FILIPINO CURSILLOS IN CHRISTIANITY - LOS ANGELES

January to March 2024
Volume VII, Issue 1

TUNGKO NEWSLETTER

TRIPOD - PIETY - STUDY - ACTION

Women's Cursillo Class No. 1037

By Zen Alejo, Vice Rectora





Preparing for class 1037 was a journey that tested our faith.

Our team stronghold from the very beginning was the Divine Mercy acclamation, "Jesus we trust in You". Toughest obstacles were put in our way from start to finish of our class. We surrendered everything to our Lord Jesus Christ. "Your will be done Lord."

It is just fitting the verse chosen for our class, "Lord, may you not withhold your compassion from us; may your mercy and your faithfulness continually protect us."- Psalm 40: 12.

We felt God's presence all throughout that journey. From our first meeting of the team Leaders, our goal was to have a joyous weekend serving our Lord. Joyful because of the great opportunity to bring souls back to Christ. And we were blessed with 18 new Cursillistas. During the heartwarming welcome on Thursday night by our brother and sister Cursillistas, as I looked at their eager faces, it brought to mind on how we can create moments of quiet reflection in our busy lives to deepen our connection with our God and listen to His voice more attentively. We had to deflect a lot of disruptions the evil one was throwing our way: may it be sickness, accidents, household concerns but with God's grace, our Weekend Team of Cursillistas helped us and we were able to serve our Lord. He is in control of everything. To God be the Glory.

FCIC–LA SECRETARIAT-2024

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ARCHDIOCESAN COORDINATOR'S MESSAGE

Happy Blessed Easter Season to everyone. As **Msgr. James Vlaun** had mentioned in celebrating the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are to reflect on the following: First, a reminder not to be afraid and to always trust and have faith in God; 2nd, Nothing is impossible with God as we live in hope of the reality for God's amazing possibilities in our lives and 3rd, Your will be done, a prayer of surrender. Mary's Fiat is an example of love reminding us to return to God and open ourselves to live and allow Him to take root in our lives. God is timeless, as we experience the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The first quarter of 2024 was very busy not only due to the formation meetings in preparation for the women's Cursillo weekend but because of the Kalbaryo practices we had to prepare for the four Kalbaryo 2024 shows. The following are the activities we had undertaken for the First Quarter of 2024:

January 21, 2024 - 1st Formation Meeting for Women's Cursillo Class 1037 and School of Leaders (SOL) meeting held in St. Linus Catholic Church in Norwalk, CA

Feb 21, 2024 - 2nd Formation Meeting for Women's Cursillo Class 1037 and School of Leaders (SOL) meeting held in St. John the Baptist in Baldwin Park, CA

Feb 23, 2024 - Kalbaryo 2024 show @ St Linus Catholic Church, Norwalk, CA

March 7-10, 2024 - Women's Cursillo Class No. 1037 headed by Rectora Lennie Arazo Vice Rectoras Doris Agtarap and Zen Alejo

March 15 &16, 2024 - Back to back Kalbaryo 2024 shows @ St. Genevieve Catholic Church in Panorama City, CA

March 17, 2024 - Welcome of Women's Cursillo Class 1037 by Women's Class 1025 headed by Rectora Linda Loreto and Vice Rectoras Vina Dungo & Oddie Sabas.

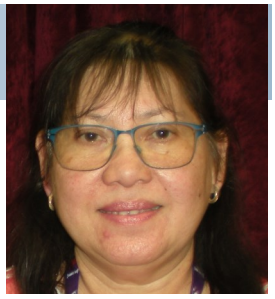
March 23, 2024 - Kalbaryo 2024 show @Oxnard College Performing Arts Center, Oxnard, CA.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who had participated and supported our Kalbaryo 2024 presentations especially the cast and crew members who had unselfishly shared their time, talent, and treasure to make our evangelization and fund raising projects successful for our Cursillo Movement. Special thanks to our over-all Director, Dr Ramon Geluz, as we collaborated with him so we could present this year's Kalbaryo shows in a different perspective.

We had a total gross receipts of $48,460.00 from the souvenir program and ticket sales in all four shows and disbursed $8,370.00 as 20% share to different Ultreya Centers for soliciting ads and selling tickets. We had also invested in several equipment by purchasing a reverse projector, monitors and speakers as well as an upgrade of lighting equipment and venue costs. There were other costs involved such as food and meals for cast and crew, upgrade of props and other miscellaneous expenses. But since we don't have the final figures yet, I can safely say that our net proceeds will be over $20,000.00 which could be used to help sponsor New Cursillistas for our future Cursillo weekends. A final and audited report will be submitted in our next issue of Tungko Newsletter.

Again, thank you so much for all your support in making this year's Kalbaryo shows a huge success as the legacy continues to live on as stated by Dr. Ramon Geluz in his Kalbaryo 2024 column. May God continue to bless and guide us all in our spiritual journey here on earth. To God be the greater honor and glory. De Colores!

My (Failed) Cursillo Weekend By Cynthia Uytiepo



The three-day weekend I spent with the Cursillo movement was filled with emotions, nostalgia and profound introspection. My initial hope was to spend a refreshing weekend away from home to break my routine but my experience ended in a resounding failure. My journey started with a 50-mile drive with my sponsor from Panorama City, CA to the Cursillo House in Pomona, CA.

What should have been a leisurely one-hour drive to our destination turned into a grueling odyssey of close to three-hours drive through steady traffic, strong thunderstorms, flash floods, and hail. I felt like nature was unleashing its wrath on us. Upon arrival, we saw a flurry of people eating and talking within their respective groups. The dorm-like atmosphere with the structured meals and scheduled activities gratifyingly reminded me of my high school retreat. It provided some comfort but I came here with a strong resolve: to remain emotionally detached, to give only what I am willing to offer, and to leave without forming an attachment to anyone.

Little did I know…..The weekend started with a focus on who I am and the purpose of my existence (Ideal). Through meditations, prayer sessions, daily masses, and the 15 enlightening Rollos, I was compelled to confront the question of life's meaning and direction. Each section worked its way to my heart and mind, urging me to deepen my desire to know, love, and serve God. Faith alone is insufficient, it must be accompanied by action.

We are called to "… love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' …'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." (Mark 12:30-31). So that weekend, I found myself sharing my life's challenges and embracing the warmth of communal fellowship. Most significantly, despite my intentions to remain detached, I emerged profoundly moved, recognizing the potential for a grace-filled existence in service to God and my fellowmen. De Colores!

Women's Cursillo Class 1037—March 7 to 10, 2024



Auxiliaries and New Cursillistas



Cursillo: Full Immersion By Aela Lazaro

It started last March 7, 2024, and I lived my Cursillo at the Pomona Retreat House. There were 18 women who were mostly strangers to each other. Most of us were reserved, but friendly.

The weekend started with a silent retreat. The silent retreat has helped us reset and calm the noise of our daily busy lives. It helped us look within ourselves and reflect on our relationship to God. Who would have thought that I could be silent for a few hours. I failed to completely be silent all night, but for the most part, I was.

We listened to the different rollos, sharing and reflections. It made me reflect and internalized the different teachings. I learned about God, and in a lot of aspects about myself. As the hours of being together went by, walls started to fall. We started building bridges with each other. We shared. We laughed. We cried. We consoled.

At the beginning of the weekend, we learned about ourselves. We had a chance to look within and cultivate self-awareness. Then we learned more about God, and how we can grow in a deep relationship with Him. As the weekend progressed, we were shown how to apply what we learned. We discovered ways on showing God's love and mercy outside of the retreat house.

The Cursillo weekend was a unique experience for me. I realized that this weekend was just the beginning of a fully immersed journey with God. It was just not for one weekend, it is a way of life. Cursillo is a great way of enhancing my Catholic spirituality and life.

Ang Aking Natutuhan sa Cursillo



My name is Mari Fukuyama, I lived my Cursillo in Pomona Retreat House last March 7-10, 2024. I belong to the Table Group of St. Therese of Lisieux. Sa pag imbita sa akin ng kaibigan kong si Claire Francisco, may tuwa akong nadama agad sa puso ko. Bagay na hindi nagdalawang salita siya sa akin na mag-join ng Cursillo weekend. Alam kong ito na siguro ang pinadalang angel from above, para baguhin ko ang mga mali na nakatago sa aking puso. Sa bawat Rollo na pinakinggan ko, parang nagising ang pagkatao ko mula sa mga sama ng loob ko na nakatago sa aking puso na matagal ko nang tinatago at di ko kayang alisin, dahil sa sobrang sakit na pinanggagalingan nito. Pero ng ma-encounter ko si Kristo sa Blessed Sacrament and I talked to God one on one, naglakas loob ako na ihinga ang lahat ng sama ng loob na nakatago sa puso ko. Mula sa puso ko, ako ay humingi ng tawad at ipinaubaya ko sa kanya ang lahat ng taong sobrang nakasakit sa akin, bagay na nagpagaan ng kalooban ko. Ang lahat ng Rollo na pinakinggan ko ang nagbukas ng puso't isipan ko. Na kahit anong sakit at sama ng mga pinagdaanan ko sa buhay, hindi dapat ako mawalan ng pag-asa, na patunay na may totoong Diyos na handang tumulong at magpatawad sa aking mga kasalanan. Ang hindi ko malilimutan at natutuhan ko ay ang magpatawad na gumising sa aking puso. Tuluyan kong inalis ang lahat ng sama ng loob ko, na sa pagdilat ng aking mga mata mula sa pagsuko ko sa aking kasalanan, nakaharap ko ang Krus ni Jesus Christ na parang gusto kong sumigaw ng iyak, Lord, thank You po at patawad talaga. Parang ito na ang sign na sinasabi ni Hesus kasama mo Ako sa lahat ng iyong pagsubok. At naramdaman ko ang presensiya niya. Ang natutunan ko sa tatlong araw na buhay ko sa Cursillo house ay ang paghingi ng tawad at ang pagpapatawad. Gusto kong ipagpatuloy ang relasyon ko kay Hesus at ang maging active ako sa mga gawain na ipagkaloob niya sa akin na magpapasaya at ikababuti ng aking spiritual na buhay. De Colores!

Welcome Ceremonies of Women's Cursillo Class 1037

The New Cursillistas of Women's Cursillo Class No. 1037, led by Rectora Lennie Arazo and Vice Rectoras Doris Agtarap and Zen Alejo, were welcomed into the big Filipino Cursillo Movement family in St. Linus Catholic Church, Norwalk, CA on March 17, 2024.

The Cursillo Class No. 1026 headed by Rectora Linda Loreto and Vice Rectoras Vina Dungo and Oddie Sabas hosted the welcome ceremonies with delicious Filipino food and the sharing of Cursillo experience by New Cursillistas.





KALBARYO 2024, AN FCIC-LA LEGACY, GOES ON

BY RAMON SISON GELUZ, POST CURSILLO CHAIRPERSON

A **LEGACY** is defined as the long-lasting impact of particular events or actions that took place in the past of a person's life. Since its inception 22 years ago under the direction of Ted Miranda, **KALBARYO** has continued to be one of the most important legacy of the FCIC-LA and the Secretariat for their past, current, and future Cursillistas because of the relentless zeal and persistent leadership of its originators, Ron Parcon, Tess Tan-Torres, Gerry Torres, and Ray Ramirez, our Director Emeritus, for all the Kalbaryo performances throughout those years.

The FCIC-LA **KALBARYO** has been produced by the Secretariat in different formats. Notables were the musical performances of the Kalbaryo Choir led by Billy Ricafort and the heart-wrenching solos of Alice Ricafort as the grieving Mother Mary and "Kristo O Kristo" by Billy Ricafort in the "Pieta" scene after Jesus was taken down from the Cross. In the Passion Play format the most memorable was the Jesus Christ roles performed by Gerry Torres, Patrick Duenas, Felix Vistro, Fred Lopez II, and most recently Willy Baello.



KALBARYO 2013 featured original musical compositions by Ray Ramirez with songs for Mother Mary, Mary Magdalene, and Judas Iscariot.



Since 2002 through the present, **KALBARYO** has been very successful in its Evangelization and Ultreya Fund Raising Missions with sold-out, standing ovation performances in churches and venues such as St. Christopher Church in West Covina, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Los Angeles, Mary Star of the Sea Church in Oxnard, St. Genevieve Church in Panorama City, St. Mel's Church in Woodland Hills, San Antonio De Pala Church in San Diego, St. Linus Church in Norwalk, the Haugh Performing Arts Center in West Covina and the Oxnard Theater of Performing Arts.

After a hiatus during the COVID-19 pandemic period, **KALBARYO** returned with a restructured Production Team led by Director Dr. Ramon Geluz. Inspired by the earlier work of Ray Ramirez, Dr. Ramon Geluz created **KALBARYO 2024,** composing an original Soundtrack for the different Kalbaryo Scenes, with Orchestral Accompaniment by Naldy Rodriguez and edited by his son, Michael Raymond Geluz, a Sound Engineer for Hollywood, and a Professor of Sound Technology. Dr. Geluz used the latest innovations in audio-visual and sound technology with the assistance of the Kalbaryo Crew led by Bong Dungo, Deacon John Manalo, and Ray Ramirez.

The **KALBARYO 2024** performances at the St. Linus Church in Norwalk, CA, at the St. Genevieve Church in Panorama City, and at the Oxnard College of Performing Arts will be remembered because of the very clear and dramatic dialogue of the Main Cast, the

KALBARYO 2024, AN FCIC-LA LEGACY, GOES ON

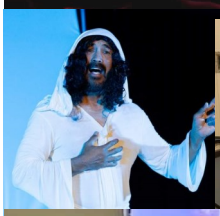
BY RAMON SISON GELUZ, POST CURSILLO CHAIRPERSON

haunting music, and dances, as well as the most elaborate and colorful costumes and life-size rearview video projections, backgrounds, and sound effects.

Truly a **LEGACY, KALBARYO 2024,** like all the past Kalbaryo presentations in the history of FCIC-LA, will continue to remain a Cursillo tradition that will be anticipated by all its past and present Cast and Production Staff as well as all its audience who have experienced its most touching scenes, such as the Jesus' Triumphant Entry Into Jerusalem, when the Cross with the nailed Jesus Christ is raised, and Mother Mary's heartbreaking farewell to her Son in the "Kristo O Kristo" Pieta Scene.

And all of these became possible, because we answered the **CALL** of our Lord Jesus Christ and will continue to do so in the coming years, because **GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME AND ALL THE TIME, GOD IS GOOD.**















KALBARYO 2024











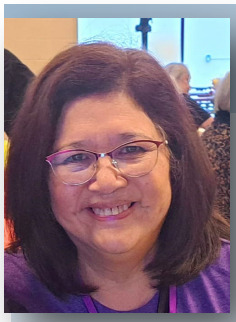






KALBARYO 2024





SCHOOL OF LEADERS (SOL)
By DORIS AGTARAP -SOL Chairperson

The first School of Leaders for 2024 was done in January 21 at St. Linus Parish together with the first formation meeting of the Women's Cursillo Class 1037. As always, the practice of any Cursillo event started with a prayer, for SOL, the Leaders' prayer was recited, then a short introduction followed by the Technique Presentation. The topic of the Technique Talk was "Secretariat and School of Leaders: Reaching a Unity of Purpose and Understanding" presented by Rex Agtarap. He mentioned that the two operational structures of the Movement, the School of Leaders and the Secretariat, are indivisible, each one is dependent on the other and neither can function properly without the other. Eduardo Bonnín, in his Secretariat Rollo, said "Already at the birth of Cursillo, it was foreseen that the growth of the Movement and its development would require some structures to preserve the essence of Cursillo; these structures are the Secretariats. The members of the Secretariat come from the School of Leaders. The School of Leaders, in the context of Cursillo, refers to the "School of Thoughts" where a group of friends get together to explore and deepen their understanding, gaining wisdom and insight from one another for the unity of purpose and understanding of the Cursillo movement. Belonging to the School of Leaders does not make one a leader nor leaders are automatically in the School, what's important is each member has the enthusiasm to contribute wherever the Lord wants them. The School of Leaders is where leaders collectively want the love of God to reach as many people as possible and naturally want to be part of Christianity in action. It is in the SOL, where the Cursillistas are infused with the vision of the founder and understand their role as leaders. The Doctrinal Talk was likewise very interesting presented by our Spiritual Advisor Father Rey Matunog regarding the "Fiducia Supplicans" (Supplicating Trust), a document published by the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith (DDF) in December 2023 that authorized non-liturgical blessings for same-sex couples and others in "irregular situations." Father Rey explained that there are different kinds of blessings, the document talked about a blessing as an acknowledgment of our creaturely weakness, acknowledge that we are "beggars," as stated by the





SCHOOL OF LEADERS (SOL)
By DORIS AGTARAP -SOL Chairperson

Dicastery. To bless God for his great mercies is also to place ourselves humbly before Him as His creatures. And we do so in the hope that we will be, to quote the declaration's final clauses, "despite everything, always loved." He emphasized that this is just a blessing of the person and not the union or any irregular situations they are into, hoping for an inner conversion of the person. Father Rey was so gracious to entertain questions regarding the teaching of our faith. He ended his talk with a final blessing and closing prayer.



For February, despite the hectic schedules, the School of Leaders was held at St. John the Baptist in Baldwin Park with the second formation of Women's Class 1037 on Feb. 18, 2024. Father Rey Matunog gave the Doctrinal talk and he talked about Fasting, Abstinence, and Almsgiving, appropriate for the Lent. He explained the proper way of fasting according to the church's teachings. He said that fasting is denying oneself what one desires the most as a sacrifice. He also mentioned the perceptions and practices of many Catholics that are not aligned with the church's teachings and the challenges that we as Catholics are facing because of the changing world. As always, Father Rey gave us his blessing. Then, the Technique Talk followed, titled "Choosing To Exercise the Power of Love" presented by yours truly. I reiterated the importance of the methods of our Cursillos In Christianity Movement that enable us to live what is fundamental for being a Christian in our God-given environment which is our interior tripod of Piety (Heart), Study (Intelligence), and Action (Will). The Piety and Study prepare the heart and mind to engage the will to exercise the power of love through our apostolic actions. I mentioned that all of us are called to perfection because we are created in the image and likeness of God. Perfection is founded entirely on the love of God and He commanded us to love others. We share the love of God by offering ourselves in true friendship to others. The SOL ended with a closing prayer.

And because of the Women's 3-Day Cursillo weekend held at Pomona Retreat House from March 7-10, the Welcome for Class 1037 on March 17, and the Kalbaryo shows that were scheduled March 15, 16, and 23, followed by Holy week, there was no SOL in March. **De Colores!**





Illuminating Paths: The 14th Hope in Crumbs Mass Feeding Program

By Rey Alonzo

In a beautiful display of compassion and unity, the 14th Hope in Crumbs Mass Feeding Program, generously funded by the FCIC-LA Members, recently brought light to the lives of 400 children at Bignay 2 Elementary School in Sariaya, Quezon. This event, held last February 8, 2024, radiated hope and kindness to those in need.

With Ron Parcon and I leading the way, and with Haligi ng Bata, Inc. (HBI) playing a supporting role, this mass feeding program was a success FCIC-LA Members' donations provided 400 children essential supplies like school supplies, school bags, food packs, 5 kilos of rice, and hygiene kits to children from families relying only on tenant farming to earn a living. The kids enjoyed yummy portions of lechon paired with meals from Jollibee - and as an added treat, they also had fun with Jollibee's mascot which gave extra layers of joy to the day. All these gifts, given with love, not only nourished the children physi cally but also lifted their spirits.

Mary Ann Obien, a fellow Cursillista and a Quezon native with a passion for her community, coordinated Hope in Crumbs' organizing efforts. Alongside HBI's technical support and with the active participation of the Diocese of Lucena represented by Fr. Ryan Israel Martinez, the Bignay 2 Elementary School led by Principal Jean Caraig, and the Bignay 2 Local community government led by Barangay Captain Edgardo Dechavez, the event showcased collaboration and service.

Additionally, we express our gratitude for the kindness and generosity of the Ricafort family for hosting lunch for all FCIC L.A. members upon arrival on Wednesday (February 7). They are Sariaya natives who, on that occasion, had a rare family reunion in the Philippines, bringing together the Ricafort siblings and their spouses.

With these said, it comes as no surprise that the Bignay 2 Elementary School grounds - turned into a place of joy. Being there on that day, one can't help but remember the story of the loaves and fishes from the Bible where a little became a lot. This Bible story easily came to mind because it was happening in real life, reflected in every smile on a child's face and echoed in every uttered thank you from the kids and their grateful families. Simply put, every child felt valued and cherished during this carefully organized event, and FCIC-LA ensured that no child was left behind when it comes to coming home with blessings and memories of that day. The impromptu talent showcased from children of every grade level, with special surprise cash prizes from FCIC L.A. members, made the event even more memorable and fun. Some FCIC-LA Members even showcased their own talents by playing guitar and singing folk songs, inspiring everyone with their skills.

This kind of outreach activity was a first for the children of Bignay 2, and this new experience brought them immense excitement and happiness. They were overwhelmed by the outpouring of kindness and generosity from people who genuinely wanted to reach out and lend a helping hand. It is our most fervent hope that the children who participated in the Hope in Crumbs Outreach Program would look back to this day as an inspiration for them to pay it forward by bringing even just a sliver of light to illuminate dim and challenging paths being traversed by their brethren.

As the event wrapped up with smiles and gratitude, planning for the 15th Hope in Crumbs Outreach Program has already started. FCIC-LA members are urged to continue their support, embodying the timeless message of compassion found in scriptures, to bring hope to more children and families in need. At the end of the day, the Hope in Crumbs Mass Feeding Program isn't just about giving special meals for children - it is a celebration of love and service. A powerful living reminder of the impact we create when we unite in kindness.





Men's Cursillo Class – HFCM Class No. 3 (Philippines)



To God be the glory! It is with great joy and honor to share with you what transpired last February 15-18, 2024, at the Kabisig ni Kristo Retreat House, Malolos, Bulacan, Philippines. A week after a very successful FCIC-LA and Haligi ng Bata, Inc. (HBI) mass feeding program in Sariaya, Quezon Province, another concerted effort between FCIC-LA Team members and the Holy Family Cursillo Movement (HFCM), based in Pasig City with our very own Sister Minda Cuadra as one of their co-founders, was blessed by the Grace of the Holy Spirit to hold a very successful Men's Cursillo Class with nineteen (19) New Cursillistas.

Yours truly, acting only with God's providence, served as the Rector of HFCM Class No. 3 and Rey Alonzo and Caloy Sabas did wonderful jobs as Vice Rectors along with "nine" other Vice Rectors. Ron Parcon delivered his iconic Rollo No.1(Ideal), Rey Alonzo handled with clarity and finesse Rollo No. 3 (Laity) and Caloy Sabas was astonishing in delivering Rollo No. 13 (Christianity in Action) culminating with a short 'Passion of the Cross' drive (Challenge) as requested by the local team.

In all honesty, HFCM Class No. 3 was conceived in what I would describe as a logistical evolution in a hyper speed mode for I was informed only four months before the Class was confirmed to convene. Without a shadow of doubt, your Palancas, prayers, and sacrifices are the integral factors that made it possible. That unique experience with geographical-intercultural flavorings required a great deal of effective communication, humility and teamwork to say the least. The best part of it, our brethren, fellow Cursillistas in the Philippines are now excitedly looking forward in the future to team up with us again. They are so eager to learn more of our streamlined methodologies especially in how we run our School of Leaders and vice versa, we love to pick up on their ideas as well especially seeing their revitalized vigor in serving during the Cursillo weekend. As we have always believed, with God nothing is impossible! DE COLORES!



2024 Visita Iglesia, A Walk to Remember

By: Dn. John A. Manalo

What is Visita Iglesia?

Visita Iglesia, which means “church visit” in Spanish, originated in Rome during the Middle Ages. It symbolizes the journey of Jesus Christ to the seven churches in Rome on the night before his crucifixion. Over time, the tradition spread to other Catholic countries, including the Philippines and Latin America. The tradition is deeply meaningful for many Catholics as it provides an opportunity for spiritual reflection, penance, and renewal, particularly during the solemn period of Lent leading up to Easter Sunday. It’s also a way for communities to come together in prayer and solidarity during this important time in the liturgical calendar.

This Year Visita Iglesia (VI) - Pilgrimage to Colonial Mexico & Our Lady of Guadalupe

Hosted annually by our SWAP Family *(Serving With A Purpose)* on our 11th year of re-living the tradition held on February 25 - March 1, 2024. A visit to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico and some other Churches can be a deeply profound and spiritually enriching experience. With a total of 48 Pilgrims spiritually guided by our VI Chaplain, Fr. Rey Matunog, we all blessed with a wonderful encounter.

Here are some aspects of our personal encounter:

1. Historical and cultural significance of the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe is one of the most important religious sites in Mexico. It is the site where the Virgin Mary is believed to have appeared to Juan Diego, an indigenous man, in 1531, leaving her image imprinted on his cloak, or "tilma." This event played a crucial role in the spread of Christianity in Mexico and has become a symbol of their national identity.



2. Devotion and pilgrimage is what the basilica attracts millions of pilgrims and visitors each year, both from Mexico and around the world, who come to pay homage to Our Lady of Guadalupe. Many pilgrims travel long distances on foot or by other means to express their devotion, seek spiritual guidance, or offer prayers and petitions to the Virgin Mary.

3. On our spiritual reflection and prayer which provides us the opportunity to engage in prayer, reflection, and worship within the sacred space of the basilica and the other beautiful Churches. Our daily masses, presided by Fr. Rey, and some having their own personal recitation of the rosary, or daily Liturgy of the Hour, or spending quiet moments in contemplation before the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and the beautiful images of other Churches offers a serene and reverent atmosphere conducive to one’s spiritual growth and renewal.

4. The cultural experience added to this Visita Iglesia religious significance, the various Churches provides a glimpse into Mexican culture, history, and art. We, the pilgrims, admired the architecture of the basilica and the other Churches, explored the surrounding grounds, and learned about the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe and other Churches through exhibitions and interpretive displays.

Overall, our visit to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe and the various Churches offered a multifaceted experience that combines spirituality, history, culture, and community, leaving everyone a lasting impression on the hearts and minds of us all who gladly journeyed this year, Visita Iglesia. Till next time!

VISITA IGLESIA –Pilgrimage to Colonial Mexico and Our Lady of Guadalupe









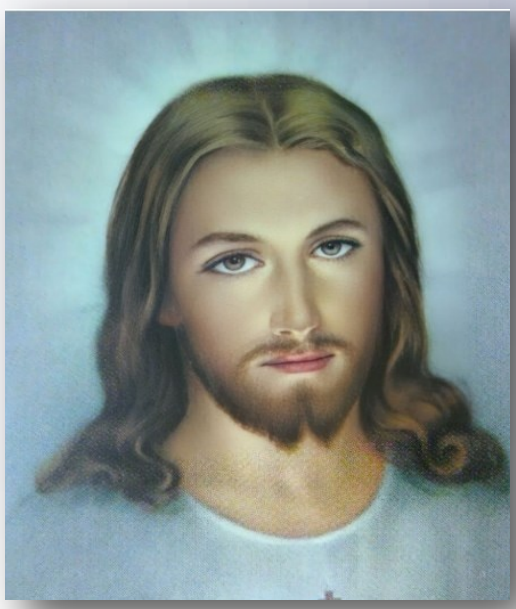


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Christ is counting on you!

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

May 2 to 5, 2024 - Men's Cursillo Weekend
Rector - Juan Ochoa
Vice Rector - Nicolo Franco

May 24 to 25, 2024 - Regional Spring Encounter
Sacred Heart Catholic Church @Coronado, CA

July 12 to 14, 2024 - DWHL Retreat
(13-19 years old (Co-Ed)
Prefects: Josh Manulat & Raymond Bernabe
Vice Prefects: Pamela Guinto & Sean Tupas

Sept 5 to 8, 2024 - Women's Cursillo Weekend
Rectora - Agnes Golingay
Vice Rectoras - Agnes Alonzo and Lita Vicente

Oct 3 to 6, 2024 - Men's Cursillo Weekend

34th National Encounter
July 25 to 28, 2024
Hofstra University, Long Island, NY

December 7, 2024
FCIC-LA Annual Christmas Party

OBITUARIES: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Manny Paguio, Enrico Marcale, Romulo Balino, Rowena Woolridge, Malou Yabut and all those who have gone to be with the Lord. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in eternal peace with God. Let perpetual life shine upon them. Amen.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS: Please pray for the continuous healing of Bishop Alex Aclan, Billy Ricafort, Gilda Manalo, Liberty Sanchez, Rodel Balino, Philip Abiog, Freddie Soto, Mike Marcelino, Glenn Agaton & family, Linda Pascual and all those suffering from physical and spiritual challenges. We pray for them through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Mighty Name of Jesus. Amen.