Fe Santos (ONT)*

## WESTERN CANADA REGION



### *Lenten Reflections*

## **A DESERT RETREAT FOR ALL**

Deacon Dean Lopata

After His baptism by John in the Jordan River, Jesus came out of the river and was immediately baptized in the Holy Spirit by His Father in heaven. *"This is My beloved Son,"* the Father said, *"with whom I am well pleased."* The Scripture then tells us that Jesus was led into the desert by the Holy Spirit to be tempted by the devil. Jesus fasted for forty days and forty nights, no small undertaking for even a very healthy individual. Why did the Father insist that Jesus spend these intense forty days and nights in the desert, alone, fasting and praying? Jesus was about to begin His three years of public ministry. He was about to bring salvation to the souls of the earth's lost inhabitants. Jesus would not assume His role as our Redeemer, though, without opposition. He was about to invade another's kingdom—a land that had been stolen from Him in the past.

In the weather realm, when a cold front encounters a warm front, there is significant turmoil in the skies and on the earth. The clash of warm and cold fronts often produces powerful winds, rain, thunder and lightening, forces that at times can be very destructive to the face of the earth. In the desert, the Father was strengthening and empowering Jesus for the impending warfare in the spiritual realm. *Light encountering darkness. Love encountering hatred. Truth encountering falsehood.* Jesus, holy, sinless, the promised Messiah, the Light of the world, was about to begin His victorious three-year spiritual battle with Satan.

Jesus describes Satan thus: *"He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in truth, because there is no truth in him....He is a liar and the father of lies."* [Jn 8:44]. *"The thief comes only to steal, slaughter and destroy. I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly."* [Jn 10:10]. So Jesus had to spend a forty-day retreat in the desert in order to be fully prepared for the spiritual warfare He was about to encounter in His public ministry. *We are no different. We also need those forty focused days with Jesus in order to be strengthened and empowered for the work of ministry to which we are called.* Even Pope Benedict and his staff are no exception. What follows is a communiqué from Rome reporting on the Lenten retreat of the Pope and his Roman Curia staff:

### **Pope in 1st Full Day of Lenten Retreat**

VATICAN CITY, MARCH 6, 2006 (Zenit.org) - The spiritual exercises that Benedict XVI and his aides in the Roman Curia began on Sunday is a moment of encounter with God, says the retreat's preacher. Cardinal Marco Cé, retired patriarch of Venice, proposed in the presence of the Pope, and to the cardinals, bishops, priests and religious on hand in the Redemptoris Mater Chapel, that they undertake an "interior pilgrimage to him who is the source of mercy," Jesus.

According to Vatican Radio's report on this morning's meditation, the cardinal said that Christ "accompanies us through the wilderness of our poverty, supporting us on the way to the intense joy of Easter," the fruit of the passion, death and resurrection of Christ, the "heart of our faith." Cardinal Cé explained that this encounter takes place because Christ first came in search of each of us. "If the grace of the Risen Crucified did not call us and did not seek us, we would never come out of our sloth and sin. Who will deliver me from this body of death?" asked the cardinal rhetorically. *"The grace of God through Jesus Christ."* If the spiritual exercises become an encounter with Christ, this meeting will also be "an act of love for the Church and for so many brothers who walk on remote paths" whom "Jesus wants to save," the retired patriarch said.

"The Gospel calls us to be involved, to feel questioned, and not to be mere spectators enclosed in the fortress of our rationality, but to react as those who find Jesus and let themselves be enveloped by his light. This is the meaning of Jesus' heartfelt desire when he said: 'Believe in me,'" noted the preacher. To take the Gospel seriously, always means "an encounter" in which the strength is found to be converted, "to orient one's life again to God, opening the heart wide to him in faith," he added.

In the second meditation this morning, Cardinal Cé left this message with the Pope and his collaborators: "We must have only one ambition: that despite our limitations, people see in us persons who really love the Lord, who are in love with him; where there is no gap between what they say and what they really are." Lent is "the time of grace to decide for the Lord," he said. It is beautiful "to think that God comes to seek us;" we must "let him find us in Lent." The spiritual exercises, whose theme is "Walking with Jesus towards Easter, Guided by the Evangelist Mark," will end Saturday.

### ***Lenten Reflections***

#### **WHAT DID I SEE IN THE MIRROR TODAY?**

Fr. Perry Kenaston



The other day when I began my daily routine, and I presume that, like most of us, it is the same thing, one of which is looking in the mirror. For some reason, I took a few extra minutes to look at the person in the mirror and began to think to myself "who is this person in the mirror? Is it someone that I recognize or is it a total stranger?"

After finishing my daily routine, I began to reflect upon that still-lingering question in my mind. This led me to pray—"Lord Jesus help me to discover the real me during this period of Lent. I know with Your graces we can do this together and when Lent is over we both will have a better understanding of who I am. I know You already know who I am, but through Your graces and my humility and with the verses of Psalm 51, I can truly see and become the person You have always wanted me to be."

After a period of time, I again began to reflect -- *could it be that simple? Could it be that I have been trying too hard to discover the real me? Perhaps I have become too much of a Martha and not enough of a Mary. Perhaps our willingness to surrender ourselves to the perfect will of God, as Our Blessed Mother did, is the key to real spiritual growth. Surrender!*

For myself, I know that I am in need of a change and if by chance you also arrive at the same conclusion, I invite you to do as Our Blessed Mother did and surrender yourself to the perfect will of God the Father and in so doing reflect upon the verses in Psalm 51 as a means of meditation and a starting point.

May you have a blessed *Lenten surrender!*

### ***Easter Reflections***

#### **EASTER AS LAUGHTER**

Narciso S. Albarracin, Jr.



The Book of Genesis (chapters 17 and 18) tells the story of God, Abraham, and Sarah. God told Abraham that Sarah will give him a son who "will give rise to nations." The Bible says that Abraham fell on his face and laughed. He was 100 years old! Sarah overheard this astounding promise; she too laughed to herself. She was just 90 years old! So ridiculous was God's promise, it was funny, and it provoked laughter. But God had the last laugh. A son was indeed born to Sarah. He was named Isaac. The Bible did not actually say this but here is what I can imagine -- when Isaac was born, God and Abraham and Sarah joined in a chorus of laughter, a laughter of joy, no longer a laughter of unbelief, disbelief, and skepticism.

When Jesus hinted on His resurrection using the temple as metaphor, people too broke into laughter. His disciples were more diplomatic in their doubts which ballooned into fear during the dreadful hours of Good Friday. But then Sunday came and the women who went to Jesus' tomb to pay their last respects found the tomb empty and were told (Luke 24): "*Why do you look for the living among the dead?*" Severely depressed, utterly confused, trembling with fear, hiding for their lives, the disciples took time to process the good news. When the splendor of the new truth sank in, I can just imagine how the congregation, *with great joy*, broke into laughter. *Easter laughter!* The laughter that brought the brilliant prospect of new beginnings. The laughter that replaced the fear of death with *the joy and victory of living*.

May this kind of laughter be yours this Easter.

## MY FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE

### **Jed Santa Maria, medical student, UCLA**

Philippians 4:6-7: *"Do not be anxious about anything but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus"*. For me this verse says more than a simple "Hakuna matata" by instructing us how to give up our worries to God through prayer. It also tells us that God wants to know about our struggles and wants to hear our requests so that He may not just answer them but also surpass our expectations by blessing us with the best and more importantly, conforming our desires to His. That way, how can we ever be disappointed? Time and time again, from preparing to make a basketball shot to studying for a seemingly impassable biochemistry exam, God has directed me back to this verse, and time and time again, He has thus shown me how much He cares.

### **Mae Mendoza, The Trumpet distribution manager, Columbus, OH**

Luke 11: 9-10: *"And I say to you, ask and you will receive, seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks will receive and he who seeks will find and the door will be opened to anyone who knocks."* Jesus actually invites us to pray and ask God for all our needs. By prayer we express our affection and open ourselves to God's love and generosity. God our loving Father has always been there to answer my prayers though not always in the manner or time that I expected.

### **Joy Tatlonghari, Southeastern Regional Coordinator, Orlando, FL; Coordinator of Academic Support Services, Department of Industrial Engineering and Management Systems, University of Central Florida.**

Psalm 139: 1-6: *"Lord, you have probed me, you know me: you know when I sit and stand, you understand my thoughts from afar. My travels and my rest you mark; with all my ways you are familiar. Even before a word is on my tongue, Lord, you know it all. Behind and before you encircle me and rest your hand upon me. Such knowledge is beyond me, far too lofty for me to reach."* This passage gives me security, knowing that God is constantly with me; consolation for whenever I feel down and weary, hurt, suffering and lonely. It gives me strength and hope; it helps me become steadfast and persevere against all odds, knowing that God is always with me wherever I go and in whatever I do.

### **Isabel Albarracin, volunteer church worker, Los Angeles, CA**

Matthew 6: 33: *"Instead, be concerned above everything else with the Kingdom of God and with what He requires of you and He will provide you with all these other things"*. This is one verse I try to live by. I have proven it in my life. What God promised here in this verse happens to me up to now that I am older. I served as a volunteer church worker full time for the last six years and God has been blessing me for the past 65 years. Thanks for the opportunity to share what God has done and is still doing in my life.

### **Deacon Dean Lopata, Alliance Spiritual Adviser, Severna Park, MD**

Acts 1:8: *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be my witnesses ..."* Through the baptism in the Holy Spirit I have personally come to know and love the Holy Spirit in many ways. Through God's Spirit, I have received comfort, consolation, conviction, mercy, peace, healing, wisdom, knowledge, understanding, and much more. But, to this day I remain awestruck at the Kingdom power, the supernatural power that I was given, and continue to be given, so that I may have the incredible privilege of being His fearless witness in a dark world. As we boldly proclaim His Word in faith, the power of the Most High is released, and we see signs and wonders occur in the hearts and lives of many. What more exciting life could we ask for here on this earth!

### **Butch Nunez, Filipino Pastoral Team, Diocese of Brooklyn and Queens**

1 Corinthians 10:13: *"No trial has come to you but what is human. God is faithful and will not let you be tried beyond your strength; but with the trial he will also provide a way out so that you may be able to bear it."* I received a letter with this Bible quote from my sister in the Philippines many years ago when I was not yet in the Renewal. That time was so bad because I lost my mother and the same time I lost my job after working with a big firm for 11 years. This incident also made me join the Renewal. Things changed for the better and I felt God has never abandoned me. I believe on what I read and made it a point to share this quotation to anyone every time I have the chance. God is a loving God. He wants us to share with Him our pain, joy and love. He wants us to be closer to Him, to be intimately related with Him.

### **Lou Canlas, Investment Professional, former Alliance National Treasurer, Columbus, OH**

Isaiah 41:10: *"Fear not. I am with you. Do not be dismayed. I am your God. I will strengthen you. I will help you. I will uphold you with my victorious right hand."* The first thing the Lord did for me after I accepted Him as my Lord and Savior was deliver me from the bondage of fear. I had a tremendous fear of flying. I received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit in March, 1990, and a month later the Lord gave me a new job that required a lot of travel. Being a clenched-fist, sweaty-



palm flyer, I thought the Lord was teasing me. Little did I know He was actually healing me. My first business trip for this job was to Phoenix and LA. I flew to Phoenix on a commercial jet with a confirmed ticket all the way to LA. Being new at the job, my meeting in Phoenix were with business associates whom I never met before. They flew in on their four-seater private plane from LA and they insisted that I ride back with them so we could continue our discussion on the plane. I remember going into a panic mode for a while and started praying in the Spirit under my breath. I was a new bible-reading Christian then but somehow this verse came to my mind. I am certain it was the Holy Spirit who reminded me of this verse. I went on this small plane holding on to the words "*Fear not, I am with you*" and as we flew over the mountains of Arizona and the hills of Southern LA I enjoyed the most spectacular view of the grandeur of God's creation. God confirmed His power and might in the splendor of His creation. I knew I was safe, safe in His hand.

**Jose P. Nepomuceno, M.D., former Alliance Board member, Severna Park, MD**

1 Thessalonians 16:18: "*Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.*" The response I get is: "Yeah, Yeah, I know." Most of these are from my church going friends and bible study classmates. But really, is it possible for me to pray continuously from the time I wake up to the time I fall back to sleep again? *Rejoice always; pray without ceasing.* To me this means that Someone else is in control and all we have to do is pray in sweet surrender and anything that happens is within limit of His Divine will. These also answers my question – *do I have the fortitude to face all the inevitable misfortunes of life and say thank you to my God?* How about when afflictions like cancer threaten my existence or in the face of death, or the loss of a loved one, divorce, poverty, sickness and pain and even extreme thirst and hunger. Can I truly give thanks? I look at the lives of the Saints and by their examples I know that the answer is a resounding Yes. My answer is yes, I will give thanks in all the situations in my life. Of course, I will also pray hard that I may be granted the grace to accept His will. I will follow the walk of Jesus on earth and expect the difficulties and hardships that I will surely find along the way. As the followers of St. Francis of Assisi say "*I will find integrity in the imitation of Christ.*" I will fall on my knees and pray to Our Father who art in Heaven. I will be in constant conversation with Him, praising Him, and thanking Him. I will learn to pray unceasingly.

**Gregoria N. Acedo, Southeastern Regional Coordinator, former Board member, Durham, NC.**

Matthew 25:40: "*Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers and sisters of mine, you did it for me.*" The plight of the poor has always been close to my heart. We are asked here to bring God's love and compassion to the less fortunate. The less fortunate continues to haunt my conscience, especially those children hungry not only for food but for knowledge as well. They too will become fruitful workers in God's vineyard once their minds and hearts are opened to the wonders of His love. Twelve years ago the Holy Spirit inspired me to propose to the Phil-Am Association of North Carolina (PAANC) a scholarship fund for the needy but talented students in the Philippines. After years of fund-raising and hopeful anticipation, the project was finally launched in 1977. Our fund then was enough to support only one scholar at the University of the Philippines-Los Banos However the following years our scholarship grew and to date we have fifteen scholars in different universities in the island of Luzon. Next year we plan to expand to the Visayas and Mindanao. So far we have helped six needy students obtain a college degree and are now useful and productive citizens of our homeland. My heart is full of joy that God has given me the opportunity to carry out this noble mission of helping the poor. Our financial help is very meager considering the multitude of children out there crying for help. But by God's grace we are doing our best to carry out and live the Gospel. We continue to pray that God will comfort them in their misery. It is gratifying and rewarding to hear from our scholars that our help made the difference in their lives not only financially but most especially in being in God's love.

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## A PILGRIM'S JOURNAL (Part 2)

**Fr. Perry Kenaston**

(April 28-May 12, 2005. Bob Canton Pilgrimage and Healing Crusades. Lourdes, Paris, Assisi, Siena, Florence, Nice, Rome, Pisa, Medjugorje, Dubrovnik, Croatia)

**NICE TO ASSISI:** During the next few days we traveled through the cities of Nice, Pisa, Florence, Siena, and Assisi. In Pisa some of our pilgrims experienced the miracle of the sun. Each day during the pilgrimage we had the opportunity to celebrate mass and then

just sit and enjoy the view from our bus.

**ROME:** As we approached Rome, our tour guide was prompted by the Holy Spirit to make a telephone call to one of her contacts in Rome. Her contact told her to have our group at St. John Lateran (The Pope's Cathedral) on Saturday at no later than 3pm as Pope Benedict was going to celebrate mass there that day at 5:30 pm. Needless to say we were over-joyed at this news. At St. John Lateran there were barriers up. A barrier opened and some of our group made their way inside St John's. The rest of us remained behind barriers and we were able to see the Pope as he drove by and as mass started we saw him on the big TV screens that were in place outside the cathedral. I might add that the reason for this mass was so that the Pope and Bishop of Rome could claim St. John's as his Cathedral. In other words, this only happens when a new pope is elected – once again, favors from Jesus and Mother Mary for not only our group but for everyone present.

**MOTHER'S DAY:** The next day was Mother's Day (May 8) and the men in our group arranged a little something special for the ladies that evening after dinner. It was also the birthday of one of our pilgrims. Needless to say, the ladies were both surprised and pleased by the songs that were sung by all of us.

**MEDJUGORJE:** The next day we drove to the airport for the final leg of our tour. We arrived in Split late in the evening. We proceeded by bus directly to Medjugorje and by midnight we were fed and in bed preparing ourselves for the many new adventures in Medjugorje.

Before climbing Apparition Hill, Bro. Bob asked me to ask our guide if it is possible for us to be present during an apparition. I asked her but her answer was "no" because Ivan was out of town. However once again, Jesus and Mother Mary took care of us. Within the hour she received a telephone call informing her that Ivan was arriving that evening and we were welcome to sit around him during his apparition. After the apparition Bro. Bob mentioned to me and our tour guide a vision he saw and sure enough our tour guide confirmed it. As for me and others we felt a cool breeze and smelled roses during the apparition. Praise for Jesus and Mother for all the graces received!

Our ascent to Mt. Krizevac started with a prayer and also with the Stations of the Cross at certain points along the walk up the mountain. The weather at the time was overcast and some of our members even though they had trouble walking insisted upon walking with us. At each station I lead the reflection and when we finally reached our goal at the top, we rejoiced in the fact that we all made it. We took a few pictures and because it was raining we decided to return to our starting point. Again, we traveled slowly and when we reached the starting point we again rejoiced in the fact that all of us made the journey without any problems. At dinner that night, the men had another surprise for the ladies. This time we had roses for each of them along with the same songs. Needless to say, the ladies were very much impressed including our tour guide.

On Wednesday May 11<sup>th</sup> we boarded our buses at 4 a.m. and drove to the airport to await our journey home. After several hours of flying we returned to the US. Some of us took different planes once we arrived in Houston. For those who were on the east coast they took their direct flight to Newark. For the Alaska people we flew on the same plane until Seattle and once again the people from Juneau and Ketchikan spent the night in Seattle to catch the morning flight.

Truly, this has been a most rewarding experience and our experiences happened only because we were open and obedient to the Most Holy Trinity and Our Blessed Mother, and for that willingness to become like "little children" and sit at the Master's feet and by Mary, our rewards were a life time of wonderful and holy memories. May God continue to bless each of you and your families.

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**HEALING CRUSADES IN THE PHILIPPINES AND JAPAN****Bob Canton**

On Jan. 14, 2006, my wife Chita and I left San Francisco for Cebu and Bohol via Manila. This was a multipurpose trip: to attend the *Sinulog Festival* in Cebu in honor of Santo Nino de Cebu; to attend my wife's Nursing class reunion at the University of Santo Tomas in Manila; to conduct healing crusades; to visit relatives and friends; to visit Japan for the first time; and for rest and recreation. My wife's six sisters and a sister-in-law and three Nursing school classmates and their spouses from the US accompanied us from Manila to Cebu and Bohol.

While we were attending Mass at the Santo Nino Basilica in Cebu City, I sensed the Lord speak to my heart saying, *"My son, I want you to continue to touch and to heal my people in my Name. I allowed you to come to this land of your birth in order for you to minister to your brothers and sisters with the power of the Holy Spirit. If people come to you for healing, do not deny them. Instead tell them of how much I love them and how much I long for them to come ever closer to me."* Then I was prompted to read Luke 9:1-2: *"He summoned the Twelve and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, and He sent them to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick."*

A Healing Crusade was conducted on January 16 at the Tagbilaran Cathedral in Bohol upon the invitation of Doctors Juanito and Cora Aya-ay, residents of Parkersburg, WV, and Bacayon, Bohol. The Church was packed. The Lord Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit, showed them that He is the God who loves and heals them. A lady came forward to testify that an abnormal growth in her chest completely disappeared after we prayed for healing. Many deaf people regained their hearing and many more with various kinds of pain in their bodies were relieved of their pains. Two people were able to walk normally without using their canes. There were other healings too numerous to mention in this limited space. For sure, the Lord Jesus was glorified through these healings.

From Bohol, we flew back to Manila for Chita's four-day class reunion which culminated with a retreat in Tagaytay City. On January 22, we left Manila for a six-day sojourn in Japan. We stayed at the U.S. Naval Base in Yukosuka, a suburb of Tokyo. A classmate of Chita, Aida Ancheta, and her husband Steve, work for the U S Navy. They arranged for us to have a Healing Service in the chapel inside the Base. The Holy Spirit gave me names of people and their circumstances, people I've never met before in my life who needed healing and restoration to wholeness. It was a faith-building experience for all present. A lady, awed by what she had witnessed, remarked that the Lord still spoke to His people using anyone willing to be used by Him. A man, initially skeptical of divine healing, agreed for me to lay hands on him. The Lord spoke to my heart to tell him to forgive his sister and showed me how his sister looked like. The man was startled and told me that I described her sister accurately. I informed him that it was through the gift of knowledge from the Holy Spirit that I "saw" his sister in a vision. He agreed to forgive his sister after giving him examples of healing that come through forgiveness. Some people informed me that they felt more at peace than ever before in their entire life. Praise God!

From Japan we flew back to Cebu City to visit my relatives and to conduct a Healing Crusade at Santo Rosario Church organized by the Amor Dei Prayer Community headed by Dr. Glenn dela Pena and his mother, Dr. Sally dela Pena. During the service I received a prompting from the Lord to command people in wheelchairs to stand up and walk in the name of Jesus. Three people stood up from the wheelchair and walked, one a lady in her early 70's. She ran around inside the church, praising and giving glory to the Lord. She said she had not walked in 22 years because of rheumatoid arthritis and poor eyesight. Her husband cried while thanking the Lord in a loud voice while watching his wife walk and run in a normal manner. There were five other people who regained their normal walk, formerly dependent on canes. Others claimed that tumors and cysts vanished. The deaf regained their hearing. I reminded the people that the Lord heals us not only for us to feel good but for us to come to Him and glorify Him and for us to become more like Him in every way. He comes to set us free in order for us to free others from the clutches of the enemy. It was indeed a great blessing for me and my wife to be able to minister to God's people in the Philippines and Japan. He also opened doors for us to minister to our relatives, to friends and their friends, and to total strangers in hotels where we stayed. It was indeed a humbling experience for us because, in spite of us, He let us see and hear what prophets and kings longed to see and hear but did not.

Blessed be the Lord, our Healer!



**KAREN SMITH**  
Wasilla, AK  
*Pacific Northwest Regional Coordinator*

I came to know our Lord Jesus Christ and our Blessed Mother, far more than I ever would fathom, in December of 2002. My husband and I had been away from the church for 25 years. We attended our first Catholic charismatic retreat in Slaton, TX, a 5-day retreat on the gifts

of the Holy Spirit with Fr. Robert DeGrandis and with Msgr. Joe James as our confessor. During the first night, Fr. DeGrandis asked the approximately 80 people in attendance, "Who does not have the gift of tongues?" My husband and I looked at each other and laughed as we raised our hands feeling very uncertain about this "gift". We thought it only happened once and long ago, and that was at Pentecost. Following Fr. DeGrandis' instructions, we came into the gift of tongues! Wow, we couldn't stop praising! We have not been the same since. Our lives changed into a depth of love for our Lord and Blessed Mother that I cannot relate in words. After this conference and upon coming home, I had to somehow continue to keep the flame lit. I got on my computer and did a Yahoo search for anything "charismatic" in Alaska. I typed "Charismatic Renewal Alaska" on the search bar and up came a name. It was "Fr. Perry Kenaston, Juneau, Alaska"! Wow, God is so good! As I clicked on this finding, it was the Western Washington Catholic Charismatic Conference with speakers Fr. Perry Kenaston and Brother Bob Canton of Stockton, CA. Wow, imagine that not only did our Lord direct me to Fr. Perry but He also gave me insight into the AFCCPC right then, but I wasn't seeing it just yet. So, first thing first, I had to contact Fr. Perry. I emailed him, telling him a little of where I was and how I found him. Nine months later I would meet him face to face. It was a wonderful October (2003) day as I flew into Juneau, Alaska. I met Fr. Perry who brought along Naida James. During these nine months of corresponding with Fr. Perry I felt the Lord telling me "Life in the Spirit." I didn't know what it was and thought that He was just telling me that I need to always live in the Spirit. When I met Fr. Perry and Naida they were telling me that they were praying that they would find a person to help them spread their healing ministry to other parts of Alaska and wanted to do a Life in the Spirit Seminar so that others would experience God's presence in their lives! Wow, what confirmation! I was their "answer" too! Five months later, in March of 2004, Fr. Perry and Naida came from Juneau to Anchorage and did a weekend retreat entitled "Healing Life's Hurts." It was a Life-in-the-Spirit weekend. It was a beginning – and the flame is alive and growing today.

A prayer group was started in Wasilla, AK, through the ministry that Fr. Perry and Naida James started, the Holy Trinity Healing Ministry, and Fr. Perry is the spiritual director. Now after almost 3 years we have had Fr. Perry come often and minister to our group in Wasilla and the El Shaddai group in Anchorage. Fr. Perry joins us weekly at our prayer group via conference call. What blessings and healings! This past July, 2005, we had Bro. Bob Canton and Bro. Emmanuel Sauro come and join us for a weekend healing service. I am honored to join the Alliance with Fr. Perry and Naida for our region, the Pacific Northwest region. During this last few years I have had dreams and desires placed in my heart to have a charismatic conference in Alaska. Praise and thanksgiving to God that this will soon happen. In September 8-10, 2006, we will have our first Catholic Charismatic Conference for the Pacific Northwest Region of the AFCCPC. I ask all of you for help to spread the word so that many will come and that this vast State be led "out of the darkness and into His wonderful light" (1 Peter 2:9) and be a "light of the nations so that His salvation may reach to the ends of the earth" (Is 49: 5-6). Thank you for all your prayers. May God continue to richly bless all that you do.

**ROD & EVELYN VICENTE**

El Shaddai Catholic Charismatic Group of St. Stephen, Washington, DC  
*Mid Atlantic Regional Coordinator*



Brother Rod has been a Regional Coordinator since the inception of the AFCCPC. Better-half Evelyn uses her gift of music playing keyboard for their prayer group. Both were born in Manila and both pursued their college education at the Far Eastern University, he majoring in Accounting and she in Finance. Now married for 40 years, they are blessed with three children and five grandchildren. They just recently retired.

Based in Cabanatuan, Nueva Ecija, Brother Rod was an appliance and furniture dealer in Central Luzon. Their migration to the USA was precipitated by the economic uncertainties associated with the People's Power Revolution in 1986. The family moved to Virginia and enrolled their children in Catholic schools. In less than a year, Rod and Evelyn found a charismatic prayer group in Springfield, VA. Soon he was elected administrator of the group while Evelyn assumed the role of keyboard player for the group's music ministry. Rod eventually became the Coordinator for the group, a ministry which he held for eight years. A Filipino priest encouraged them to join an El Shaddai group of which they are now active members. Prayer meetings are held on Sundays at 10-12 a.m. and the group's choir sings at the 1:00 p.m. mass.

Says Rod: "It is amazing how the Lord has blessed us. From 20 parishioners attending the service since we started singing in the 1:00 p.m. mass, it has now grown to more than 300. Our choir does outreach activities by singing in various religious functions. The Lord is so faithful that every second, every minute His hand is always carrying us. Thank you Lord Jesus for you are truly our God and Savior."

**HEALING TESTIMONIES**

I attended the AFCCPC National Convention in New Jersey (July, 2005). The welcome, the Spirit-filled speakers, the gifted praise and worship ministries, the fellowship, the liturgies were pure joy. I attended two outstanding workshops on the Eucharist. On Saturday evening, Bob Canton asked those with shoulder problems to stand up. I was one of them, having had severe pain for a very long time. I am happy to say the pain is gone. I am healed. Praise the Lord. I was truly blessed the entire weekend. LUCY SHERIDAN.


My husband and I were healed at the Scranton Conference (August, 2005). We both wear hearing aids, but since then have not worn them. We praise the Lord and thank you for your intercession. I have heard crickets and the rain on the roof without aid, and it is wonderful! We have given testimony to all we know and find it said to say that people for the most part do not believe. They do not seem to feel that healing like this can occur in the Catholic Church. Isn't that sad? We say the healing and keeping prayer daily to reinforce our healing. KENNETH AND EVELYN HAAK.



**1<sup>st</sup> PACIFIC NORTHWEST  
REGIONAL  
CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC  
CONFERENCE**

**“..OUT OF THE DARKNESS  
INTO HIS  
WONDERFUL LIGHT”**

1 Peter 2:9



Sponsored by the: Alliance of Filipino  
Catholic Charismatic Prayer  
Communities (AFCCPC)

**SEPTEMBER 8, 9 & 10, 2006  
The Hotel Captain Cook  
Anchorage, Alaska**

### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

*REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE MAILED IN AND POSTMARKED BEFORE August 31, 2006*  
Registration opens at noon on Friday. Packets & name tags can be picked up then. Conference starts at 3pm

NAME (please print) First & last. Please list all individuals as well as the children and age at time of conference.  
1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL DAY & DATE: Airline & Flight No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival time: \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm  
Do you need transportation to the hotel from Anchorage Airport? Yes/No (please circle)  
.....

**EARLY BIRD (before August 1, 2006) WEEKEND REGISTRATION**

PRIEST/RELIGIOUS/DEACONS # of \_\_\_\_\_ (free registration and meals just fill out the entire form)  
ADULTS \$75 pp x # \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
YOUTH (12-18yrs) \$30 pp x # \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Care to Donate to help someone attend \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
CHILD (6-11yrs) \$15 pp x # \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL REGISTRATION \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**AFTER July 31, 2006** Registration Adults \$90pp, Youth \$40 & Child \$20pp including WALK INs. **PLEASE NOTE**  
There will be a 90% registration & meal refund before July 15, 2006 on cancellations. After July 15, 2006 no refunds.  
.....

**MEALS:** Please let us know if there is a special dietary requirement: \_\_\_\_\_

**Friday:**  
Breakfast \$10pp x # \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Lunch \$12pp x # \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Dinner \$16pp x # \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Saturday:**  
Breakfast \$10pp x # \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Lunch \$12pp x # \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Dinner \$16pp x # \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Sunday:**  
Breakfast \$10pp x # \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Lunch \$12pp x # \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ No Dinner Sunday = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Donation of Meal(s) to help someone \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL MEAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**  
**TOTAL REGISTRATION & MEAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

MAIL this form with check/money order Payable to "AFCCPC"  
MAIL TO: Karen Smith  
PO Box 877361  
Wasilla, AK 99687

For further information, concerns or want to help out with the conference, PLEASE CALL Karen Smith at (907) 357-2442 or (907) 232-6416 or email maksmith@mtaonline.net  
**FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS:** Please call The Hotel Captain Cook at 1-800-843-1950 or book online at [www.captaincook.com](http://www.captaincook.com) click on "make a reservation" at the "check-in" screen, hit the [group reservations](#) tab at the bottom of the screen. Enter the group password: afccpc (please use lower case)



**FIRST  
PACIFIC  
NORTHWEST  
REGIONAL  
CONFERENCE**

**September 9-10  
2006**

**The Hotel Captain  
Cook  
Anchorage AK**

The **SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL CONFERENCE** was held at the Hilton Hotel in Ontario, CA, on November 18-20, 2005. The speakers were Msgr. Lio Rotor, Fr. Edgardo Arellano, Fr. Bill Delaney, Fr. Ramon Valera, Dominic Berardino, Bob Canton, and Junie and Sarah Irizari.



Photos taken and submitted to The Trumpet by  
Fr. Ramon Valera.



ALLIANCE OF FILIPINO CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC PRAYER COMMUNITIES  
**2ND EAST ATLANTIC REGIONAL CONFERENCE**  
 The 7th, 8th and 9th of July, 2006  
 (FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY)



*Come To Me ....*

*"Come to me, all you who labor and are  
 burdened, and I will give you rest." Matt. 11:28*

THE HILTON EAST BRUNSWICK  
 THREE TOWER CENTER BOULEVARD  
 EAST BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY 08816

ALLIANCE OF FILIPINO CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC  
 PRAYER COMMUNITIES (AFCCPC)  
**2ND EAST ATLANTIC REGIONAL CONFERENCE**  
**July 7, 8, and 9, 2006 (Friday, Saturday & Sunday)**

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ To Show on the Name Tag  
 (Bro./Sis./Fr./Deacon/Sr.)

**REGISTRATION FORM**

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

HEAD SERVANT \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form with your check to:

AFCCPC  
 272 Boyd Avenue  
 Jersey City, New Jersey 07304

**REGISTRATION PROCEDURE**

1. Fill up Registration form on the right side and be sure that all information is provided.
2. Make the check payable to: AFCCPC
3. Pls. check below which conference you want to attend. Indicate also next to the amount how many people with you in this conference:

**A. ADULT CONFERENCE:**

- 1. Walk-in Registration.....\$ 35 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Advance Registration.....\$ 30 \_\_\_\_\_

**B. YOUTH CONFERENCE:**

(Ages: 13 to 18 yrs old)

- 1. Walk-in Registration.....\$15 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Advance Registration.....\$10 \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT OF CHECK** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN 2 PEOPLE IN THIS REGISTRATION,  
 PLEASE USE A SEPARATE SHEET. PLEASE WRITE THE NAMES OF  
 ADULTS & YOUTH SEPARATELY AND YOU CAN USE ONE CHECK  
 FOR EVERYBODY.**

**PLEASE REGISTER EARLY! SEATS ARE LIMITED!**

**CONFERENCE SPEAKERS**



*Msgr. Leo Rotas*



*Fr. Bill Halbing*



*Fr. Leonardo Polinas*



*Bro. Bob Canton*



*Sis. Linda Schubert*



*Bro. Mark Nimo*



*Bro. Jim Murphy*

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