



# TAMBULI

Monthly Newsletter of the Filipino Chaplaincy- Archdiocese of Wellington

## REFLECTION ON THE FEAST OF ASCENSION OF THE LORD (May 8)

Luke 24:46-53

**46** Jesus said to the Eleven: "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, **47** and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. **48** You are witnesses of these things. **49** And behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city, until you are clothed with power from on high." **50** Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. **51** While he blessed them, he parted from them, and was carried up into heaven. **52** And they returned to Jerusalem with great joy, **53** and were continually in the temple blessing God.

**Meditation:** Why did Jesus leave his disciples forty days after his resurrection? Forty is a significant number in the Scriptures. Moses went to the mountain to seek the face of God for forty days in prayer and fasting. The people of Israel were in the wilderness for forty years in preparation for their entry into the promised land. Elijah fasted for forty days as he journeyed in the wilderness to the mountain of God. For forty days after his resurrection Jesus appeared numerous times to his disciples to assure them that he had risen indeed and to prepare them for the task of carrying on the work which he began during his earthy ministry.

### **The Risen Lord is with us always to the end of time**

Jesus' departure and ascension into heaven was both an end and a beginning for his disciples. While it was the end of Jesus' physical presence with his beloved disciples, it marked the beginning of Jesus' presence with them in a new way. Jesus promised that he would be with them always to the end of time (Matthew 28:20). Now as the glorified and risen Lord and Savior, ascended to the right hand of the Father in heaven, Jesus promised to send them the Holy Spirit who would anoint them with power from on high on the Feast of Pentecost, just as Jesus was anointed for his ministry at the River Jordan (Luke 3:21-22, 4:1,18). When the Lord Jesus departed physically from the apostles, they were not left in sorrow or grief. Instead, they were filled with joy and with great anticipation for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

### **The Risen Lord empowers us to carry on his work**

Why did the Risen Lord ascend into heaven? The Father raised the glorified body of his Son and enthroned him in glory at his right hand in heaven. The Lord Jesus in his glorified body now reigns as Lord over the heavens and the earth - over all that he has created. The Risen Lord reigns from the throne in heaven as our Merciful Redeemer and Gracious King. He intercedes for us and he empowers us through the outpouring of his Holy Spirit. The Lord Jesus gives us new life in his Spirit and he strengthens us in faith, hope and love so we can serve him and carry on his work as citizens of his kingdom here on earth.

### **You will be my witnesses to the ends of the earth**

Jesus' last words to his disciples point to the key mission and task he has entrusted to his followers on earth - to be his witnesses and ambassadors to the ends of the earth so that all peoples, tribes, and nations may hear the good news that Jesus Christ has come to set us free from sin,

Satan, and death and has won for us a kingdom of peace, joy, and righteousness that will last forever.

How can we be effective witnesses for Christ? Jesus told his disciples, "You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you - and you shall be my witnesses... to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8). Jesus gives his followers the same power he received when the Holy Spirit came upon him and anointed him at the beginning of his mission (John 1:32-33). The Gospel is the power of God, the power to release people from their burden of sin, guilt, and oppression, and the power to heal, restore, and make us whole. Do you believe in the power of the Gospel to change and transform your life?

### **We are ambassadors for Jesus Christ**

Paul the Apostle reminds us that we are called to be ambassadors for Jesus Christ. Just as ambassadors are appointed to represent their country and to speak on behalf



of their nation's ruler, we, too are appointed by the Lord Jesus to speak on his behalf and to bring others into a close and personal encounter with the Lord and Ruler of heaven and earth. This is the great commission which the risen Christ gives to the whole church. All believers have been given a share in this task - to be heralds of the good news and

ambassadors for Jesus Christ, the only savior of the world. We have not been left alone in this task, for the risen Lord works in and through us by the power of his Holy Spirit. Today we witness a new Pentecost as the Lord pours out his Holy Spirit upon his people to renew and strengthen the body of Christ and to equip it for effective ministry and mission world-wide. Do you witness to others the joy of the Gospel and the hope of the resurrection?

"Lord Jesus, through the gift of your Holy Spirit, you fill us with an indomitable spirit of praise and joy which no earthly trial can subdue. Fill me with your resurrection joy and help me to live a life of praise and thanksgiving for your glory. May I witness to those around me the joy of the Gospel and the reality of your great victory over sin and death. Amen." [source. www.dailyscripture.net](http://www.dailyscripture.net)

## POPE FRANCIS'S AMORIS LAETITIA

*“I thank God that many families, which are far from considering themselves perfect, live in love, fulfil their calling and keep moving forward, even if they fall many times along the way.”*

*Pope Francis, Amoris Laetitia*

On 19 March 2016, The Vatican published pope Francis's Apostolic Exhortation on family “Amoris Laetitia” or the The Joy of Love. This document was put together after three years of consultation among Catholics all over the world.

Vatican Radio, ([http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2016/04/08/pope\\_francis\\_apostolic\\_exhortation\\_on\\_the\\_joy\\_of\\_love/1221178](http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2016/04/08/pope_francis_apostolic_exhortation_on_the_joy_of_love/1221178)), states that the document “affirms the Church's teaching that stable families are the building blocks of a healthy society and a place where children learn to love, respect and interact with others.” It also indicates that the exhortation “warns against idealizing the many challenges facing family life, urging Catholics to care for, rather than condemning, all those whose lives do not reflect the teaching of the Church.”

Cardinal John Dew in his latest newsletter said, “The Joy of Love” (Amoris Laetitia) is a pastoral document far beyond our expectations. It is clear that it draws on church teachings from the Scriptures, the Magisterium and on the texts from previous popes. It is a Pope Francis document. He teaches, he is compassionate and understanding. It is easy to read and he wants us all to read and study it. He further said, “Pope Francis stresses very concretely, to the couples and families who faithfully live their mission, the value of true married love, openness to life and the education of children, as a source of wholehearted joy in the family environment and in the context of society.”

For a summary of the exhortation, you may check the link above. A full copy can be found at the Vatican website, ([http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost\\_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco\\_esortazione-ap\\_20160319\\_amoris-laetitia.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20160319_amoris-laetitia.html)).

Cardinal John encourages everyone to study and reflect on the exhortation with the same spirit of joy and love with which it was written: with an open mind, fidelity to the truth and a sincerely compassionate attitude, as shown by Pope Francis.

## FCPC FORMATION Q & A CORNER

by Joel Macaranas

### *Mother Day Special – Is Mary the Mother of God?*

#### **Do we Catholics worship Mary?**

It is not true. Mary is honoured & not worshiped. God alone is to be worshiped and adored (Exodus 20:2). When someone kneels before a statue of the Blessed Virgin, it is as a child to give honour to the woman chosen to be the mother of God and our mother, too.



#### **What does “Mary the Mother of God” mean?**

This dogma contains 2 important affirmations:

- 1) Mary is truly a mother. Since Jesus had no human father, Mary contributed all genetic material to the formation of His human nature. As Pope John Paul II states in his encyclical *Redemptoris Mater*, “[Jesus] is the flesh and blood of Mary!” (CCC 485)
- 2) Mary conceived and bore the Second Person of the Trinity – Jesus. (Matthew 1:18-25)

#### **3) What are the three general objections from our brothers in faith journey to this great dogma of our Catholic faith?**

*Objection 1: Where can we find “Mary, the mother of God in the bible?”*

There are multiple essential Christian doctrines not found in the Bible such as “Trinity”, “Incarnation” and “Bible”. Just because a particular word is not found in the Bible, does not mean that we should not use that word or that the theology implied by that word is somehow unbiblical.

*Objection 2: Luke 1:43 “mother of my Lord” not “Mother of God”*

The phrase “my Lord” clearly refers to God – it does not simply mean that Jesus is just an important or a nobleman! The One whom she conceived as man by the Holy Spirit, who truly became her Son according to the flesh, was none other than the Father's eternal Son, the second Person of the Holy Trinity. Anyone who denies the fact that Mary is the mother of God is really denying Jesus' divinity, based on this passage.

*Objection 3: “God is a Trinity. If Mary is the Mother of God, she is the mother of the Trinity. Therefore, the Trinity is no longer a Trinity—it would be a Quadrinity!”*

Mary is the Mother of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity because neither the Father nor the Holy Spirit is incarnate (CCC 495). Mothers give birth to persons not natures. Mary did not provide Jesus with either His divine nature or His immortal human soul, she is still His Mother because she did not give birth to a body, a soul, a nature, or even two natures—she gave birth to a Person. And that one Person is God.

***Happy Mother's Day, Mother Mary!***

**THE FILIPINO CHAPLAINCY****Vision**

A vibrant and living Catholic community witnessing and celebrating our faith mindful of our Filipino spiritual values and traditions with a distinct Marian character while fully and responsibly participating in and enriching our respective parishes.

Are you new in Wellington? Do you need a hand in settling in? Contact our Outreach Ministry (c/o Heni Catalan) and we might be able to give you a hand. The chaplaincy is here to help.

**FILIPINO CHAPLAINCY'S CONTACT DETAILS**

We have a new mailing address and a centralised contact number for the chaplaincy. If you have any suggestions or questions please send your queries to: *The Filipino Chaplaincy - Archdiocese of Wellington*  
PO BOX 30077 Lower Hutt 5040

Mobile: +64226473090 (c/o Heni Catalan)

Email: [fcpc.welly@gmail.com](mailto:fcpc.welly@gmail.com)

Visit [www.filipinochaplaincy-wellington.org.nz](http://www.filipinochaplaincy-wellington.org.nz).

**COMMUNITY NOTICES****Schedule of Community Masses**

DATE	VENUE	SPONSOR	CHOIR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER	ALTAR SERVERS	CHILDREN'S LITURGY
15 May 12:30 pm	Sacred Heart Cathedral Wellington	St Bernadette	TBC	Jun Diputado, Imelda Borlas, Arsenio Borlas, Jane Arimas, Bim Zapanta	Miguel Gierran JL Ibarra Sam Catalan	Wilma Angell Mary Ann Abrero
05 June 12 pm	Sts. Peter and Paul, Lower Hutt	St Michael FCPC Children's Liturgy	Youth for Christ	Myrna Umali, Belen Salandana, Alex Estuita, Arnie Martinez, Anna Orallo, Zeny Vogt	James Encarnado, Karl Gratela, Alyana Gierran	Juanita Leynes Mary Ann Abrero
05 June 5 pm	Our Lady of Fatima	Brgy Sta Maria Assumpta	BSMA Choir	Candy Young, Adelle Sheppard, Susan Morgan	AJ Salamat	N/A

**COUNCIL'S CORNER****Tax Receipts for Planned Giving and Seminarian Appeal**

Tax receipts are available for the planned giving and seminarian appeal for financial year ending 31 March 2016. These will be available after masses this May. Please pick your receipts for rebate purposes. If you can't personally pick up your receipts, we can send them to you. Please email [fcpc.welly@gmail.com](mailto:fcpc.welly@gmail.com) for your request. Please indicate TAX RECEIPTS on the subject.

**Formation Ministry Programme for the Year**

The Formation Ministry, through its lead servant Joel Macaranas, is available to provide formation programme (eg. Servanthood, Discipleship, Mariology, etc) to the different communities/barangays. Please contact him through the chaplaincy's email if you want to book a formation programme for your barangay.

**Bible Propagation Programme**

For \$20 you can avail of a bible and a bible kit through the chaplaincy. We hope that each household will have at least one bible that the family can share together. If you want to buy one, Please see Joel Macaranas after every Filipino mass or email [fcpc.welly@gmail.com](mailto:fcpc.welly@gmail.com) for more information or for reservations.



*God could not be everywhere, so He created mothers. - Jewish Proverb*

*Happy Mothers' Day and God Bless*

*to all Nanay, Inay, Inang, Mama, Mommy, and to everyone who serve as a mother figure in their own special capacity!*

# FINANCIAL MATTERS

In light of transparency and accountability on finance matters of the Filipino Chaplaincy Pastoral Council- Wellington Archdiocese, we are publishing the Statement of Operating Income and Expense and Statement of Financial Performance from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016, together with the Income Statement for April 2016. We would like to thank our finance administrators, Archiel Ampong and Grace Almario for ensuring that the finances of the chaplaincy are properly managed accounted for.

If you have any queries, please email [fcpc.welly@gmail.com](mailto:fcpc.welly@gmail.com).

Thanks for all your support to the chaplaincy.

Filipino Chaplaincy Pastoral Council- Wellington Archdiocese Statement of Financial Performance As at March 31, 2016	
<b>Current Assets:</b>	
Cash in Bank	
Westpac Operating Account	\$ 5,371.31
Westpac Call Account	\$ 4,727.07
Inventory	
Bible @ 160pcs. @ \$20	\$ 3,200.00
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>	
Short Term Investment ( Balance as of March 31, 2016)	\$ 56,867.96
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 70,166.34</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	\$ -
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>	\$ -
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	\$ -
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$ 70,166.34</b>
<b>Total Assets less Total Liabilities = Total Equity</b>	

A		B	
Filipino Chaplaincy Pastoral Council-WA Income Statement For the period April 1- 27, 2016			
<b>INCOME</b>			
1st Sunday - Sts. Peter & Paul		\$	345.00
3rd Sunday - Sacred Heart Cathedral		\$	182.00
Direct Credit Donation		\$	200.00
Sale of Bible		\$	160.00
<b>Total Income - April 1- 27, 2016</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>887.00</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>			
Donations- Church Use			
1st Sunday - Sts. Peter & Paul		\$	100.00
3rd Sunday - Sacred Heart Cathedral		\$	100.00
Stipends Filipino Masses		\$	200.00
Storage -All Secure		\$	85.00
Tambuli Newsletter Printing		\$	115.01
Planned Giving Envelope Printing		\$	76.00
Formation Ministry Mission Expense		\$	112.20
Donation to Kapiti Church		\$	200.00
<b>Total Expense- April 1- 27, 2016</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>988.21</b>
<b>Net Loss - April 1- 27, 2016</b>		<b>-\$</b>	<b>101.21</b>
*FCPC-WA is using the TIER 4 Financial Reporting*			

Filipino Chaplaincy Pastoral Council- Wellington Archdiocese Statement of Operating Income and Expense For the period April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016		
Cash Balance Beginning April 1, 2015 - Checking Account		\$ 2,622.08
Transferred Funds From Savings Account	\$ 1,562.57	
<b>Add:</b>		
<b>Income: Mass Collection</b>		
1st Sunday Mass - Sts Peter and Paul	\$ 6,104.40	
3rd Sunday Mass - Sacred Heart Cathedral	\$ 2,559.30	
Palm Sunday Mass	\$ 624.10	
Living Rosary - Sacred Heart Petone	\$ 141.50	
Simbang Gabi (8 days)- Sacred Heart Petone	\$ 2,545.50	
Christmas Eve- Sacred Heart Cathedral	\$ 1,469.60	
New Year's Eve - 31/12/2015 Sts Peter and Paul	\$ 1,430.80	
Direct Credit Donation	\$ 5,715.00	
Other Income ( including freight reversal for Bible propagation)	\$ 3,698.24	
Donation from other Charities	\$ 329.00	
Bible Sales	\$ 880.00	
Seminarian Funds Appeal	\$ 2,273.60	
Interest Income - Westpac Call Account	\$ 0.57	
<b>TOTAL INCOME FROM April 1, 2015 - March 31, 2016</b>		<b>\$ 28,334.18</b>
<b>LESS:</b>		
<b>Worship/Liturgy Ministry Mission Expense</b>		
Church Donation- Sts Peter and Paul	\$ 1,200.00	
Church Donation- Sacred Heart Cathedral	\$ 1,100.00	
Church Donation- Sacred Heart Petone (Simbang Gabi)	\$ 800.00	
Church Donation- Sts Peter and Paul ( New Year's Eve)	\$ 100.00	
Church Donation- Sacred Heart Cathedral (Christmas Eve)	\$ 100.00	
Other masses - (Holy Week/Marian Statue Donation/Good Friday)	\$ 100.00	
Stipends- (1st & 3rd Sunday Mass, Simbang Gabi, New Year's Eve, Christmas Eve etc)	\$ 3,004.98	
Capital Purchase Assets - Laptop	\$ 1,562.57	
Other Liturgy Expenses	\$ 36.36	
<b>Outreach/Service Ministry Mission Expense</b>		
Immaculate Conception Fellowship	\$ 1,230.92	
Donation to Charities	\$ 4,783.60	
Donation to Maribojoc, Bohol Philippines -San Isidro Labrador Parish rebuild	\$ 2,940.50	
FCPC-WA Food Expense- 9th Simbang Gabi Sponsor	\$ 255.82	
<b>Education /Formation Ministry Mission Expense</b>		
Cost to import the Bible	\$ 3,500.64	
Bible Freight	\$ 1,272.72	
New Servants workshop expense	\$ 649.10	
Other Formation Expense	\$ 523.72	
P.O Box Rental Fee	\$ 175.00	
Petrol Voucher	\$ 218.00	
Printing Fee - (Tambuli Newsletter, Seminarian Envelope and Charities Filing fee)	\$ 1,727.07	
Easter Expense	\$ 189.49	
Rental Fee- Storage	\$ 940.00	
Mobile Plan for Fr. Danny Cipriano @ \$39/month	\$ 351.00	
Website Annual Fee- FCPC-WA	\$ 22.94	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE FROM April 1, 2015 TO March 31, 2016</b>		<b>\$ 26,784.43</b>
<b>Cash Balance Ending March 31, 2016</b>		<b>\$ 5,371.83</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>		
Archiel Ampong		

## On Planned Giving and Donations

“The Finance Committee sincerely thank you for your generous financial contribution. It is through your unstinting support that the activities of the Filipino Chaplaincy Pastoral Council of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington (FCPC-WA) is made possible. The Filipino Chaplaincy is registered with Charities Commission (Registration No CC48928) and as such, you are entitled to a tax rebate of 1/3 on all your contributions to the Filipino Chaplaincy during the financial year. A receipt will be issued by the Chaplaincy, accordingly, for this purpose.”

Planned Contribution to the Filipino Chaplaincy is encouraged and may be made through regular contribution during the mass (using envelopes with pre-allocated number) or through automatic electronic bank transfer payments. Please feel free to email Finance Committee at [fcpc.welly@gmail.com](mailto:fcpc.welly@gmail.com) or contact our Finance Administrators:  
Archiel Ampong – (04) 5671864;  
[archiel\\_07@yahoo.com](mailto:archiel_07@yahoo.com)  
Grace Almario – (04)2321516;  
[sg\\_almario@xtra.co.nz](mailto:sg_almario@xtra.co.nz)

in order to be issued envelopes with pre-allocated number or to arrange bank transfer auto-payment or visit [www.filipinochaplaincy-wellington.org.nz](http://www.filipinochaplaincy-wellington.org.nz), “Planned Giving” Tab. You may also transfer your donations directly to our new Westpac Bank Account: Filipino Chaplaincy - Wellington Account No: 03 0543 0334365 00 You may also write to: The Finance Committee, Filipino Chaplaincy, P.O. Box 30077 should you wish further information or contact us at + 6 4 2 2 6 4 7 3 0 9 0 . All information provided will be held in strictest confidence. Maraming salamat po.

May you be ever refreshed and enriched by God's manifold grace!