



## Message from the Chaplaincy

“Tempus fugit, et nos mutamur in illis.” (Time flies and we are changed with it)...

As we open a new window in our home, which we fondly call “The Chaplaincy”, we cannot but allow ourselves to be fired up by the bright promise of tomorrow. Our yesterday as a community was a rosary of ups and downs, replete with Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous Mysteries. Yet whenever a dark shadow is cast, above

comes a light empowering us. In time and with grace, our Chaplaincy has become a collective soul, which truly binds us all up as one.

Our journey as a community continues. Work and repairs have to go on. We cannot let passivity reign. We cannot remain irrelevant. Sharing the goods and the goodness of ourselves is now the call of the day. Let not discouragement and fear paralyze us,



keeping us from effecting change. Life seeks ways to bloom, and so must we as a community, as a Chaplaincy here in Vienna.

My message is also my dream. Let us help one another to make it a reality.

**Fr. Ely C. Dalanon**

## Leaving and beginning

August 20-31: There were many parties during this time. It should have been two weeks of fun and frolicking, but instead there were more tears flowing than laughter to be heard. For indeed seeing someone leave, with whom you had been for more than 15 years, is painful. Many memories are shared, be they of joys and sorrows, even of quarrels and misunderstandings, that all have deepened the bond of friendship.

The community was flooded with parties for

Fr. Joey Demoy’s departure. There were many small parties hosted by some religious organizations, and a core group organized a Testimonial Dinner at the Marriott Hotel on Friday, 20 August. The Filipino Catholic Chaplaincy organized one big farewell event for Fr. Joey on Sunday, 29 August.

The celebrations were heavy and dramatic. Many shed tears. Indeed, all goodbyes are painful. And the reason

why goodbyes are painful is that goodbyes are venues for growth (which always entails pain) for the one leaving and for those left behind.

There is growth for the one leaving because it means new opportunities, new people to meet and mingle with, new challenges to encounter and tackle, new community to serve and nurture. Christ himself never stayed long in a certain place. He once said when the people from a certain place tried to stop him from leaving:

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“To the other towns also I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God, because for this purpose I have been sent”(Luke 4:43).

Such is the life of a priest: a life on the move, on the go. To where God wants him to be, he should go. He is, after all, only an instrument of God’s love. As Fr. Joey said good-bye, he surely left memories of love, and great service and

# Leaving and beginning, cont'd...

(Continued from page 1)

sacrifices for the community; and surely gratitude has been etched in everyone's heart, to remain there forever.

There is also growth for those left behind because it means new ideas, creativity, dynamism and energy from the ones taking over, it means new challenges to encounter.

Many questions linger at this

time: What now? Where do we go from here?

We continue to move forward from where Fr. Joey left.

Will those who replace him succeed?

God's hands are always at work and priests are only His instruments. For sure, they will make it with the continued support and cooperation of our community.

Many other questions will surely

be asked, but it's not right to ask questions. We should just trust that everything happening now is within the greater plan of God for the betterment of our community, and for the greater good within each of us. Indeed, this is true: when God closes a door, He opens the windows. Let us all start with a window. And, later, if that one window is not enough, I am sure God will allow us to make a new door.

**(Fr. Jojo)**

## C h a n g e

Fr. Joey left Vienna carrying with him treasured memories gained over 15 years!

And so, as another chapter in Philippine history unfolds, the same is happening in the Filipino Catholic Chaplaincy in Vienna. As the outgoing chaplain cuts his farewell cake and turns over his responsibilities to the new chaplain, all I can say is I wish them well in the new chapter in their respective vocation. Father Ely accepts his slice of cake – a poignant symbol of the responsibilities to come. Indeed, the cake is sweet but will surely bring unwanted calories and maybe even indigestion.

Change has happened and will continue to happen. It is inevitable. We have seen many priests and chaplains come and go. What is important is that there remains the spirit and conviction to serve our community and make it better.

Sometimes we say that the community needs change. While it may be true, we must remember that change in the community doesn't happen overnight; it cannot be achieved by a single individual or group of individuals, but by everyone. We are all called to be agents of change in our community and, most importantly, beneath all the changes that we envision is the realization that we ourselves are first of all in need of change. Change should start in each of us. We cannot call for change if we ourselves are not willing to change that something in ourselves that is blocking our quest for community growth.

What change are we to envision? If ever there is a change that needs to be realized it can be none other than the change to make our community and our church better.

The church model that the Second Plenary Council of the Philippines has laid down for us Filipino Catholics is that of "community of disciples". It is a model in which one feels at

home in the company of others and forgets petty and selfish differences, in which one works with others for the good of the community. It is a community "united in heart and soul". This is the change to which we should aspire!

Christian communities know full well that their growth in faith depends much on the quality of their shepherds. What is needed are not highly intelligent leaders and priests, but those who are "pastoral" – those who have a heart for the people, who know the people under their care, and who are concerned for them.

On the other hand, we must not forget that shepherds need to be shepherded by their communities. That is why Jesus invited his disciples who were exhausted to go to a certain place and rest for a while. The apostles, the pillars of the community, need to be

taken care of so that - once refreshed - they can continue taking care of God's people. Who else should take care of the shepherds if not the flock themselves? In the community of Christ the Lord alone is divine; the rest, shepherds and sheep alike, experience human frailties.

We need to realize that our shepherds also need our love and care. Many of us look at our bishops and parish priests as a breed apart, not easily disturbed by the troubles and concerns they encounter every day. In truth, some of the loneliest people are those who minister to the lonely; sometimes, those who preach about love feel that they themselves are unloved.

May our chaplaincy be a true community where the sheep feel the love of the shepherd and vice-versa.

**(Timmy de Mata)**

**"Our shepherds also need our love and care."**

## *Youth Summer Camp, 12-16 July, Neupölla*



27 youths of our Chaplaincy joined the 2010 summer camp held at Jugendgästehaus Franzen Neupölla for a week of spiritual escape. Fr. Joey organized the

program with indoor and outdoor activities, giving participants ample opportunity for group work and relaxation.

## *Joint celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel*

The Filipino community joined the Austrian community on 11 July in commemorating the Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. The Mass was held at 10:00 a.m. and delivered in English and German. Fr. Joey Demoy conducted the service with the assistance of Fr. Castor Goliama and Fr. Cyril Villareal. This was one celebration that drew high attendance from both communities. Agape was served afterwards in the parish

hall.

The celebration of the Feast Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is a yearly activity participated in by both communities in our Parish of Maria vom Berge Karmel. For many years, it was scheduled in October; two years ago, Fr. Joey moved the celebration to July to coincide with the Church' celebration of the actual Feast of the Our Lady of Mt. Carmel on 16 July.

## *Devotees of the Divine Mercy journey to Poland*

The Devotees of the Divine Mercy organized with the Filipino Catholic Chaplaincy a three-day pilgrimage to Poland from 2 to 4 September 2010. The group visited and celebrated the Mass at The Black Madonna (Jasna Gora, Czestochowa) and the sanctuary of Our Lord's Mercy in Krakow. Also included in the itinerary were: the Wieliczka Salt Mines; Wadowice (the birthplace of Pope John Paul II) and the concentration camp in Auschwitz-Birkenau. For the pilgrims, the trip was not only a unique religious experience but also an educational and cultural one.



*53 persons from the Divine Mercy group and from other organizations joined the pilgrimage, and were accompanied by Fr. Cyril Villareal and Fr. Randy Figuracion.*

## *From the Fatima Group*

October is the month of the Holy Rosary and, once again, the Fatima Group will organize a Living Rosary on 31 October, which this year falls on a Sunday. Prayers will start at 10:30 a.m. This annual activity is part of the Group's commemoration of Mama Mary's title of "Queen of the Holy Rosary". Everyone is cordially invited to participate.



## *Legion of Mary holds Patrician Runde*



On 22 July, two Praesidia of the Legion of Mary (Mary Mediatrix of All Graces and Mary, Mother of Our Savior) held a *Patrician Runde* on "The 7 Capital Sins". Twenty Legionaries and some of their friends attended the event, with Fr. Ely Dalanon facilitating the discussion.

The next *Patrician Runde* will be

held on 21 October 2010 at 18:30h in the *Pfarrcafe* of Maria vom Berge Karmel Parish. The topic will be "The Angels".

*Patrician Runde* is a group discussion dwelling particularly on catechism and some aspects of the Catholic faith. It is a quarterly activity that the Legionaries started two years ago.

## *El Shaddai celebrates its Foundation Anniversary*

The Vienna Chapter of El Shaddai DWXI-PPFI marked its "Foundation Anniversary" in August this year. The celebration started with Holy Mass officiated by Fr. Ely Dalanon, with other priests of the Chaplaincy and priests visiting from Rome and Bologna. Fr. Samson Solloriquiez, OAR, delivered the homily in which he encouraged the members to grow in their faith. The occasion was graced by the presence of representatives from the El Shaddai Chapters in Rome, Milan, Vicenza, Bologna, Italy, and from Brussels, Belgium.

A sumptuous lunch was served in the parish hall. Thereafter, Bro. Nestor Pejana, a disciple-preacher from Rome conducted a healing

session.

The El Shaddai group of the Filipino Catholic Chaplaincy has been in existence for 18 years. Every Sunday, it holds prayer

meetings in one of the parish rooms after the 11:00 a.m. Community Mass.



## *Bicol Society celebrates Feast of Our Lady of Peñafrancia*

This year's celebration commemorated the 300 years devotion to Our Lady of Peñafrancia that started in



Bicol, Philippines in 1710. The fluvial procession set out from Vienna and made its way to Bratislava in neighboring Slovakia with approximately 600 devotees on board the MS Admiral Tegethoff.

Upon landing in Bratislava, the procession proceeded to St. Martin's Cathedral where a Mass in honor of Our Lady was held. Msgr. Noe Delos Santos of the Diocese of Legazpi (he came all the way from the Philippines for the purpose) celebrated the Mass together with priests of the Filipino Catholic Chaplaincy and other visiting priests.

The Society sponsored a thanksgiving Mass the following day, 19 September, at the parish Church of Maria vom Berge Karmel, followed by lunch in the parish hall.



## *Followers of the Good Shepherd*

### **FGS Family Day**

This year's annual FGS family day was held on 26 June in the garden of Our Lady of Mount Carmel church. Fr. Joey Demoy, spiritual adviser of FGS, officiated at the thanksgiving Mass, and the various cell groups prepared and served a rich lunch. It was a whole day affair of fun and fellowship.

### **FGS Farewell Party for Fr. Joey**

FGS organized a grill party in the parish garden on Saturday, 31 July to bid farewell to its spiritual

adviser. Festivities started with Holy Mass said by Fr. Joey. The highlight of the party was a short program and, of course, there was



a long photo shoot with each cell group wanting to have a souvenir photo (or two) with Fr Joey.

### **FGS goes to Italy**

The FGS group and Fr. Joey journeyed by bus on Friday, 13 August 2010 to Milan and

continued on to Verona for an overnight stay. The plan to proceed to Trent was hampered by continuous rain. This was a disappointment, of course, but it did not prevent the group from enjoying their visit of the Basilica in

the center of Milan, and the Romeo and Juliet places in Verona.

## *The Filipino Catholic Chaplaincy honours Father Joey*

The Filipino Catholic Chaplaincy organized a Farewell Program for Fr. Joey Demoy on Sunday, 29 August 2010. The day started with a Mass at 11:00 a.m. celebrated by the honoree Fr. Joey Demoy, with several priests concelebrating with him; the choir groups took turns in providing the liturgical music. Before the service ended, tributes to Fr. Joey were delivered by: a) Fr. Felix Schandl, a Carmelite priest and the former parish priest of Maria vom Berge Karmel, who thanked Fr. Joey for his work in maintaining the church, b) Msgr. Besteh, the former rector of the African, Asian and Latin

American Catholic Communities in Vienna (ARGE), who reminisced about the early years of the Filipino Catholic Chaplaincy under the leadership of Fr. Joey, c) Charlie Manangan, the Consul General of the Philippine Embassy in Vienna and d) Alex Kraljic, the present secretary of ARGE.

The celebration continued in the parish garden with an Agape sponsored by the various religious and civic groups of the Filipino Chaplaincy. After lunch, parishioners went inside the church for the entertainment program prepared in Fr. Joey's honor. It was

an afternoon to remember: there were songs and modern dances, folk dances, poems, comedy skits, solo and group performances. It can be said that all participants gave their best to make an event that will be remembered by its honoree for a long, long time.

Fr. Joey finally left Vienna on Tuesday, 31 August 2010 to assume his new assignment in Bacoor, Cavite City, Philippines.

The new Chaplain of the Filipino Catholic Community in Vienna, Austria is Fr. Ely Dalanon.



## *Celebrating the Feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz*

The weather on the morning of 26 September was not so inviting, but it did not hamper the spirit of our parishioners from attending Holy Mass in honour of the first Filipino martyr, San Lorenzo Ruiz de Manila. Fr. Ely Dalanon and 2 other priests celebrated the mass in Tagalog.

Fr. Winston Carrera of the Oblates of St. Joseph delivered the homily based on the parable of the rich man and Lazarus. He encouraged the congregation to eliminate the distance between rich and poor. This

can be achieved if those who have more would learn to identify themselves with and share with those who have less, so that graces will be more evenly spread in the community.

The weather having improved by noon, the faithful moved to the Pfarrhof to enjoy *pancit*, *puto*, *empanada*, *siopao* and similar Filipino delicacies. Departing from the practice in the past, all food items were sold and the proceeds donated to the Parish of Maria vom Berge Karmel.

## CFC Europe celebrates its 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Austria

Every year, Couples for Christ and its various family ministries hold their respective conferences in different towns and cities in Europe. This year all roads led to Austria as entire families from all over Europe prepared to celebrate a milestone - 15 good and blessed years of God's providence and faithfulness to Couples for Christ Europe. To more aptly manifest oneness in purpose and in heart, moving forward in Jesus' name, and being part of His global army, Couples for Christ held a mega conference, a single and unified event for all members of the CFC family.

A multitude of delegates from Belgium, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Isle of Man, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Norway, Spain, Switzerland, the Philippines, the Netherlands, Portugal, UK, USA and Austria descended on

Vösendorf for the EUROCON XV 3-day event at the Austria Trend Eventhotel Pyramide. Members of the Couples for Christ International Council, together with their respective wives, and heads for Europe of the HOLD (for Handmaids), SFC (for Singles), YFC (for Youths) and KFC (for Kids) came all the way from the Philippines

EUROCON XV opened with a full day of activities on Friday, 13 Aug. starting with the Family Food Festival and the Kids for Christ creative competition. Bp. Ramon Arguelles, CFC Europe Spiritual Director, led the Eucharistic Celebration with five concelebrants

including our very own Fr. Ely and Fr. Jojo. The highlight of the first day was a vibrant Family Praise Parade and the CFC's Got Talent competition.

The second day was ushered in with early morning Mass and then entirely devoted to discourse and deliberation. The delegates broke up into groups according to affiliation, i.e. CFC, Servants of the Lord, Handmaids of the Lord, Singles for Christ, Youth for Christ and Kids for Christ. They were assigned separate halls where they conducted their own discussions. Although the topics were different for each group, all were united in their conclusion and this led to this year's

Musical Dance Production competition by country, which everyone found entertaining, exciting and enjoyable. The costumes were simply amazing, and the very vibrant crowd (many lost their voices from cheering for their countries) was enthralled by the many outstanding numbers such as: Cats by CFC Italy, Arielle by CFC UK, Grease by CFC The Netherlands, and – the winning performance – Hairspray by CFC Austria.

The final day fell on Assumption Day, befitting the culmination of a three-day celebration of God's goodness to our community in all the past fifteen years. To glorify and praise God, and to honor our beloved Blessed Mother, an offering of flowers was made by all, each one individually placing a rose on a cross until it looked like a cross made of roses. Bp. Arguelles exhorted every family to go out and continue to be the light in Europe.



CFC Theme: Fullness of Life in Christ, based on Colossians 2:6-7. "So, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, walk in him, rooted in him and built upon him and established in the faith as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving."

As always, everyone came prepared and donned their best attire for the Saturday Gala Night. This year's theme was God's Banquet so the men came in kingly outfits while the ladies wore elegant queenly gowns and tiaras. Dance music was provided live by the CFC Musicionaries, the 29AD. This is the second year the 29AD has graced the European conferences of CFC.

The evening's highlight was the

Everyone left the Pyramide on Sunday fully energized and powered by the Spirit. Many delegates declared that this was the best conference ever held in Europe. Many more congratulated CFC Vienna for a job well done. But, we in CFC Vienna are humbled and are still in awe at how marvelously God blessed the EUROCON XV. It is not us who are victorious but Christ. After all XV not only stands for 15 but, more meaningfully, "X" stands for Christ and "V" for victory – Christ's Victory. Glory be to God now and forever.

**(Nel Santayana)**

## Flohmarkt raises over Euro 4000

The Chaplaincy supported the Austrian Community's flea market held 25&26 September through the sale of Filipino delicacies, by setting up and selling second-hand articles and, not least, by disposing of many bags of unsold items.

Income from the event reached €4031.12, of which €719 was raised from Filipino food sales. All proceeds will go towards financing Church repair and maintenance projects. In addition, some rooms in the parish buildings were cleared of goods which had been accumulating over time.

New parish priest Pater Antonius wrote,

"In den Tagen der Vorbereitung und Durchführung des Flohmarktes habe ich so viel an Ausdauer, Fleiß und Hingabe beobachtet, dass ich Gott gar

nicht genug danken kann, dass wir eine so glaubwürdige Pfarr – Familie gebildet und nach außen bezeugt haben. Die verschiedensten Charismen, Talente und Fähigkeiten haben so



viele zur Verfügung gestellt: Leitung und Organisation bis zu den unauffälligen und kleinen Diensten. Es war ein Zusammenwirken zwischen Jung und Alt, ein Einsatz aller, denen unsere Kirche und das Pfarrhaus als Heimstätte dienen: Die

Philippinische Gemeinde, die Pfadfinder und die angestammte Gemeinde, die in unserem Pfarrgebiet wohnt oder sich aus anderen Gründen zugehörig weiß. Die Kraftanstrengung und die

Opfer haben wir letztlich Gott zuliebe gemacht. Wir wollen unseren Platz, die Kirche und das Pfarrhaus erhalten und verschönern. Wir möchten hier einen einladenden Ort gestalten, der allen Menschen offensteht, die Gott suchen. Wir möchten selber an

diesem Ort ein Stück Heimat finden, eine Oase für Leib und Seele, in der wir für uns selber Kraft schöpfen können und die Frohe Botschaft Jesu Christi den Menschen vermitteln, die sie nicht oder nicht gut genug kennen. Ein herzliches Vergelt's Gott und ganz großes Danke!"

## Thoughts on the CFC mega conference

As I walked from the hotel lobby into the futuristic-pyramid-shaped assembly area, I was greeted by chaos. It wasn't chaos in the negative sense; rather, it was an endearing type – the type one encounters on entering the house of a family of five just after their morning breakfast — *multiplied 200 times*.

This was the CFC Mega Conference; if you have had no experience with the Couples for Christ community, you would be dumbfounded to see

how the Catholic faith could be so alive. The best way I can sum up my experience at the conference was that I had never witnessed an event that felt so *alive* (a paradox, since I had had little sleep).

Let me paint a picture. There were kids running all over the place; couples were talking, swapping stories, embracing, and welcoming each other. Teenagers were gathered, and were waiting with unabated excitement for the rest of their

friends to arrive from different parts of Europe. The single men and women were also meeting, talking about future plans for their communities. So many things were happening at once, and yet they were all gathered for one cause – to experience the love of the Lord, and to glorify Him as a community.

I said to myself, "This is a drastic and powerful departure from what is happening in the world, especially in the context of the family." Being a

lover of John Paul II and his writings, the next thought that came to mind was, “These are the families striving to live as vessels of goodness in an era surrounded by so much evil” (John Paul II, Letter to the Families). Furthermore, it is through families like these that the world will be renewed. I say this because I have spent my entire life looking for a family, a community like the one I experienced during the Mega Conference.

Let me backtrack, and give you a perspective of my observations. I come from outside the community, and had very little exposure to the Couples for Christ. However, I have church-going parents, steadfast in their allegiance to the Catholic faith, and who have been very much involved in Parish activities in our home in Dallas, Texas. Because of them I had a solid formation in the Catholic faith, and when the Lord called me to a life of ministry I responded with full fealty and devotion. A few years later, I began my life of ministry by serving as the coordinator of youth ministry in a small Catholic parish in the quaint southern town of Alexandria in Louisiana. The parish was composed of around 1200 families, half of whom attended Mass regularly. The one challenge for all of us involved in ministry work is how to get the families together through activities, prayer meetings, meals, whatever. We see this “family togetherness” as important, because we see it as the only real way for individuals to not only grow in their personal faith, but for that faith to be sustained so that it can be passed on to future generations. In the parish, there were countless times where the youths would have a profound encounter with God that could possibly change their lives, but after a while they would fall right back to their old ways. We attributed much of their “downfall” to the lack of support at home. This shouldn’t be the case since the family must be (as John Paul II writes) the person’s first

encounter with the Lord; the home must be the ‘domestic church’, in which the individual first encounters God (Letter to Families, John Paul II, 2. ). The family must support the individual’s life of faith, and the individual must also give back to the family to help in their journeys as well. The Lord did not die for individuals. He died for all peoples, so that they may be saved as a people – a family. That is why the vessel of our salvation comes in the form of the Church. It is basically a big family made up of saints and sinners, and the Lord willed it that through Christ’s sacrifice this family would be saved. Our individual families are like the mini vessels of the Church. The family should be the first encounter that a person has with the Lord; that is why I firmly believe that, in the context of ministry work, it is always good to emphasize the importance of the family.

Flash forward to the present: At the Mega Conference, I suddenly realized that what we were yearning for in the parish in Louisiana was already being done in the Couples for Christ Community; CFC has been doing this for quite some time now. The conferences (like the Mega Conference), weekly households, monthly general assemblies and the one-on-one meetings for individual pastoring were all we would have wanted for our parish. These activities provide the ideal environment for the family to flourish in its spiritual, social, recreational, and even creative aspects. One of the most enjoyable parts of the mega conference was watching and listening to the different song and dance competitions. When you think about it, you realize that these competitions are not simply avenues for the members to dance and sing, but they are the positive and appropriate venues that the Lord desires in order for us to give back to God the gifts that He has given us. I thank all those who gave of their time and talent. And seriously, what other Catholic family community out there allows you to have dance competitions

that give glory to God? Maybe I am sheltered, but I don’t know of a single one other than CFC.

In addition to the different creative activities (which I have not even come close to exhaustively describing) there were the talks given by the leaders of the CFC community. I found each one uplifting and filled with the wisdom that could only be gained by those who had truly dedicated their lives to serving the Lord. The one talk I remember most clearly was given by Brother Joe Yamamoto in the beginning of the conference. He said (and I paraphrase): We must strive to live in the fullness of Christ, and we must do this as a family. How do we know that we are living in the fullness of Christ? —because everything we do and say as a family will give glory to God.

Wow. These words completely blew me away. I always knew that in order to live a life of holiness we needed to gear all aspects of our being towards Christ. I did not fully realize, however, that we must do the same for and with our families; but it makes complete sense!

The Lord willed it that we be saved as a people, that is why He instituted the Church, as the Bride of Christ, as our vehicle of salvation (Ephesians 6: 23, 25-27, 29). Furthermore, Vatican II tells us that through the Church comes our Salvation (Lumen Gentium). Is it possible that the Lord chooses to save us through our families? I believe with my whole heart that this is what the Lord intended: a united holy family on the road to heaven together.

This is what I saw at the Mega Conference – 300 united holy families on the road to heaven together. Three hundred families with their hearts fixed on God, yearning to receive His love and giving all of their time, talent, and treasure for God and one another. What could be grander than this? May His Kingdom come.

*(Vinson Granado)*

## On changes and challenges

Dear Anna,

Like my parents before me, I went to Church with you today to thank God for making you well after several days of high fever, headache and an unexplained skin rash. The shopping we did after church for a new pair of shoes made our day a bit more special. This reminded me of the trip to Quiapo Church with my *Tatay* on our way home from the hospital when I was five: I was allowed to buy a big bunch of *lanzones*!

By the way, you impressed me today. You behaved really well during the Mass and you even joined in, in some of the prayers. I could almost hear the people saying, "Look at that well-behaved girl, so pretty in pink! She surely looks like her Mom!" Well, the last part is our secret, sshhh...

My dear child, there is one aspect in life that your Daddy and I would really love to prepare you for. As you grow older and carry on with life, you will realize that it is not all candy-and-spice-and-all-things-nice in this world. Each day will bring something new – good and bad. Each day will bring changes – big and small. Each day will be a challenge.

New does not necessarily mean good. New shoes for me when I was your age meant days of limping to school because of blisters on my feet. Of course, there was always the option of just reverting to wearing step-ins, which were not impressive then, especially at the start of school. With firm determination and a few Band-Aids, my feet developed *kalyo* and the pain was soon forgotten. Also, new shoes caused me discomfort because they were intentionally bought one size bigger, although after a few months of walking like Charlie Chaplin and stumbling a couple of times, my feet

eventually filled up the shoes.

When I was starting Grade III, my parents decided to transfer me from the all-girls Catholic school in Pasig to San Joaquin Elementary School. The first days were scary and difficult. I did not know anybody and the boys were from a different planet. Although I have four *kuyas*, my small hyperactive classmates in short pants were a novelty to me. But parents' decisions were laws in those days. After crying a few buckets of tears and dragging my feet every morning, I soon found new friends. And the boys proved to be better opponents at *patintero* and *syatong* than my own brothers.

As I grew older, many new things came my way but my parents were not always there to give me guidance. High school meant riding the *jeepney* to school. This new experience made me feel grown-up. I must admit I was close to tears when one day the driver suddenly took a different route. I thought I would never see my family again, but I didn't know then what detour meant! High school also exposed me to the very tempting idea of cutting classes and having boyfriends. These were new adventures that would have made me feel and look "cool" but, at the same time, they invited the ire of my elders; indulging in them would have meant either my father's belt or my mother's tears, or both.

Going to college opened a whole new world for me. I was suddenly surrounded by daughters of mayors and majors who had their own apartments and *yayas*, and by classy *Taglish*-speaking colegialas wearing designer clothes in contrast to mine with the CbN (*Created by Nanay*) label. Their skin looked smooth and their teeth were braced. You would not call me *anak ng Pasig* if I were not brave. From day one I vowed not

to feel inferior. I rose up to the challenge. Since I could not change nor add to my wardrobe, I made friends with the other girls who were exactly like me - poor din! While the *burgis* girls were changing boyfriends as quickly as they changed handbags, we promdis discovered the joys of studying at the pontifical University of Santo Tomas. We took pride in poring over books, which Jose Rizal probably read when he was a student. Soon we knew which stall along Dapitan made the best *turon* and *banana-cue* or which lunch supplier offered best value for money – *pisong ulam*, *singkwentang kanin*. We daydreamed about our boyfriends - those unreachable medical students who did not even know we existed.

Yes, I had my fun, cheap but clean. I thanked God for giving me those friends; I survived and even enjoyed those difficult college days. Discos and boyfriends could have been fun, but would have disappointed my parents, and drugs and drink would have killed them.

Anna, you will face your own challenges; new shoes won't be among them. Ill-fitting footwear will not be a problem for you, as shoe shops can now scan feet to get the perfect shoe- size. Most of the challenges I had will be yours to face too. I hope that before you opt for the easier way, which is conforming, before you say yes to that one small sip of alcohol, that one harmless stick of cigarette, you will remember that you are meant to do far better things. I pray that you will look at every new thing with discerning eyes, and see beyond those gooey-sweet smiles and handsome faces, and that when honey-coated words are whispered into your ears, you will remember — this letter.

Take care, *anak*! God bless you and the coming school year.

Love,  
Mommy

## FrISChe Gedanken

Musik versetzt dich in Ekstase.  
Sie raubt dir den Atem. Den Verstand.  
Man kann sich in ihr gehen lassen.  
Sich in ihr verlieren.  
Musik berührt dich.  
Musik versteht dich.  
Sie ist das Spiegelbild der Seele. Der

Gefühle.  
Das Echo deiner Gedanken.  
Musik bricht dir das Herz und  
vervollständigt dich im selben Moment.  
Musik ist Kunst. Musik ist Liebe.  
Musik ist Leben.  
*(Melanie Santiago)*

## I am searching in my heart...

The emptiness of my feelings,  
the loneliness of my heart,  
searching for your love...  
where can I  
find you? I  
travelled  
around the  
world —  
miles away from home —  
just to look for you but still I  
could not find you. Where  
should I go? The way to  
reach you is so narrow and  
yet so wide, I suffered much

pain — but still I could not  
stop, I must continue to  
search for you. How long

**"I need your embrace, your presence ..... and to know that I have a dwelling place in your heart"**

should I carry my cross?  
Please do not hide yourself  
from me. I need your  
embrace, your presence. The  
emptiness of my heart is like  
a cold wind, freezing and

hard, and it numbs me... for  
there is no love in my heart.  
Will you not touch me and  
give me a warm  
hug to express  
your love for me.  
Just a glimpse of  
your eyes is  
enough to assure me that you  
are always there and to know  
that I have a dwelling place in  
your heart.

*(Julie Albacea)*

## Moments

Moments come and go...but the  
love of God for His children  
remains forever, the seasons leave  
with the slightest change in the  
winds. Feelings go, as they are  
never remembered. Children smile  
as they see the faces of their loved  
ones. Parents smile with great joy  
as they behold the work of their  
hands being fulfilled. Mothers  
smile when they watch their  
babies grow. Relatives smile as  
they watch loved ones travel  
abroad, but others wail as they see  
them leave. Many celebrate the  
promotion of their relatives. All of  
this has a unifying force. It's from

the Creator, it's love, love that the  
human mind cannot explain.

The best part of loving is not  
wishing that the person loves you  
just as much, but the feeling that  
you love the person far more than  
you thought you could!

A smile doesn't cost anything but  
achieves a lot. It pleases those  
who receive it, and is harmless for  
those who give it. Though it is  
short-lived in the giving, its  
memory is for a long time.

Feeling grateful and not  
expressing it is like wrapping a  
present and not giving it.

In the final analysis there is no  
secret formula to a man's progress



but the day's honest work, the  
day's honest decisions, the day's  
generous utterances and the day's  
good deed.

Make yourself happy, smile at all  
times, for problems are just  
shadows to great things.

Hold unto God for your bait, no  
matter what.

*(Tintin Tan)*

# From our 2010 calendar

Day	Time	Service / Activity
Oct 10	11:00 h	Feast of Our Lady of Manaoag Mass and agape at MvBK
	11:00 h	<b>Jesus Time</b>
Oct 24	10:00 h	World Mission Sunday (ARGE) Mass at Stephansdom and agape NO 11 a.m. MASS AT MvBK!
Oct 31	10:30 h	Living Rosary and Community Mass
Nov 1	11:00 h	All Saints' Day, Mass at MvBK
Nov 2	19:00 h	All Souls' Day, Mass at MvBK
Nov 14	11:00 h	<b>Jesus Time</b>
Nov 20	Whole day	Advent recollection
Nov 21	10:00 h	Installation of P. Antonius, OSB Joint mass with Austrian community
Dec 8	11:00 h	Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Mass
Dec 12	11:00 h	<b>Jesus Time</b>
Dec 15-23	19:00 h	Simbang Gabi, Donaucity Church
	19:00 h	Simbang Gabi, MvBK
Dec 19	11:00 h	Paskuhan sa Parokya Community mass and agape
Dec 24	19:30 h	Christmas Eve Mass, MvBK
	21:00 h	Christmas Eve Mass, Donaucity Church
Dec 25	11:00 h	Christmas Day Mass at MvBK NO MASS AT DONAUCITY CHURCH!
Dec 26	11:00 h	Feast of the Holy Family, mass at MvBK
	19:00 h	Feast of the Holy Family mass at Donaucity Church

*The Filipino Catholic Chaplaincy heartily welcomes Mag. Karl Leo Philipky (Pater Antonius, OSB), who will be officially installed as the new Parish Priest of Pfarre Maria vom Berge Karmel. Bischofsvikar Msgr. Karl Rühringer will conduct the installation during a joint Mass that starts at 10 a.m. on Sunday, 21 November 2010. Everyone is invited to attend, to show our solidarity with the Austrian community and give support to our new Parish Priest.*



# YOU,

**your family, and your friends  
are cordially invited  
to join our Community services and  
activities!**

Please note that unless otherwise indicated, the venue for **all** our services and activities is:

**Maria vom Berge Karmel Church**  
Stefan Fadinger Platz 1, A-1100 Vienna.

The closest (bus) station is "Gussriegelstrasse" and can be reached by taking:

- Bus 65A from U1 "Reumannplatz", or
- Bus 15A from U4 "Meidling Hauptstrasse" or U3 "Enkplatz"

Or, take tram no. 1 to the end station "Stefan Fadinger Platz"

<b>Donaucity Church</b>	Donaucity-Strasse 2, A-1220 Vienna U1 "Kaisermühlen/VIC"
<b>Mariahilf Church</b>	Barnabitengasse 14, A-1060 Vienna U3 "Neubaugasse"
<b>St. Stephen's Cathedral</b>	Stephansplatz 1, A-1010 Vienna U1 and U3 "Stephansplatz"

Regular services	Sundays	10:30h — 11:15h	Confession
		11:00h	Community Mass
		17:00h	Community Mass, Donaucity Church
	Wednesdays	12:30h	Mass and Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Donaucity Church
		18:30h	Mass and Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Mariahilf Church
	Fridays	18:30h	<b>First Friday</b> , Mass and Novena to the Divine Mercy
		18:30h	<b>Last Friday</b> , Mass and Novena to Our Lady of Peñafrancia
	Saturdays	19:00h	Anticipated Mass, St. Stephen's Cathedral

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<b>Fr. Cyril B. Villareal</b> (Asst. Chaplain) <b>Fr. Bernie Alejo</b> (Asst. Chaplain)	<b>PHOTOGRAPHER:</b> Violet Gerstl, Lito Ramos
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