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PAULINIANS WATCH BALLET DIRECTED BY FELLOW PAULINIAN



Sisters, teachers, and students of St. Paul University Manila trooped to the Cultural Center of the Philippines to watch a ballet, *Romeo and Juliet*. One reason for their excitement was that the ballet was directed by Prima Ballerina, Maniya Barredo, their fellow Paulinian.

Maniya was known in school as Honey. She grew up here and even in those early days, her exceptional dancing talent did not escape notice. Photo at right shows her dancing as Louise in the play, *Carousel*, in the 1960s. Her sister, Vicky, is also a ballet dancer, and her aunt, Baby Barredo, is a



theatre luminary; both are likewise Paulinians.

Lea and Gerard Salonga are also her cousins.

PAULINIANS IN THE US MOBILIZING FOR CENTENNIAL

It is not just the Centennial Steering Committee and the St. Paul Manila Alumni Foundation, Inc. (SPMAFI) that is busy preparing for the centennial. Paulinians in the United States have started mobilizing US based alumnae for two pre-centennial gatherings, according to a communication from Corazon Reynoso-Maceda.

One is to be held in Los Angeles, California (to be more specific in Glendale) on 30 July 2011 in the home of Joe and Anna Sayas, and the other on 6 August 2011 in San Francisco, Atherton, in the home of Maria Concepcion Cariage-Banatao.

The group, spearheaded by Babes Cariaga and Theresa Cardozo, hopes to raise funds for a four year scholarship in SPU Manila and is arranging for discounts in air fares for alumnae who will attend the homecoming.

SHARING...SHARING...SHARING... **From the Christian Formation Program**

VACATION WITH THE LORD: A WONDERFUL GIFT FOR SPU MANILA TEACHERS

Submitted by Judith Alderete

Ignatian "Silent" Retreat and Directed Retreat

Preached retreat

To spend a vacation with the Lord "who loves me than I love myself" is a conviction which most likely everyone had when he/she said "YES" to the three-day retreat. The cold breeze, the beautiful flowers and trees, landscapes and mountain views, and most of all, the retreat facilitators helped us redirect our focus from work and other family and community related concerns and free our hearts, minds, and wills. To put oneself in the presence of God during and outside the formal times of prayer is a dynamic of the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises that our retreat facilitator proposed to us.

To be in total silence was quite difficult to follow. There was some resistance but indeed God works miraculously! It was a challenge for everybody to get rid of all inordinate attachments as St. Ignatius wants and to put order in our desires. "Non multa sed multum" – Not many but much!" The ordinariness of our response bore an extraordinary fruit--a profound experience of God's love and a deeper awareness of how we can respond to it. It was a joyous freedom which comes from dedication to God's greater glory.

All experienced God's overflowing love and the Holy Spirit's direction through the inner movements of consolation and desolation. For this, we thank Sr. Lilia Thérèse Tolentino, SPC and the SPU Manila Sisters.

Blessed be God who loves us so much! (by Ms. Lany Sulit)



Directed Retreat

This year's retreat of the Religious Education full time faculty was something that anyone could be grateful about, a "Directed Retreat." In this type of retreat, each one has an individual Retreat Director. Fr. Danny Gozar, SJ was assigned to Jonathan Tupaz, while Fr. Sim Sumpayco, SJ to Evelyn and Luzinia Gaela. Both priests are residents of the Sacred Heart Novitiate in Novaliches, Quezon City, venue of the retreat. The exercises given to each retreatant were inspired by the "Ignatian Spiritual Exercises."

The retreat started on 1 June and ended on the 4th. Every day was like a new day and a promising one. The guide points given for prayer were taken from our own context, meaning the state we were coming from. It is entirely different from a preached retreat. Indeed, openness to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and cooperation with God's grace were necessary to be able to have a good encounter with Him. Also, during the individual conference, the Retreat Director would listen to the retreatant's prayer-experience. After the sharing, he would then suggest some scriptural texts for reflection. We were told not to analyze the scriptural texts so much but meditate and contemplate, meaning just dwell on the word, and the feelings that go along with the word that will touch the heart. The Ignatian method of prayer was such an effective tool for the deepening of relationship with God. Thus, inspired by it, 'prayer periods' have become part of our everyday schedule now.

And for this wonderful gift, we sincerely thank Sr. Lilia Thérèse Tolentino, SPC and her council, and Sr. Josephine Ramada, SPC. God bless us all!

Congratulations to all SPU Manila Management and Faculty whose generosity of time and magnanimity of heart responded to God's invitation!

From the Quality Assurance Office

On Education in Today's Flat World

Mrs. Marichen Dychangco of the Quality Assurance Office and Dr. Gerardo Guiuan of the Institutional Research and Planning Office attended a seminar on "Education in Today's Flat World," which was held in EDSA Shangrila Hotel on 8 July 2011.

Objectives of the seminar were:

1. To discuss the impact of the flat world to academic institutions.
2. To discover the knowledge, skills, perspectives, and dispositions that the Filipino youth must have in preparation for the real world.
3. To identify the roles of Filipino educators in preparing the students for a flat world.

Seminar proceedings were:

1. Keynote message, based on the book of Thomas Friedman entitled *The Flat World*
2. Break-out sessions:
 - Ready for the world
 - Why Asian education stands out

Learning:

1. The characteristics/realities of the 21st century
 - The emergence of international languages
 - Rise of the right brain
 - Authentic learning situation
 - Collaboration across networks
 - Technology
 - Flat world
2. What makes a "flat world"?
 - Rise of social network
 - Death of distance
 - Exchanges
 - Competition
 - Knowledge-based
 - Global
 - Innovation driven
 - Intersections
3. Skills needed to stay competitive in a flat world:
 - Teach our children to learn how to learn.
 - Measure yourself against the very best.
 - Read.
 - Connect, compete, and collaborate.
4. Five essential ingredients in doing business in a flat world
 - Identity (Questions to ask: "Who am I?"; "What am I good at?"; and "Why am I here?")
 - Investment and savings
 - Improvement
 - Innovation
 - Inspiration

From the Alumni Relations Office

Alumna Honored in Australia

Wilhelmina Lara-Armstrong, High School 1954, brought honor to her school and to her country when she was recognized by the people of Bairnsdale, Victoria, Australia for having raised nearly a million dollars to open an oncology and dialysis ward in a hospital there.

**Mina receiving the thanks
of the community...**



Mina, widow of Jack Armstrong, took over his development business when he passed away. Seeing the dismal state of the oncology and dialysis ward of the hospital, she spearheaded the project to build a good one. She donated a block of land, motivated the people of the community to donate money, materials, and labor to build a house, the Toonlook Waters House, which was sold for about \$375, 000.00. She organized fun runs, markets, balls, and other initiatives to come up with the million needed for the project.

Mina said that at the opening of the oncology and dialysis ward that donating the land was her way of saying thank you to the country, which she now calls home after emigrating from the Philippines. She also said thank you to St. Paul Manila by becoming a major sponsor for the Centennial Homecoming in January 2012.

Alumni Gatherings

**High School 1962 mini-reunion
in New York ...**



**High School 1962
Lunch for Carmelita Abarillo-Sevilla
(1ST from left)**



**High School 1965
Lunch for Lena Bernabe
(standing 1ST from left)**



ON THE CBCP-PCSO CONTROVERSY

So much has been said and written about the controversy between the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) and the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO). We are reprinting this pastoral letter for the guidance of the school community:

a time of pain, a time of grace

(A Pastoral Statement)

Our Dear People of God,

Our Mother Church has been deeply wounded by the controversies in the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office that have erupted in the past two weeks. Some members of the Church believe in the innocence of the bishops involved in the issue, while others do not. There is no doubt that everywhere in the Church there is great sorrow. We your pastors are one with you. As shepherds struggling to love you like Jesus the Good Shepherd, we are sorry for the pain and sadness that these events have brought upon you.

We are saddened that many of you, especially the youth, the poor, our Basic Ecclesial Communities, have been confused because of the apparent inconsistency of our actions with our pastoral preaching.

As we express our sadness, we also ask you to be slow in judgment and to conscientiously seek the whole truth behind the controversy. Let us seek the truth always in charity.

We assure you that the bishops concerned are ready to accept responsibility for their action and to face the consequences if it would be proven unlawful, anomalous, and unconstitutional. We assure you that their action was done without malice. Out of their sincere desire to help their people, they failed to consider the pitfalls to which these grants could possibly lead them. They have also expressed their readiness to do everything that is necessary to heal this wound so that we can all move forward in hope.

We also assure you, our beloved people, that we shall re-examine the manner of our collaboration with government agencies for purposes of helping the poor, making sure that pastoral sensibilities are respected and the highest ethical standards are observed. We shall examine our values in the light of our vocation to be disciples of Jesus Christ. We commit ourselves to the long journey of personal and social transformation required of all disciples of the Lord. We plead with you to walk with us in this path of constant renewal.

We express again our deep sorrow for the pain that the recent events have brought to you our beloved people. The good Lord knows our love for you. The words of the psalmist come to our mind: "My sacrifice, a contrite spirit. A humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn" (Ps.51). As the same Psalmist addresses the Lord, we take his words as our own to encourage and challenge us: "Indeed you love truth in the heart; then in the secret of my heart teach me wisdom."

For the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines, +NEREO P. ODCHIMAR, D.D.
President, Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines