



## *You'll Never Walk Alone*

TODAY, we conclude  
our amazing series,  
*The Good Life:  
Our Journey Through  
The Sermon On The Mount.*



Our Talk is a combination of Talks 9 and 10, with our Big Message: *BUILD ON THE SAVIOR.*

We'll talk about Wisdom and about Storms in Life – because they're inseparable. Most important, we'll learn that the wisdom we need is JESUS Himself. He is the reason we can withstand the many storms in life that we are facing.

We just survived a super typhoon, as we pray for those who were heavily affected and are still recovering, and while we brace ourselves for an upcoming one.

We just went through a massive rally against corruption– actually, rallies that happened not only in Metro Manila but in many parts of the country.

I know because I joined one in Iloilo. I was there for a scheduled Feast event.

Then there are the storms that happen in our homes, in our workplaces, even in our spiritual communities.

We'll also reflect that the storms may have started with us-- and in us.

Yet, we can go through all of them. Jesus tells us about two builders: "... *a wise man who built his house on rock; a foolish man who built his house on sand.* (Matthew 7:24-27)

You know the story. The rains came down and the floods went up. (How timely, isn't it?) And the wise man's house stood firm while the foolish man's house went crashing.

We learned this as a song when we were kids, remember?

Now, we're seeing it happening in reality, not only because of natural causes but also because of man's greed.

Again, the big message: *Build On The Savior* – The Rock, The Wisdom, The One True Companion we all need so that going through the storms, *You'll Never Walk Alone.*

Let's have another great joint Feasts today!

*Mayroong Magandang Mangyayari Sa 'Yo!*

**Alvin Barcelona**

## *Thumbs Up for the Cross ...and Umbrellas*

“THE Cross was a symbol of failure. Christ failed in the eyes of the Romans and the Jews...The good news, however, is that from the Cross, Christ triumphed.”

Thus Rev. Fr. Mark Demanuele pointed out in his Homily during Mass on Sunday, September 14, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, *page 3*.



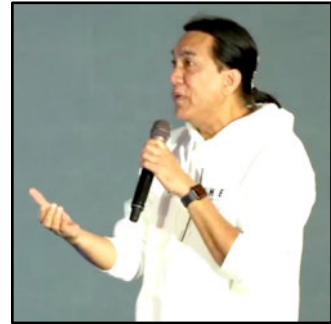
Victory was the cry in the rallies on September 21, 2025 -- victory over corruption, particularly revealed in some flood control projects that explain why people are soaking in anger this super storm season.

Rev. Fr. Bob McConaghy said victory is possible if we go back to its source, our Lord Jesus, and ask His forgiveness in Confession, *page 10*.

Yes, Bro. Alvin Barcelona pointed out, the way to be victorious is to *Build On The Savior*-- the theme of *The Good Life Feast Talk* today, *page 1*.



Understandably, those who worry the most are those who have the most wealth to lose in the storms. So, the Talk last September 14, Talk 8, was timely as it centered on the topic *Wealth and Worry*. Bro. Audee Villaraza shares the *Flashback* starting on *page 12*.



Indeed, even as the rains unceasingly pour on us, we are able to manage *The Feast* and our *The Feast Family* magazine because we do have our own protective umbrella-- our Lord Jesus.

So that we will not miss Talk 9, He has guided us to combine Talks 9 and 10 for today.

Those who also bravely weather life's storms are patients of the Jesus Christ Cares for Cancer. Aside from His Healing Grace, God has also given them another protective *payong*-- generous donors such as the Remilly's

Yema Cake led by owner Rem Co, here with Sis. Maritess Cordero, JCCFC board secretary. Be inspired by their story in our *Mercy Ministries* section, *page 25*.

What's your Cross and your umbrella? Share!



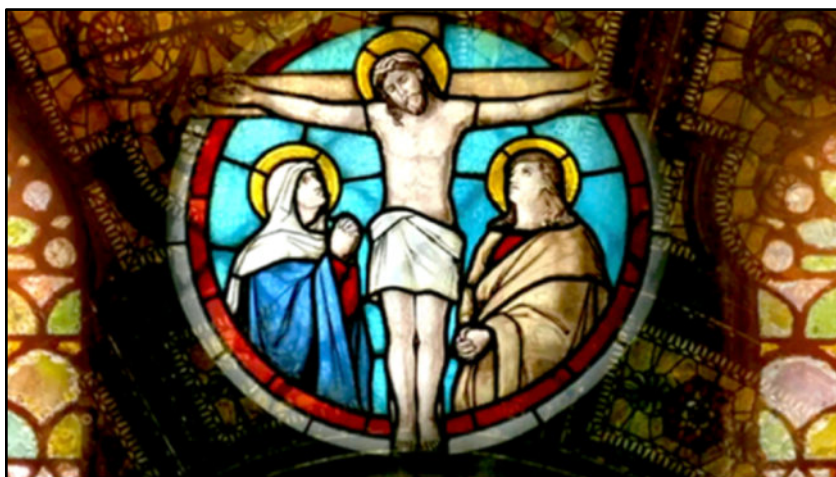
All for God's Glory,

**Randy Borromeo**  
Media Ministry  
Executive Director





## Holy Mass



FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

## Homily

**REV. FR. MARK DEMANUELE**

on the Gospel John 3:13-17

Excerpts:

GOOD MORNING, my dear Brothers and Sisters!

Do you remember the first exam where you failed? Maybe you studied-- or did not study enough-- but you couldn't remember the right answer.

I remember when I first failed an exam. I was worried about how I would tell my Mama. I felt ashamed.

I'm sure you will also feel ashamed to tell your siblings or your children that you failed. You will feel disappointed. You will feel sad.

You can, however, also use that failure to change for something good.

I remember when I took the GCE (General Certificate of Education). I failed in Math. I'm not good at Math. But that failure taught me to study more, and it led me to a turning point in my life. I took the exam again and I passed.

Sometimes, it is from failure that we learn and triumph.

The FEAST FAMILY September 28, 2025 **3**



## The Feast of the Triumph of Failure

I call The Feast of today as The Feast of the Triumph of Failure. Why?

The Jews wanted to crucify Jesus. For the Romans, Christ was a failure. For the Romans, it was a triumph. Every crucifixion they imposed was a sign of their power. It was a symbol of torture.

The Cross was a symbol of failure. Christ failed in the eyes of the Romans and the Jews.

The good news, however, is that from the Cross, Christ triumphed. The Cross of Christ became a sign of victory -- victory of love over hatred, victory of life over death, and victory of the goodness of God over the evil of the Devil.

Christ used that moment to show God's love to the world.

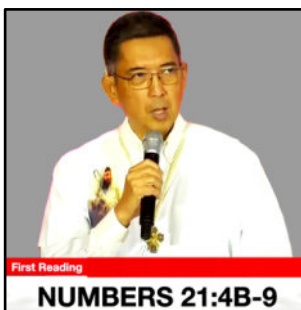
Listen again to the words we have just said. These are the words that many of us know: "God so loved the world that He gave his only Son."

His love was shown throughout His three years of spreading the Good News-- but especially when He was nailed to the Cross. He manifested how God loves us personally and unconditionally.

The Cross was not the end. It was not the full stop. It was a comma, because from the Cross, He was exalted, even resurrected.

That Cross became a sign of victory and of God's love for you and for me. So, each time you feel the cross that you have is too heavy, remember how much God's love is unconditional and personal for you in a wonderful way.

The cross that was supposed to be a failure became a Glorious Cross.



### First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

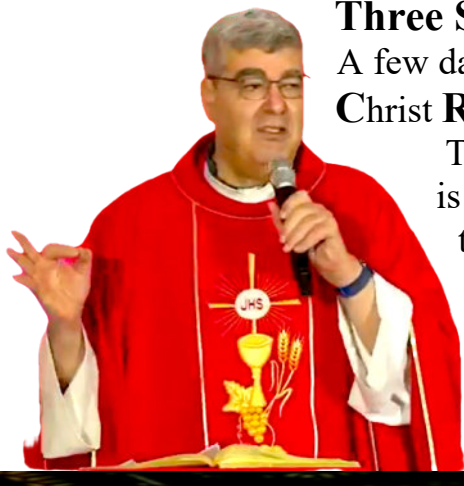
*With their patience worn out by the journey, 5 the people complained against God and Moses, "Why have you brought us up from Egypt to die in this desert, where there is no food or water? We are disgusted with this wretched food!"*

*6 In punishment the Lord sent among the people saraph serpents, which bit the people so that many of them died.*

*7 Then the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned in complaining against the Lord and you. Pray the Lord to take the serpents from us."*

*So Moses prayed for the people,*

*8 and the Lord said to Moses, "Make a saraph and mount it on a pole, and if any who has been bitten looks at it, he will live." 9 Moses accordingly made a bronze serpent and mounted it on a pole, and whenever anyone who had been bitten by a serpent looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.*



## Three Symbols of the Cross

A few days ago, I found an acronym of the CROSS:

**Christ Rescues Our Sinful Souls.**

The Cross is a sign of rescue. It's a sign of how much God is there for despite our sinful souls. It's important to note that when Jesus said, "When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself..." what Jesus meant was He was drawing us to Him with our own struggles, failures, and sins-- so that we are saved.

Practically, He's saying: "I am nailing your sin and your failure to my Cross, so you are saved."

So, in your moments of struggle, and in moments when you feel like a failure, I ask you to look at the Cross of Jesus. Be aware that *that* Cross is a symbol of a glorious victory-- not of torture.

Here are three brief but very important points to remember:

**1. New Beginning.** Your failures don't have an end. Jesus is transforming them to a new beginning. Yes, we make mistakes and we are sinners, but the Cross reminds us that we are asked to start again.

**2. Redemption.** Whenever you carry your cross with love, you are carrying God's triumph.

Christ told us: "Put on your cross and follow Me."

Through moments of patience, forgiveness, and sacrifice, you are sharing God's triumph. You are not sharing God's burden. You are not sharing God's failure. You are sharing Christ in His triumph.

On that Cross, Jesus loved, forgave, and told us: "You are redeemed."

**3. Victory.** When you trace the Sign of the Cross, you are not tracing a failure, but you are tracing a victory over your sin and struggle.

You are telling Christ: "Lord, bless me. Even if I am a sinner, You died for me. You won my redemption."



## Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

*6 Brothers and sisters: Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. 7 Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, 8 he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. 9 Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him*

*the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

## The Sign of God's Love

The Sign of the Cross is a sign of how much God loves us.

I know we all come here with our burdens. We are all carrying crosses. It could be a struggle in the family. It could be a bad relationship. It could be a failure in exams. It could be anything. But your sacrifice is not wasted. Carrying your cross is not a waste because every cross becomes a new life.

Remember these three symbols of the Cross to keep peace in your life. Whenever you feel burdened, remember you are dying like a seed in the earth. From there, a new life is going to sprout. That burden you're carrying and that sacrifice that you're offering at that moment in Christ becomes a new beginning.

I want you to do me a favor. I am going to ask you to turn to the person next to you, and we're going to do what we did in the Baptism. We traced the Sign of the Cross on the forehead of our babies, welcoming them-- which is a sign of victory.

I ask you to do it: Place the Sign of the Cross on the forehead of the person next to you.

Then tell that person: "This is Christ's victory for you."

Amen.



## Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 78:1-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38

**R: Do not forget the works of the Lord.**

*1 Hearken, my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.*

*2 I will open my mouth in a parable, I will utter mysteries from of old. (R)*

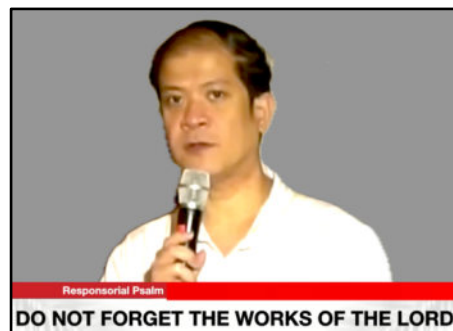
*34 While he slew them, they sought him and inquired after God again,*

*35 remembering that God was their rock and the Most High God, their redeemer. (R)*

*36 But they flattered him with their mouths and lied to him with their tongues,*

*37 though their hearts were not steadfast toward him, nor were they faithful to his covenant. (R)*

*38 Yet he, being merciful, forgave their sin and destroyed them not; often he turned back his anger and let none of his wrath be roused. (R)*



# Worship!

## SIS. AIAH BATAN:

So now, I invite Everyone to open up your heart.  
Because today, we will worship a God who is faithful,  
a God who is trustworthy, a God who is loving,  
and a God who won't stop welcoming us with open arms...



## SIS. TL SAN JUAN:

What a powerful reminder that is: That the God  
who did miracles before is not stopping today.

Hebrews 10:23 tells us: Let us hold unswervingly  
to the hope we profess. For He who promised is faithful.

So, even if we don't know the *how* or the *when*,  
we can trust the *Who*.

And that *Who* is Jesus--unchanging., unfailing, and true.

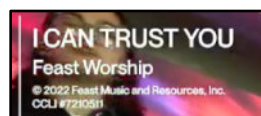
Thus, for every concern over our family, over our  
future, over every answer to prayers that we've been  
waiting for, He is our certainty.

So, I encourage you to come, as one Community, before His steadfast love  
and make this song as a bold declaration of our faith today...

Every battle, every unknown, every prayer that's in our heart, we can  
lean on the One who has never failed us. Let's always sing this together...



I CAN TRUST YOU  
THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN'T DO





## Our Rally

### **BRO. AUDEE VILLARAZA:**

Good Morning, Everybody.

Welcome to our rally☺ But this is not the kind of rally that you're probably used to.

This is what we call a spiritual rally, and in this rally, we don't come here to protest against men. We come here to proclaim the goodness of God. We don't raise our voice in hate-- but we raise our voice in love and mercy and forgiveness.

Because we believe that when we rally around Jesus who, by the way, is our True King, we believe that real change happens in our heart, in our families, and obviously in our nation.

So, today, I want to invite you to sing that song one more time to declare that Jesus is the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, and the Prince of Peace.

Let's rally around the Powerful Name of Jesus and declare that He is in control, He is in command, and He is King!

Come on and sing that out one more time...

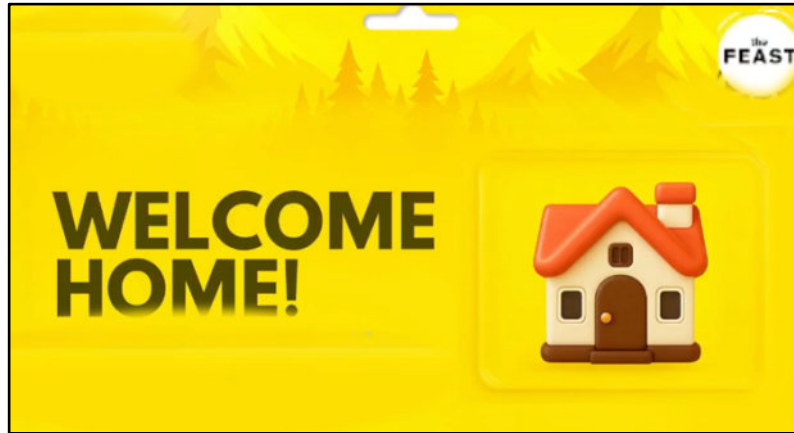
We can trust You, O God, and we're laying down our plans before you...

In Jesus' Name. Amen.





# Welcome!



**BRO. AUDEE BILLARAZA:**

Hallelujah! Praise You, Jesus! We crown You with our praise. Thank You for Your goodness.

Good morning, again, Everybody. Are you blessed that you are here? May I ask you to High-5 six persons around you and tell them: "Worship looks good on you."

Let's give a big hand to our Worship Team. Thank you, guys, for leading us.

Come on, let's give a big hand to our servants' team.



I'd like to call for a very quick announcement, Fr. Bob McConaghy. Come on, and give him a big hand.

# Confession Is God's Grace

REV. FR. BOB McCONAGHY:

Hi! Good Morning, Everyone.

We have a very powerful Ministry here at The Feast. It takes place on the ground floor, and you have seen people there.

I always assume that there is at least one person who's afraid to go to Confession.

Maybe you've been away for many years.

Two weeks in a row, I heard Confessions of two persons. One was away 30 years, the other, 35 years.

We specialize in that. The priests here at The Feast would not be allowed to hear Confession unless they are compassionate men, they are non-judgmental, they lift you up. So, if you have been away for a long time, if you're carrying something very heavy, and you can't forgive yourself, and maybe you committed that sin long time ago...

If you had a bad experience in Confession, where the priest lectured you or raised his voice to you, if you're in an addictive state in your life, and you sense deeply that you would like to go to Confession, what we say to you here at The Feast is: Be not afraid.

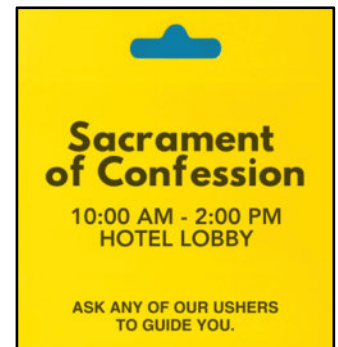
I heard an exorcist on YouTube the other night say that a Confession is more powerful spiritually than ten exorcisms. Now, none of you here are possessed or obsessed or anything like that. That's all we're saying. If you, however, sense inside you, that the Lord is calling you to go to Confession, that's His grace.

And that tells me He loves you very much.

So, in this Feast of The Triumph of the Cross, the poet puts it well:

*I slipped His fingers, I escaped His feet, I ran and hid for Him  
I feared to meet. One day I passed Him, fettered on a Tree. He turned  
His Head and looked, and beckoned me./Neither by speed nor speech  
could He prevail. Each hand and foot was pinioned by a nail.  
He could not run, nor clasp me if He tried. But with His eyes He bade  
me reach His side./For pity's sake, thought I, I'll set you free.  
"Nay-- hold this Cross," said He, "and follow me. This yoke is easy,  
this burden light. Not hard nor grievous if you wear it tight."/ So, did  
I follow Him who could not move. An uncaught captive in the hands of Love.*

So, do we follow Him...And by going to Confession, you will find that you will be an uncaught captive in the hands of Love. God bless. Take care.



\*I Slipped His Fingers by Archbishop Fulton Sheen, attributed to Elizabeth Cheney, English poet

# NOVENA TO GOD'S LOVE DECLARATION OF ABUNDANCE

**BRO. AUDEE VILLARAZA:**

Are you ready to receive the Word of the Lord today? Yes!  
Everybody, raise your hands, and let's say our favorite prayer  
here at The Feast. Say this with me:



*Thy Word is a Lamp unto my feet  
And a Light unto my path.*

The FEAST FAMILY September 28, 2025 11



# Talk



## **BRO. AUDEE VILLARAZA:**

We are in Talk 8 of our series, *The Good Life*.

The topic today is very much relevant to each of us because the topic is called *Wealth*. The other topic is *Worry*.

How many of you are worried about money? They are natural concerns--wealth and worry. We're going to dig deep. I want to start by telling you a story.

Way back when we didn't have children yet, my wife, Kristel, and I traveled to a place called Sagada (A town in the Cordillera Mountains, within the Mountain Province, northern Luzon). It's a beautiful place. If you've never been there, check it out. We have so many amazing places in our country.



## Cave Diving

In Sagada, we went cave diving. The technical term is *spelunking*. You've got to be mentally and physically tough to do that.

Back then, I was into photography. My favorite gear was my Canon DSLR. We didn't have good camera phones back then. So, I would bring that gear, and in its bag would be three lenses, a tripod, and a few battery packs. The bells and whistles all crunched up in a backpack. I would carry the backpack everywhere-- like it was my firstborn.

Following two guides, we started to go cave diving.

I noticed one of the guides gaping at me. I didn't look like Lara from *Tomb Raider*. With that big backpack, I looked like Leonardo, a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle.

The guide told me this friendly advice, "Brother, please do not bring that."

I said, "No, problem. I got this. I'm going to carry it through."



We slowly walked down into the deep, cold, and damp cave of Sagada. We looked like hobbits because I was just wearing just a pair of slippers.



## Darkness... and Light

Along that slow descent, we went into pitch black darkness. Nothing illuminated these caves.

What lit our path were only the lanterns that the guides were holding.

It was slow and easy going down the cave-- until the very first obstacle...



Five minutes later, we faced this tiny little crevice where only one human body could squeeze in.

I was staring at this hole, thinking: "Oh no, what am I going to do with my backpack? Am I gonna go back to where we came from? Am I just going to leave it here? Am I gonna set up camp and make this my bad cave? What am I gonna do?"

I looked back at the guide, and I saw him just smiling, as though he was telling me, "I told you so."

Then he said, "Sir, give me your backpack, and then you can cross through."

At first, I was a little hesitant because I had about thousands of pesos worth of gear in my backpack. I didn't know the guy.

I was like, "What if he disappeared in the darkness?"

Then, I would hear the words, "My precious!"

But I didn't have a choice. I gave him the backpack, and I crawled in that tiny space, and I squeezed in with every ounce of courage and confidence. Some 20 seconds later, I was out at the other side.

Here's the most shocking part. The guide who I thought was behind me was there--right in front of me, carrying my backpack.

I was so scared. I had to touch his arm to make sure I wasn't seeing a ghost.

And, as if reading my thoughts, he said, "Sir, I'm not a ghost. I'm real. There's a rope around the rock. That's where I crossed."



## Powerful Message

At that moment, the Lord taught me a very powerful message: Sometimes in life, the reason the journey is hard is not the road--but the stuff that we insist on carrying.

What is in your bag right now? What is in your backpack that you're carrying so much that you insist on bringing it instead of letting it go?

Many of us treasure possessions, material things. For some of us, maybe we treasure the applause of people. For some of us, it's control over our children, over our businesses, our work--and even over our ministries.

**WHAT'S IN YOUR BACKPACK?** What is in your backpack? Maybe the reason you're struggling on the path you're crossing is you insist on carrying all of these things. Let them go.

The lesson the Lord taught me that day was this: that when your life is overcrowded with stuff, where can God dwell in your life? He has no space to dwell in.

That's why today, Jesus is giving us advice in the book of *Matthew*.

We are still talking about the Sermon on the Mount. Let me give you the advice of Jesus. He says this beautifully>>>>>

In the original Greek language, *treasure* means *stored stuff*.

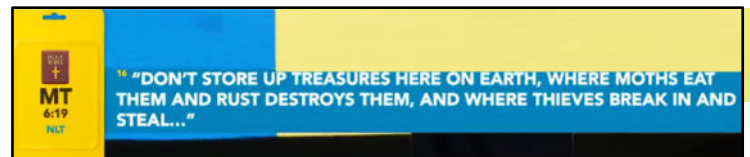
Jesus says don't store stored stuff in your life for one day, the moth will just eat it, rust will just destroy it, or God forbid, the enemy or the thief will steal it.

Sometimes, our stored stuff is the source of our stress, anxiety, and worry. Today, the Lord wants to speak over us in the context of the *wealth* that He wants to give to us-- but also the *worry* around our needs.

Put your hand over your chest and say this with me:

*"Lord, I need this message badly. I have needs. Help me to see this from your perspective. Give me your wisdom. Speak, Your servant is listening. In Jesus' Name. Amen."*

*Thy Word is Lamp unto to my feet  
And a Light unto my path.*





## Where Is Your Treasure?

In 2023, I was invited to the wedding of our good friends, TL and Mon San Juan. TL just led Worship here onstage, and Mon is our regular guitarist. They got married in 2023. They invited me to be a principal sponsor.

The day before the wedding, I prepared my stuff. The moment I landed in church, I felt that my shoe was a little sticky, as if I had stepped on gum. I was thinking that maybe, the carpet was just humid. As I was walking, my shoe kept getting stickier and stickier.

When I looked down, horror of horrors! I was leaving black residues on the carpet with every step. By then, I was tiptoeing to the altar so that people would not notice. By the time I got to the pew, I looked down and to my shock, the sole of one shoe was disintegrating right before my eyes. Apparently, when you store leather shoes in a cabinet, this is what happens. They're no longer good.



I was thinking, "My goodness, I was protecting these. I was storing them." They're valuable, but now, they're reduced to nothing.

Maybe, this is Jesus' message to all of us today. Don't store treasure on Earth where moth will just eat it up, rust will just destroy it, and your cabinet will just obliterate it. Right?

But then, Jesus further gives us a warning: "For where your treasure is, that's where the desires of your heart will also be."

Our heart is like a compass. A compass is not like Waze. The compass will never tell you where you need to go. The compass will point only to where the magnet is.

In the same way, if your heart is magnetized by wealth, your life will revolve around it. If your heart is magnetized by success, your life will revolve around achievements, accolades, trophies, applause. But if your heart is magnetized and focused only towards God, your entire life will revolve around Him, no matter where you go, and no matter where life takes you.

That's why Jesus says: "For where your treasure is, that's where your heart will also be."

Here's the danger. The more time you spend with that treasure, the more you become just like your treasure.

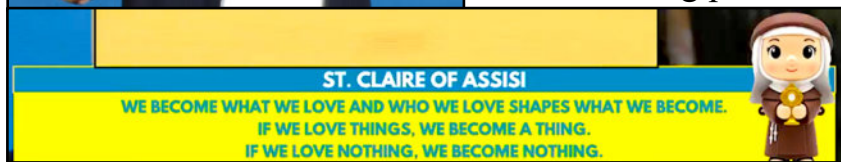


## Who Are We?

St. Claire of Assisi said: "We become who we love."

Maybe married people would know this: that the more you hang around with your spouse, the more you start looking like each other and behaving like each other.

We also have that saying in Pinoy: When you spend so much time with money, "Mukha ka ng pera."



We become who or what we behold.

The big example that I can give you is none other than this Gollum from *The Lord of the Rings*. Gollum was so obsessed with the ring of power that when he did not have it, he hunted, he sought it out, and he tried to kill people over it. But the moment he possessed it, he was so paranoid that people would come and steal it away from him.

He's the guy who originally said, "My precious!"

But before he was Gollum, he was this good-looking guy named Smeagol. But because he was so consumed by this ring of power, greed, lust, and all this nasty stuff, it reduced him to a beast, an animal.

That's what stuff does, if you're not careful. Stuff will change you into the very person that God does not want you to become. Let me give you an example.

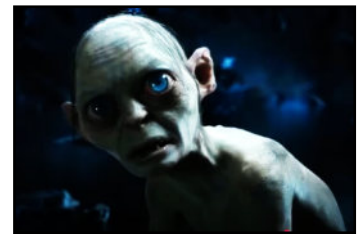
During Mass, I needed to go to the bathroom. I was carrying a bag with me, and the bag was a bit cumbersome.

But I thought, "I'm at The Feast. I can probably leave my bag. Let me just take my wallet and my phone."

That's probably what most of you would do.

So, I left, not thinking about my bag. When I went back to my seat, the bag was still there. The message is not that the bag was still there.

The message is: Protect your possessions, but don't stress about it every second of the day. Trust that if the Lord allows it to be destroyed or to be stolen, it simply means that He has a purpose and that He has something prepared that's better for you.





## Who Is Our Master?

It's the stuff that we own sometimes that's stressing us out and giving us anxiety.

My wife gave me a gift last December. This one, the white shoes I'm wearing. I wear it not only because it's her gift, but also because it's the most comfortable shoes I've ever had. It's called On Cloud. It literally feels like you're walking on a cloud.

They're pretty expensive. They're like P8,000-P9,000. I do have gadgets, vehicles, and properties, but when it comes to accessories, I don't really buy something that expensive.

But I always tell my wife: "I'm not going to buy that for myself, but I'm open to receiving them, especially from you, not as a bribe, but as a token of love."

A few weeks ago, she looked at my shoes and she said, "Your shoes are overused."

I replied, "Yes, because that's what they're made for, right? To be used."

I have a rule in my life: That if I own stuff, I'm going to use that stuff until it breaks or until I no longer have use for it, and then I'm going to give it away.

That's a good habit, by the way. Here's a rule that you can go by, a recommendation: If you haven't worn a piece of clothing for more than six months, stop thinking that you are going to be able to use it again. We have lofty goals sometimes. Six years have gone by, and I still haven't worn that shirt.

Every six months, clean out your closet so that there's more room for what the Lord would bless you with.

God is not against you having money. Money is good because it enriches our lives. It puts your children through college. It helps people who are sick. It gets your family the comfort and the security they need.

The Bible does not say that money is evil. What is evil is the *love* of money. Do not let your possessions consume you.

Jesus is saying: "Don't store up treasures in Heaven."

He says: "You cannot serve two masters. You cannot serve God and at the same time, serve mammon."

That's sounds yummy but it's not dessert. In the Bible, mammon means an evil spirit representing the love of money, greed, lust, envy, all these nasty stuffs.

Jesus is saying you cannot serve two masters. Why? For the simple reason that if you've got Master 1 and Master 2, one will always be greater than the other. God can be your master today, but tomorrow, mammon may be your master.



## Three Powerful Treasures

What are these treasures that we can store on Earth and also in Heaven? I'll give you three powerful treasures that we have.

### 1. God

He is our greatest treasure. I don't mind not having the blessing, but I mind not having the Blesser. I'd rather have the Blesser than the blessing. I don't need to get to Heaven to have that relationship. I can have that while I'm still breathing, while I'm still alive.

That's why Jesus says: "Finding the Kingdom of Heaven is like finding treasure in an open field."

You would do everything and sell all your possessions just to own that field. That's how amazing it is.

### 2. People

The people that we call our family, our friends, our confidence, and our co-servants are our greatest treasures. But Jesus takes it a step further. He says that every person is a treasure.

Yes, even the one you avoid in the office on Monday. Even the one who sings with the videoke at 2:00 A.M. every weekend. Even the one who voted for that other candidate. But it's hard.



In 258 AD, the Roman prefect asked Lawrence, a deacon: "Bring the treasures of the church to my presence."

For three days, Lawrence was gone. On the third day, he showed up. Do you know what he brought? He brought the poor, the blind, and the lame (*left*).

He said: "These are the treasures of the Church."

The Prefect wasn't amused. He had Lawrence killed. (For his martyrdom, he was canonized St. Lawrence.)

But we all get the message.

Jesus says as He preaches on the Mount: "Blessed are the poor in spirit. Blessed are the peacemakers. Blessed are the meek. Blessed are those who are persecuted. Blessed are those who are humbled..."

He's saying: "These are the VIPs, the kings of my Kingdom."

Jesus is saying that every person is a treasure.

I know that there are people who are hard to love. But guess what? They're still treasures-- but you can treat them as buried treasure.

It's a hard message.





### 3. Life

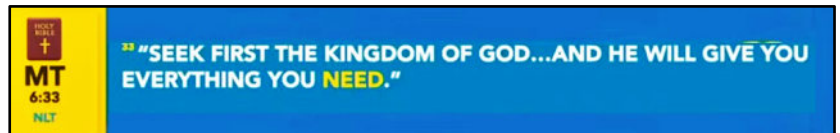
The last time I checked, we've got only one chance at this. We don't get to have it again.

So, the time that you have, the resources that you have, the energy, and even the youth that we have, one day they are going away, and you'll never have them back. So, until that time, continue to treasure your life and the lives of your loved ones as well.

Here's a good question: "How will I value my life if I don't have everything that I need?"

Jesus gives us a powerful truth.

He says: Seek first the Kingdom of God, and He will give you everything that you need.



*"Really? Why is it that until now, I still don't have a fully-paid iPhone Pro Max?"*

God will give you everything that you need. Air in your lungs. He'll give you energy. He'll give you protection. He'll give you wisdom. He'll guide you.

Maybe you don't have right now what you're praying for. Maybe it's because God thinks that you don't need it. Sometimes, what we ask for are not *needs*,-- but *wants*.

God will always give us what we *need* because God provides.

Jesus says something so crazy. He tells us not to worry. But how many of us still live every day with worries?

Jesus doesn't tell you to stop working. He just tells you to stop worrying. So, continue to work. Continue to produce. Continue to work hard.

But in the process of doing so, stop worrying because He's got you and He's got your needs.

He gives us an analogy. This is funny to me because Jesus says that while you're worried, this is what you should do: "Look at the birds. Look at the lilies of the field. Look at the flowers."



That sounds like weird advice, right? In my worry, I got to go out and look for birds?

But that's not the point...



## Lessons from Birds



If you're going to look at the Bible in a literal sense, you won't get the idea. If you really study and discern what Jesus is trying to say, you'll note three lessons that birds teach us:

### 1 WHAT BIRDS TEACH US WORK, BUT DON'T WORRY

Work --but don't worry.  
Every morning, the early birds always get the worm. Why?

Because they start very early, and they feed their young, and they protect their young.

But have you ever seen a worried bird? Maybe an angry bird, but not a worried bird, right?

In the same way, in your work, in your business, in your ministry, also trust in the Lord that every day, He's going to show up and provide for your needs.

### 2 WHAT BIRDS TEACH US BUILD WISELY. NOT EXCESSIVELY

Build wisely-- not excessively.  
I'm not saying that mansions are bad. They are comfortable, right?

But like I said earlier, work for your family's *needs*. Work for your security. But do not let your possessions consume your heart and control your life.

Because the last thing that God wants is that we would treat stuff as our God, as our idol. Because that goes against the First Commandment:

*I am the Lord your God. You shall not have other gods before me.*

### 3 WHAT BIRDS TEACH US PRAISE IN THE MORNING

Praise in the morning.  
Every time you wake up, you hear the birds sing.

They start their day with a song. They don't start their day with stress. Many of us start our day with stress, worry, and anxiety. When you wake up tomorrow, praise God, and start your day with gratitude so you can end the day with gratitude.

## Lessons from Flowers



Let's look at the flowers. What do the flowers do that we don't?

### 1 WHAT LILIES TEACH US BLOOM WHERE YOU'RE PLANTED

Bloom where you're planted  
The flowers don't get to choose  
the soil that they're planted in.  
They're just planted there. But they  
also bloom wherever they're planted.

In the same way, stop complaining and stop wishing and praying that you're  
in a different season or circumstance.

### 2 WHAT LILIES TEACH US REST IN GOD'S DESIGN

Why don't you thank the Lord  
and honor Him right where you are  
right now?

If you're in a bad season, believe that the Lord has a purpose for that season.  
Bloom where you're planted like a flower does. They rest in God's design.  
Flowers don't have to strive to be beautiful. They're just beautiful the way  
that they are and the way that God made them to be.

In the same way, I want to tell all the people here that if you have insecurities  
just like me, I want to tell you that God created you just the way that you are.  
He loves you just the way that you are. You don't have to try so hard to prove  
yourself to people because God made you to be that person. You just have to rest  
in that beautiful design and proclaim the Lord's goodness.

### 3 WHAT LILIES TEACH US SERVE BY BEING YOURSELF

Serve by being yourself.  
Flowers attract bees  
and attention from people because  
they're beautiful as they are.

You can serve people the best way by being authentic in God's purpose.  
You don't have to be somebody that you're not. Serve right where you are.

## Getting to Heaven

I'll end this talk with a fiction story, all right?

There's this man who sets for Heaven. On his way to Heaven, he brings a bag of gold. He then comes face-to-face with Peter at the gates.

Seeing the bag of gold that he is carrying, Peter says, "You cannot bring that inside."

The man insists, "This is my life savings. I worked so hard for this."

Peter just smiles because he knew something that the man didn't.

In his wisdom, Peter moves aside and the man sees what's inside the pearly gates. As *Revelation* says: >>>

Sometimes we're thinking: "I'm going to make money. I'm going to keep all these valuable things. One day, I know I'm going to be able to bring this to Heaven."

Only to realize that when we actually get to Heaven, everything that we worked for was nothing but dirt and pavement in Heaven. What we think is precious here in this world is nothing compared to what awaits us in Heaven.

Just like what The Feast song *I Want You* says: *"Everything that the best of what this world can offer is nothing but a speck."*

It's dirt. It's a speck compared to what awaits us in Heaven. You cannot compare what is in Heaven to what we have here right now.

I heard a song on the radio a few days ago. It's an old song sung by Eric Clapton. Eric wrote the song for his son, who died at four years of age. The title of the song is *Tears in Heaven: Would you know my name if I saw you in heaven? Would it be the same if I saw you in heaven? I must be strong to carry on. Because I know I don't belong here in heaven.*

Imagine singing that song to your loved one.

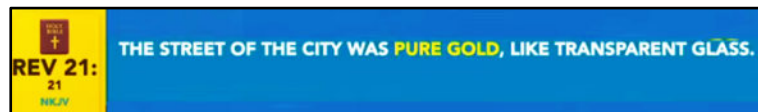
Eric Clapton wrote: *"Coz I know I don't belong here in Heaven."* It bothered me for a bit. I thought that' it's wrong theology. I belong in Heaven. God loves me. He wants me.

But the more I thought about it, the more I realized: "Oh, my gosh, he's actually right. I don't deserve Heaven. Not with everything that I've done."

If you're honest about it, it should scare you to know that we don't deserve Paradise. We don't deserve all of these things and the love of God. I'm worried because what if I'm not good enough? What if I don't make it to Heaven?

But that's the message of Jesus in the Gospel: "Stop worrying."

God sent His Son Jesus to take what we truly deserve so that He could give to us what God wants for us to deserve.





## Commitment

Yes, we don't deserve Heaven, but in God's grace and in God's mercy, He made us deserving of Heaven. All these worries that we have about tomorrow-- whether we will be enough, whether you're going to be good enough, whether you're going to have that break at one point...

Jesus says: "I've made you worthy. You deserve Heaven because I made you deserving."

There's one last story that I want to share. It's a story again about a man in Heaven. This is a different story with a different context.

A man goes to Heaven, and then he sees Peter again in the same story.

St. Peter says, "Tell me all the good stuff that you did while you were living on Earth."

The guy says, "I was very faithful to my wife."

Peter says, "That's five points. You need 100 points to enter the Kingdom of Heaven."

The guy adds, "I did all of these charities."

St. Peter says, "That's two points."

The guy says, "I served at The Feast. I was in Ministry. I was a preacher. I was a Worship leader. I was an usher."

St. Peter says, "That's six points."

The man says, "By the time I'm done telling you everything, I still would not reach a hundred. It's only by the Grace of God that I'll be able to enter that place."

St. Peter smiles and says, "Come on in. That's all you need."

The Grace of God is enough for you to get to Heaven.

We deserve punishment, but God gave us forgiveness. We deserve rejection, but God gave us acceptance. We deserve death, but God gave everlasting life to whoever would believe and call on Him.

Are you ready to trust in the One who can provide, who can heal, who can resurrect the dead to life? Are you ready to give your life to Jesus?

*Father, look at us today. We are in Your Presence in this banquet called The Feast. Though none of us deserve to be in Your Presence, we Thank You that in Your mercy and in Your love, You have welcomed us and You sit with us. You forgive us. So, we give our lives to You, Lord Jesus, now and forever. Amen.*





## MERCY MINISTRIES

*God blesses those who are merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.*

--Matthew 5:7

# JESUS CHRIST CARES FOR CANCER YEAR 10

## *God's Love in Powerful Action*

WHAT was planned as a simple thanksgiving celebration to mark the 10th anniversary of Jesus Christ Cares for Cancer, Inc. (JCCFC) turned into a powerful action filled with divine love, grace, and overwhelming support.

Held during the JCCFC General Assembly at The Feast Ortigas Center, Robinsons Galleria on September 2025, the event became a beautiful testament to how God continues to move through the hearts of people willing to serve.

From the warm embrace of old friends to the surprising presence of new partners in the mission, our beneficiaries and their families experienced overwhelming joy, encouragement, and hope.

The event reminded us that God's love truly knows no bounds.



The FEAST FAMILY September 28, 2025 25

## The Servants Behind the Blessings

We extend our deepest gratitude to the incredible individuals and organizations who made this celebration indeed a milestone in the history of our Light of Jesus Family Mercy Ministries.

*At right*, Fr. Nelson Orqueta, parish priest of the Parish of the Holy Sacrifice in the University of the Philippines (UP) Diliman campus, presides over the Holy Mass and inspires our beneficiaries and their families with a heartwarming spiritual formation talk-- reminding everyone that God's love endures through every trial.

*Here*, Bro. Hermie Morelos, head of our Feast Mercy Ministries, renews his commitment to JCCFC's mission, vowing to continue serving our cancer-afflicted brothers and sisters for as long as God allows. His steadfast dedication is a source of strength and inspiration.

Bro. Alo Gelano, chairman of the Board of JCCFC, once again captivates us with his inspiring stories—this time, recounting the pact he made with JCCFC founder Rey Ortega, a moment that gave birth to JCCFC. Bro. Alo's testimony has touched many hearts and reignited the passion behind the cause.



Jesus Christ Cares For Cancer was born out of Bro. Reylando "Rey" Ortega's heart-wrenching meeting with Brian, a 7-year-old boy who succumbed to cancer in July 2013. In May 2015, Bro. Rey himself was diagnosed with Stage 4 prostate cancer. With only six months to live, he resolved to spend his remaining days serving indigent cancer patients through JCCFC which was officially registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission on September 28, 2015. Bro. Bo Sanchez promptly supported Bro. Rey, and to this day, he has relentlessly led LOJ in helping JCCFC, especially through financial assistance for the cancer patients.

Bro. Randy Borromeo (*right*) president of Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television, reminds us all that even if he may not know what each beneficiary is going through, God does—and He is faithfully watching over every single one.





## Support and Empowerment

Coach Pia Acevedo and her One CORE/Clarity Movement team (*right*) surprise everyone with their heartfelt commitment to become a regular part of our monthly gatherings.

Their presence adds another layer of support and empowerment for our beneficiaries moving forward.

Rem Co, owner of Remilly's Yema Cake, made JCCFC the beneficiary of their recent anniversary promo. *Here is Rem (extreme right)* presenting cakes to Sis. Maritess Cordero, JCCFC Board secretary. Not only did they gift our beneficiaries with their delicious treats and adorable loot bags, but they also shared heartwarming messages from their customers, lovingly packed in bear-shaped jars: “Mahal Tayo ng Diyos!”

As Fr. Nelson so powerfully said during his talk: *Mahal Tayo ng Diyos!*

This truth rang loud and clear throughout the celebration. Every smile, every hug, every shared story was evidence of God's boundless love working through His people.



Huge thanks, Remilly's Yema Cake Team for your sweet support!



We look back to the last 10 years with humble gratitude—and we look forward with renewed hope and trust that God will continue to lead JCCFC in its mission to care for those battling cancer, especially the underserved.

**Be a Blessing Today**

You can be part of this life-changing mission. Your donation, big or small, can bring hope and healing to those who need it most.

**Ways to Give:**

1. Bank Deposit/Transfer

JESUS CHRIST CARES FOR CANCER, INC.

BDO Account # 01109 8000 356

2. GCash

Scan the QR code found in the pinned message of the JCCFC Facebook Page

3. Online Giving via [CharityPhilippines.org](https://CharityPhilippines.org)

[Click here to donate](#)

Here's to many more years of service, healing, and love.

Thank You, Lord, for everything and thank you to everyone walking with us in this journey.

*--With Reporting by Lala A. Uy*



## **Thank You!**

The Feast Family, now organized as the Feast Mercy Ministries, is a spin-off ministry of the Light of Jesus Family founded by Bro. Bo Sanchez.

Earlier named as Kerygma Family, The Feast Family is a unique online, non-physical, borderless, international community of friends who support each other's personal growth.

Partner beneficiaries of the Feast Mercy Ministries flourish because of your generous support.

Thank you for being with us. We pray that you find your daily source of inspiration from the resources that we send to you. We pray too that you may consider giving to The Feast Mercy Ministries. No gift is too small.

Thank you very much in advance for your gift. Our prayer is that God will continue to reward you as you give.

### **FOR EXISTING DONORS:**

Thank you for the Love. Your monthly donation helps us to continue extending support to our Light of Jesus spin-off organizations, including our partner beneficiaries. Your gift will sustain our operations and, we hope, help us reach out to the persons our Lord has called us to make disciples and give them renewed hope.

Be a Feast Family member. Write or call us. Now.

Email Address: [jocelyn@kerygmfamily.com](mailto:jocelyn@kerygmfamily.com)

Website: <https://kerygmfamily.com>



## Our Partner Beneficiaries

**Jeremiah 33 Foundation**  
is a shelter for minor girls  
particularly victims  
of sexual abuse.



**Grace To Be Born**  
is a halfway home  
for pregnant women  
in crisis.



**He Cares Mission**  
provides shelter  
and pastoral care  
for street children.

**Pag-asa ng Pamilya Foundation**  
grants scholarships  
to indigent students.



**Jesus Christ Cares for Cancer**  
provides financial assistance and pastoral care  
for indigent cancer patients.

**The Light of Jesus Pastoral Care Center**  
ministers to those who are emotionally  
and spiritually wounded.



**H.A.I.L. MARY** is acronym for Healthcare Assistance for  
Indigents and Lepers of Mary, adopting the Blessed Mother  
as the patroness of its mission to eradicate leprosy in Abra  
within 8–10 years.



**The Light of Jesus Disaster Recovery Ministry**  
provides evacuation assistance,  
relief goods, financial aid, and other needs of calamity victims.

**The Light of Jesus Prison Ministry**  
brings Jesus to the Correctional Institution for Women  
to give them hope for a new life of dignity.



**Anawim Lay Missions Foundation** provides a home for poor elderly  
who have been abandoned by their family and have nowhere else to go.

## CHOOSE HOW YOU WANT TO GIVE

1. Donate ONLINE (through credit card) Go to [www.kerygmfamily.com](http://www.kerygmfamily.com) and click 'DONATE' box Paypal I US Donations.

2. Pick Up from Your House or Office (Metro Manila Only) Cash or Checks Address Checks to Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation Inc. and call Joy at (+632) 725 -9999 loc 112 or text (+63) 922-828-9890 and we'll pick them up from your home or office.

3. Mail 12 Post-Dated Checks to Our Office for US and CANADA: Address Checks to Kerygma Family, 848 Rainbow Blvd # 1937, Las Vegas, NV 89107. For Other Countries/Philippines: Address Check to Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation Inc. and mail (registered mail) to Shepherd's Voice, 60 Chicago St., Cubao, Quezon City, Philippines 1109.

4. Directly Deposit to Our Bank Accounts. Deposit to Shepherd's Voice Account in any branch of these banks:

Account name: Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation Inc. BPI:

Savings Account no: 0123-4849-67 Cubao Aurora Branch

Banco de Oro Savings Account no: 003970019804 General Araneta, Cubao

Branch Banco de Oro - Savings Account no. 000160506123 SM Cubao Branch

PNB - Current Account no. 108410089566 SSS branch

Metrobank-Savings Account no. 265-3-26509112-2 e Rodriguez Branch

Allied Bank Savings Account no. 3160-12345-1 E Rodriguez Branch

Union Bank Savings Account no. 00-206-000940-1 Tektite Branch

Note: Text, Fax, or email us your name, date and amount of deposit, and the branch of the bank where you deposited your donation, or fax the deposit slip to us. Email us at [support@kerygmfamily.com](mailto:support@kerygmfamily.com) or text us at (63) 922-828-9890/ (63) 998-968-4416 or Fax to (+632) 725-1230.



# **FAMILY ONLINE NEWSMAGAZINE**

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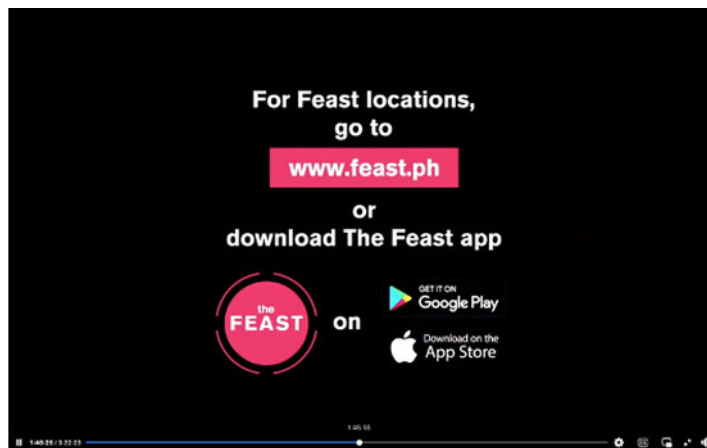
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***Go and make disciples of all men.***  
— Matthew 28:19

