



NEWSLETTER
JANUARY 9, 2022

Does The Idea of Jesus as Judge Make You Uncomfortable?

FACE IT. People don't like thinking of Jesus as Judge. We'd rather picture Jesus as our Savior, Healer, Provider, and Miracle Worker.

But Judge? Nah.
That makes us nervous.

But Jesus as Judge on Judgment Day is supposed to be good news. How come? Think about it. The Jesus who forgave the woman caught in adultery, and the Jesus who ate with tax collectors and drunkards and prostitutes, and the Jesus who befriended the Samaritan woman with five husbands—is the same Jesus who will be our coming Judge.

This Judge loves you.

We are still in our long-running Feast talk series, *The Clash*--about clashes of the aggravating events that led to the Crucifixion.

Today, our Feast Talk is about Jesus as Judge. It is titled *Sheep and Goats* because He is supposed to be determining who would go to Heaven—Sheep (good ones) or who would go to Hell — the Goats (the bad ones).

The Talk answers the question: “Would a loving God really send humans to a place like that?”

Have a life-changing Feast!

May your dreams come true,

Bo Sanchez





LETTERS

From Joy to Judgment

AFTER *Joy* we go to *Judgment*. We don't mean to be killjoy. Because as our founder, Bro. Bo Sanchez, says in his introduction of The Feast Talk today, *Judgment*, like *Joy*, is good news. Why? Don't miss The Feast today!



In his homily in last Sunday's Feast Mass, Fr. Albert Garong gave hope for whatever comes—including the shift from *Joy* to *Judgment*. Read on, *page 3*.



During our Grand Feast last Sunday, Bro. Bo assured us we really have reason to be joyful because our very religion, Christianity, is a religion of Joy. Bro. Audee Villaraza, presented two ways to have the joy of Jesus. Learn more, *pages 9-18*.

Joy sums up our Feast Mercy Ministries as it received generous gifts in 2021, especially during the Christmas season. We share the Joy with you beginning with the Concert for a Cause dubbed *Tuloy-Tuloy Pa Rin ang Pasko*, generously sponsored by Feast Singapore and with the Kerygma 5, our singing Feast preachers as main performers, *page 21*.



Yes, Christmas happens not only in December. It is an everlasting gift!

All for God's Glory,

Randy Borromeo
Media Ministry
Executive Director





FLASHBACK

January 2, 2021

Holy Mass

FR. ALBERT GARONG

on the Gospel of Matthew 2:1-12

The Magi Visit the Messiah



Excerpts...

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all of you!

I don't know if it's just me...

But this is overwhelming. Isn't it? For two years, I had not said Mass for more than 100 persons. And now, when I looked from

the altar, for the first time, and I saw how many of you are here, it was just too much! It was too much to bear and I realized that that's not my feeling. That's God's feeling, that's what He feels right now.

That hunger that I felt in my heart-- my pastor heart as a priest-- that didn't come from me. That was God and it was just so joyful to see all of us gathered here today and it's so perfect because we are celebrating the Solemnity of the Lord's Epiphany.

Epiphany is simply a fancy word for *God's manifestations*. God's Presence, made extra real. And because I feel that, somehow, I am tempted not to *preach from home* early anymore because I think the message is already here.

Just look around you. Is God's Presence right here, right now? Can you feel Him? Yes, right.



It's so beautiful that we are celebrating this special occasion. Because this is our highest form of Worship, and only in the Mass do bread and wine become body and blood. So, later, during the consecration of the host, the wine, and they become the Blood and Body in the flesh of Christ, that is God coming to meet us-- because whenever people are gathering in His name, He is Present. And He is here.

Allow me to just first give you a few simple notes about the Epiphany. And allow me to bring it using the images of something that perhaps help—the Christmas season—the parties, reunions, gatherings. Just look at me now—I attended a lot of parties and had a lot of food-- and I hope you had too.

At parties, before the party even starts, we have a lot of preparation and sometimes we are included in the preparation. Those of us who are good at cooking, we get to be in charge of bringing the food. Those who are good at logistics, will take care of all the moving and stuff. Those who are good at decorations, will be given the task of making the place, you know, beautiful so that we will have a good party.

There is a lot of preparation going on whenever there is a party, *pero ang masaya, kapag sa party, ay yung a-attend ka lang*. What's fun is if you're just a guest. You are invited to be part of the party and nothing more.

So, why do I think of preparation? Because the first thing we have to understand about the Epiphany is there had been a lot of preparation going on leading up to the moment you heard in the Gospel today.

If there's one thing we take from all the Advent readings-- all those prophecies after prophecies-- we heard the genealogy about the descendants of Jesus; we saw how God appeared to Mary and appeared in a dream to Joseph; and Elizabeth and Zachariah, their most coveted child-- all of these speak of preparation.



1st Reading – Isaiah 60:1-6

¹ *Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you.*

² *See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory.* ³ *Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance.*



God is working to prepare for what? For the biggest party of all: our salvation. The time when we finally get to meet with God, face-to-face, in perfect union...and we will all be totally at peace. That is God preparing and working ceaselessly and tirelessly to bring out this Epiphany.

Until finally, the moment comes when the Host Himself comes down and invites us in person. And that's when Jesus is born. And it is not just He appearing to invite us. It is also God coming in to make us understand the meaning of it all. In common layman's terms, when we speak of the Epiphany, what do we usually think

about? It means that you finally understood something. Something just clicks and it leads to something life-changing.

When God became man in Jesus, He did not just come to invite people. He came to change our understanding of what salvation means, who it involves, and what it takes for us to take part in it. And our Gospel today about the Epiphany clarifies that this party is for everyone.

When we say God was at work during the time of Jesus, it wasn't just for the people of Israel, not just in their history or in their descendants. But God was clearly at work all over the world-- everywhere. He was tirelessly working and making sure that everyone would be ready to receive Him, to welcome Him into one's heart.

To this day, God makes it clear that He is working everywhere-- toward our salvation. And so, what do we do? How do you respond to it? That is the main thing that we now ask ourselves. God has prepared the party.



[Responsorial Psalm – Psalms 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13.](#)

¹ *O God, with your judgment endow the king,
and with your justice, the king's son;*

² *He shall govern your people with justice
and your afflicted ones with judgment.*

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.



God has made sure that everything is set.

Nandiyan na lahat, mga important elements that would make it happen. The best part is 'yung a-attend ka lang. All we have to do is to bring ourselves to the party, and everything is already there and we can enjoy and take part in all its fruits.

There is something that I personally feel is really mind-blowing. Because if you think about it, to prepare the party, it was God who made sure everything was there. It was God. It was all God's work. He didn't need anything from us and that's beautiful because God does not need us.

Let's be clear: God does not need us but He wants us.

Think about human relationships—in one way or another, they are based on need. But God has no need for us. What He has is a desire for each and every one of us to be there. That is more powerful. This is not based on any need or selfish desire. God simply wants us to be there.

So, my dear brothers and sisters, as we close one year and move on to another, we look back first-- and perhaps because the year had passed, we can look at it more clearly and see how God has always been there.

We have been together online and God has made sure that we have the means to still celebrate and be blessed by our online ministries and programs.

God has been constantly at work and now that we look forward to 2022, now armed with that knowledge, we can now have deeper hope because we know that God is there.

Kung saan man kayo pupunta ngayong 2022, nakaabang na ang Diyos doon. Naghihintay na sa inyo. Hindi ninyo pa nga alam eh, pero Siya alam na Niya. Siya nandoon na, at naghahanda na Siya.

All He asks of us is to be there. Will you give Jesus that gift?

2nd Reading – Ephesians 3:2-3A, 5-6

Brothers and sisters:

² *You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit,*

^{3A} *namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation.*

⁵ *It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit.⁶ that the Gentiles are co-heirs, members of the same body, and co-partners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel.*



Worship!

EXHORTATION



BRO. AUDEE VILLARAZA:

You know, I wish I could say that 2022 will be a perfect year.

I wish I could! I wish I can say that this year will be free from problems, and trials, and tribulations.

I really wish I can say that. I wish I can say that this year, we're going to be free from calamities, and storms, and tragedies. I really do. I really wish that this year, we're finally going to get rid of this facial mask and be free, and go out on the street, and be together with people, without fear, without persecution.

I really wish I can. But you and I both know that there is no such thing as *perfect*. So, I don't wish for *perfect*. I pray for *blessed*. I pray that this will be a *blessed* year and a year where in spite of the problems, and the trials, and tribulations, we shall overcome! A year where in spite of the typhoons, and the earthquakes that befall us, we shall rise up! A year that despite of the suffering, of the pain, we shall be safe! Because there is a God who resurrected from the dead and walked out of the tomb, and three days later, to say that there is a hope... a salvation...

That's what we want, my dear friend. What we want, we want the blessing of God to be on us, the favor of God to walk with us, to be all around us.

How many of you want that God will say to you, "This is my child and if that's my son, that's my daughter, whoever comes against him will not prevail."

Because God says that you are more than a conqueror.

And so we put a period when we say amen to God's promise! We put a period on God's plan when we say amen to God's promise! We put a period on God's plan when we say amen! Everybody shout amen!"





FLASHBACK

January 2, 2021

Let us pray our favorite prayer,
our *Novena to God's Love*:

Today, I receive all of
GOD'S LOVE for me.

Today, I open myself to the
**UNBOUNDED, LIMITLESS,
OVERFLOWING ABUNDANCE**
of God's universe.

Today, I open myself to God's
**BLESSINGS, HEALING,
AND MIRACLES.**

Today, I open myself to
GOD'S WORD so that I become
more like Jesus every day.

Today I proclaim that
I am **GOD'S BELOVED,**
I am **GOD'S SERVANT,**
I am **GOD'S POWERFUL
CHAMPION.**

And because **I AM BLESSED,**
I am blessing the world in
Jesus' Name. Amen!



Father in Heaven,
thank You for every
person here— whether
virtual or actual... I pray
that the word that You're
going to speak
today will jump out from the pages of this Book and leap straight into the heart
of Your children.

Speak, oh God. All of Your children are listening today, Your moment to
shine— not mine, not any one of the preachers here onstage. But we are here to
listen to You. So, bless us, in the mighty name of Jesus, we pray, and all of God's
people say, Amen.

Jesus Wants To Give You Overflowing Joy!

Our passage is from John 15: 10-12:

When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow! This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you.

JOHN 15:10-12 NLT



Let me just say this:

There is one word that is not allowed to be said in our home— my home. One word that

cannot be spoken in every room and in any corner in my house is the word *boring*.

Let me explain. We taught our son Ethan— he's now four years old— never to say the word *boring*.

When he was two years old, my wife and I made this conscious decision that we were not allowed to say *boring* in Ethan's presence— or even any time at home. It was not allowed.

Why? Because we noticed that some children, whenever they're not doing anything, the first words that come out of their mouth are "I'm bored."

How many parents can relate? Raise your hands.

And so, we said to Ethan: "If you hear the word *boring*, the first thing you'll say, "That's a bad word."

Bad Word, Good Word

But you know what? I realized something—that a lot of us, you know, we think *boring* is not good. But I come from an age and a time when my generation— I know who you are if you snicker and you raise your hand, and you say "Amen." We come from a time and age, and place, where you are not allowed to say *boring*. Otherwise, you will get screamed at by your parents. You remember that?

During my time, there was no Internet, no WI-FI. But there were so many activities that you could do. You could have a snack. You could take a nap. You could play a musical instrument. You could study ballet— or for the boys, karate. During my time, that was the thing: karate.

One of my fondest memories is what we did when I was growing up, when we had brownouts. How many of you can relate to this? Raise your hands.

There was no electricity. No WI-FI. No Internet. That meant we could bring out the candles and then we could play shadow figures on the wall, and we could do it for hours.

Distracted Generation

Today, we have a distracted generation, infected by a virus. What is the carrier of this virus? The dopamine dispenser that you call your phone, that you call your gadget. That you call your TV. That you call Netflix.

These are not bad. But here's the problem: They become bad for you when you feel this symptom— when you know you're already addicted to these distractions.

You are already addicted the moment you lose the ability to be *present*— to be present to people, to be present to your purpose, to be present to a higher self, and ultimately, to be present to God. That's when you know that there is a problem with you.

Let me say this again: *Boring* is not a bad word. Especially if your boredom will let you disengage from the noise of the world— from the noise of everything around you— and instead let you re-engage with the voice of the Lord.

You see, here's the truth, my friend— here's what I really believe: Boredom can lead to potential portals for prayer to happen. Instead of reaching for your gadget when you get bored, reach for the hand of God. Sit with Him. Have a dialogue with Him.

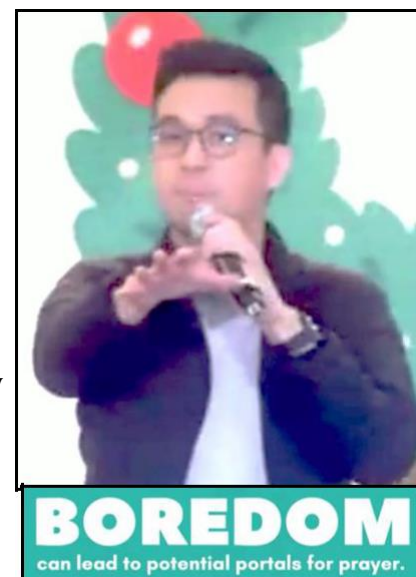
Back in the day, you know, during the time of Jesus, when life got busier and demanding, you know what happened? Jesus withdrew to His quiet place.

But you know, sadly today, the opposite is true. That the busier you become, the more demanding life gets, you withdraw from your quiet place.

God becomes the last option.

You don't sit with God anymore.

What if Year 2022 is the year that you actually sit with Him again?



Let me ask you this: How many of you want to find joy in 2022? Come on, raise your hands.

You know, if you're raising your hand right now, it simply means one thing: that you have not found lasting joy. What do I mean by that? If you found lasting joy, you wouldn't be raising your hand right now. You might have found joy in 2018 but a little bit of heartbreak and little bit of hopelessness made you lose it in 2019. And then you might have found joy again in 2020 but a little bit of sickness, a little bit of trials and tribulations made you lose it again.

What is my point here?

I know what I am talking about. I had experienced this. I thought that buying new stuff would give me joy, but you know what I found out? I found out that once the stuff got old, joy also got old. And so, I needed to buy new stuff to get new joy.

I thought that gaining a thousand *likes* for my Facebook post would give me the joy that I needed— until I gained those 1,000 *likes* and I realized that joy got old. Some here may have been living a life you don't know if it's real— because you live in a digital world. And so, the moment somebody bashes you, somebody trashes you online, you feel like your life is ruined— not realizing that you're getting lost in a world that might not even be real.

Jesus says in Matthew 8:20: *“Foxes have dens to live in, and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place even to lay his head on.”*

You know what that's saying? Jesus knew that this was not His home. It was just temporary place.

We, too, are not of this world. You're not of this world. This is not your home. The place that you're going to after this life, that's your home. You are a Kingdom child. You're from the Kingdom of God. You really are. Jesus says this.

Let's go to the reading.

Jesus says:

Yes, your joy will overflow. Everybody say, *My joy. My joy. My joy. My joy. My joy.*

Here's the good news, my friends: Jesus wants to give you His joy.

Is that good news for you? Jesus wants to give you His joy. Why don't you clap your hands for the joy of Jesus— if you're ready to really receive the joy of Jesus.

What kind of joy is this? It's an overflowing joy.



I have told you these things so that you will be filled with My joy. Yes, your joy will overflow!
JOHN 15:11 MLT



How do you know if you already have the joy of Jesus within you?

Two ways:

1 Permanent

First, it's permanent. This is the kind of joy that doesn't just last for one season, but it comes with you. It remains with you in every season of your life. Whether good or bad, whether winter, spring, summer, or fall. The joy comes with you.

2 Pervasive

Second way, it's pervasive. It's the joy that just doesn't stick with you but it's a joy for everybody else. See, that's what Jesus wants. Jesus wants to bless you with joy so that you can infect other people with joy too. Jesus wants to bless generations that would come after you. He wants to bless your children and your children's children with joy.

How many of you want that kind of joy? Come on, make God see that you want that joy—because that's the kind of joy that will never run out. Even if things and people leave you, the joy will never run out. It's a joy that will not dry. It's a joy that will never be depleted, never, never drain. It never, never ends.

What if the year 2022 again, my dear friends, is the year that you really sit down and remain

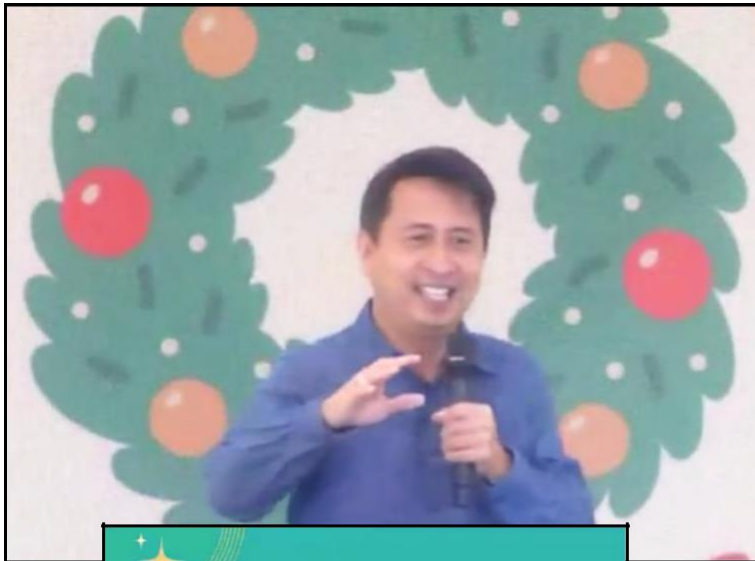
in the love of God? I promise you, you will experience the joy like no other.

Only the joy of Jesus will be able to sustain you in this world.

Can we give Him clap offering? Hallelujah!

I am now going to pray for you: Lord, we want to receive the blessing that you just want to bestow on us. And so, we open our heart to receive that blessing. In Jesus' Name. Amen.





CHRISTIANITY
is a religion of joy.

HAPPY 2022!

Now, I know there are some strange people who want to be unhappy. Have you met them? Yeah, there are. I don't know why but there are people who want to be unhappy.

Now, the problem with that is this: If you make it your goal to be unhappy and then you actually become unhappy, does that mean that you will be happy because you reached your goal?

Before you get a migraine, I want to shift to my second question:

Do you think God is happy?

Yes, I also believe that God is happy. Joy is His idea. He invented joy and so, yeah, I believe God is happy.

Look at somebody beside you and look at how wonderful that person is. I know that person has a mask on. But does that person give you an idea that God was so happy when He made that person?

By the way, I'm an artist, in a sense. I'm not a painter, but when I craft my essay, when I write, I'm an artist. And I have a smile on my face when I'm writing. And I say, "Oh, this is so good. Oh, gosh, this is so good."

You know, God is an artist. When He was creating you, He had a smile on His face.

This is what I believe: I believe Christianity is a religion of joy.

A Carmelite nun in the 16th century,
Saint Teresa of Avila, said:

"A sad nun is a bad nun. I am more afraid of one unhappy sister than a crowd of evil spirits ..."

Of course, she said that in jest.

Yet behind the laughter and behind the chuckles, there is truth in what she's speaking about.

Pope Francis said this
in the same vein:

"True joy is contagious, and sustains us. However, when you find a seminarian or a novice who is too serious, too sad, something isn't right! They do not share in the joy of the Lord. Sadness is not holiness!"

He said true joy
is contagious...

You know, who is this God
whom St. Teresa of Avila followed?
Who is this God that Pope Francis
follows?

Audee was talking about
boring. I remember this conversation I had with this 13-year-old very cool dude
with shades and BTS hairstyle and he told me that he didn't want to go to church. I
asked why?

He said, "It's boring."

And so, I asked him, "Do you have a crush?"

He said, "Many."

I asked him, "Is it like with levels? Crush No. 1, Crush No. 3, Crush No. 8,
and Crush No. 27.

He smiled, and said, "Yeah, I guess so."

So, I asked him, "If you are with Crush No. 1 beside you, are you bored?"

He shook his head and said, "Of course not."

Then I said, "May I have your full attention? When you're in church you
may be bored but God is not-- because He really, really likes you."

I want to say that everyone who's here is God's joy. That's our reading.

Jesus is saying, "Love one another
as I have loved you. I say this because I
want you to have my joy."

And what is God's joy?

You are God's joy.

The moment He thought of you-- you were not yet born, you were not yet
created-- you were already His joy.

And then when He was creating you, He had a smile on His face.



YOU ARE GOD'S JOY
You make God happy



Christianity for a lot of people is a set of regulations and a bunch of rituals. But I am here to tell you, Christianity is a relationship. And it's first of all a relationship between God and you. And then it's a relationship with you and the other person.

And so, Jesus is telling you, "I want you to have My joy. And the way to do it is this: Love one another as I have loved you."

I have goals. I have lots. I wrote them for 2022.

How many of you want to just shave off a few pounds in 2022? How many of you want to increase your income in 2022 by 20 %, 30%, 50%?

We've got goals. I've got goals. We've all got goals and it's good. But you should have one primary goal.

You should have No.1 goal. You should have a purpose in 2022. Your greatest and most intense prayer for 2022 is not just about your health. It's not just about your money. It's not just about this or that thing.

I pray that your No. 1 prayer is this: That you will love the way Jesus loves. Because that's how you get God's joy. And I know it's difficult. I was thinking, you know, the message today has

to be very simple because, you know, there might be a lot of distractions

"Love one another as I have loved you." That's what Jesus says. "You want My joy? You do that. You love. You love the people around you."

Do you have a family member beside you or a good friend? Can you turn to that person and tell that person, "I'm supposed to love you the way God loves me."

That's a tall order. OMG, can you do that?

May I be honest with you? I've been trying to do that for 40 years as a Christian. I've failed so many times. I'm selfish. I'm self-centered. I'm proud. I think of myself before I think of other people.

And then, you know, Jesus says, "Love one another..."

As I was praying this morning. As I was praying yesterday. As I was praying the other day, Jesus kept repeating Himself--He was telling me the same thing.

He was telling me, "Bo, you've gotta love the way I love." I said, "Oh, so difficult."

Love each other in the same way I have loved you.

JOHN 15:12 NLT



But then I'm so happy that this verse – John 15:12-- that we just read, comes from John Chapter 15 where we read the famous analogy of Jesus, the most memorable one, where He says, "I am the vine and you are the branches."

And so, that's the secret. He tells you the secret. If you cut the branch from the vine, it's dead. If you cut the vine, it bears no fruit. You cannot love the way God loves. It's impossible.

Look at somebody-- that person to whom you said, "I'm supposed to love you." Tell that person "I can't do it. I'm sorry, I can't."

But you see, you're just the branch. There's Someone else who is the Vine



I have this camera. Small, right?

But I use this camera for making my inspirational podcast *Full Tank*, letter *Soulfood*, and seminars. I give online seminars often and they last the whole day.

Now you might say, "Brother Bo, it looks funny." Yeah, it looks funny. It really does. What's so funny? Well, this wire. Cameras don't have wires but mine has. You see, I removed the battery. Why? Well, batteries last only for an hour, sometimes two hours. But my seminars go on for a whole day. So, what I did was I put an adaptor, put a wire, so that I can plug it into a source of power. *Plug in*. This is what you need to do.

Now, with a camera, that's like this, I've got advantages and disadvantages. The advantage? I will never run out of power—as long as I'm plugged in.

Do you know what's the disadvantage? It's cumbersome. It's inconvenient. It's useless if it's not plugged. I could press a button here. And you will see the lens come out. It's really nifty. It's nice. I can't do that because it's useless-- if it's not plugged. I can't go anywhere and use this. You know if there's battery you can go out and you can take pictures far away. Am I making sense?

It's bad news for the camera-- if there is a wire and a plug that you need to put into the source of power. But it's perfect for my life.

Because I've got news for you. I have no plans of separating myself even one second from the source of power. The source of my joy. And the source of my love. I have no plans any single day in 2022 that I will unplug myself from Jesus. No plans. I want to always be plugged into Jesus in 2022. That's my plan. I don't know about you, I'm okay with *inconvenient*. I'm okay with *cumbersome*. I'm okay that I will part from doing anything apart from Jesus. I'm okay that I will always have this wire that connects me with Jesus.

I'm telling you about this wire. You know what? This wire symbolizes God's love for me. God wants me, desires me, pines for me, longs for me.

God desires you and you are His joy. That's your wire. But your wire also symbolizes your response to that love. Will you love Him?

In 2022 will you say, "I'm going to be plugged into Jesus. And I know it's inconvenient. And I know burdensome. It's okay."

Are there days when you run out of power? Are there days when you run out of joy? Are there days when you run out of love? And you're supposed to love the way God loves you but unforgiveness comes into your heart? Selfishness comes to your heart?

That's what happens to me. And whenever I'm running out of power, I close my eyes and I reach out to God and I plug in.

And I say, "Jesus, I want to obey you. I want to follow you. I want your love to overflow my heart." Now, I want to lead you in a prayer. For some of you, it might be the first time you're going to pray this prayer-- to actually give yourself to Jesus and accept Him as Lord and Savior.

For most of us, you've been praying this prayer a thousand times already. I want you to forget that you had prayed this prayer a thousand times already. I want you to pray this prayer as though it's your very first time to do it. What better way to do it-- what better time but the start of the year.

To actually say, "Jesus I'm plugging in.

And I'm never going to plug out. I will always be connected to you.'

Are you ready?

May I invite you to lift up your hands as a symbol that you are opening your life to this God who is crazy about you?

And just say this prayer:

In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy spirit. Amen.

Jesus, I receive Your love. I receive Your eternal love. I receive Your infinite love. Teach me to love the way you love. Help me. I want to have Your joy in 2022 and for the rest of my life.

And so, come into my heart. Be my King. Be my Lord.

Be my Savior. Forgive me for all my sins. I receive Your mercy. I receive You. And I receive new life in Jesus' Name. Amen.



Hallelujah!

**Give
the Lord
a big hand,
everybody.**



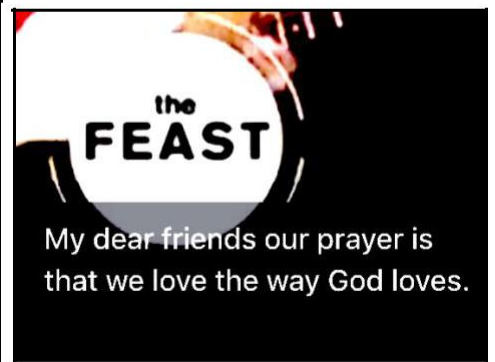
**The Lord bless you
And keep you**



He is for you



**May His favor be upon you
And a thousand generations**





Mercy Ministries

Christmas for a Cause

YES, Christmas is a *Go*. It isn't postponed, it isn't cancelled.

That's the merry, courageous declaration of the Concert for a Cause dubbed *Tuloy-Tuloy Pa Rin Ang Pasko with K-5* held at the Barcelona Academy in Marilao, Bulacan, on December 18, 2021.



Sponsored by Feast Singapore, the Concert is for the benefit of our Mercy Ministries, particularly the Light of Jesus Pastoral Care Center to give wisdom and comfort to the depressed; Light of Jesus Prison Ministry for mercy and compassion to those in prison; and the Jeremiah Foundation 33:6-7, for healing of abused girls.



The Concert begins with the lighting of the Advent candles, warm welcome by hosts Bro. Randall Serrano (*above left*) and Bro. JC Libiran, then opening song by Bro. Aio Barcelona, declaring, yes, with Christmas, our victory has come!

Inspirational Message by BRO. BO SANCHEZ:

Feasters in Singapore, leaders of The Feast, and all our friends gathered to watch this Concert... To the sponsors to fund this Concert, to make all this possible! I honor you with all my heart. I thank you for your kindness. I thank you for being selfless. I thank you making a decision—not only to think just about yourself and your little world, and your little problems—but to go out and to be a blessing to the world, be a gift during this Christmas!

We are all storytellers. God made us storytellers. We tell stories. Our life is filled with stories... Our life is one big story. Not only that. Where does *meaning* come from? We go through problems, crises, and trials, and burdens, and anxieties, and worries.

I just talked to a friend of mine over the phone. My gosh, this woman is amazing. She has a son who has cerebral palsy. This woman is 75 years old. I've known her for decades. Her son is 54 years old. This guy – he cannot stand. He cannot walk. He cannot even prop himself up. He cannot eat by himself. He cannot bathe by himself. Everything has to be done for him by his mom. And this woman has been taking care of her son for 54 years. She's 75 and still carrying her son... And by just listening to her tell the story of her life... I want you to know that she can still smile. She can still sing. And she can still pray. Because she sees the story with a different *meaning*.

It's not just a story of pain, not just a story of burden. No. It's a story of *faith*. No. 1: That God is with her. No. 2: She's loving her son. That's the *meaning* of her story. And that is why she can smile, and sing, and pray.

My dear friend, you're facing something, you're facing your trial, your crisis. The meaning does not come from the story. The meaning comes from the storyteller. And through the eyes of your faith, you look at your life and you say, "God is with me."

Declare that. Claim that belief in God. And then also say, "I am here to love someone else other than me."

Yes, I love myself. Of course. We make a decision to love ourself. And then from that foundation we start loving other people. It cannot end up here, with ourself. We got to make a decision to go out to make and love other people. And that's what you are doing today in this Concert.

I pray for you, for the abundance of God to flow into your life. In the mighty name of Jesus, receive all His goodness and love, not only for you but also for your family. God bless you! Merry Christmas! Tell a beautiful story with God at the center.



Hosts Bro. JC Libiran and Bro. Randall Serrano merrily introduce the main performers—the **K5** in the concert title:

The Kerygma 5—singing Feast preachers taking their band name from *Kerygma*, the name of the inspirational magazine founded by Bro. Bo, a Greek word meaning *to proclaim or preach*, which has come to mean the proclamation of Jesus’ teachings-- eventually our core mission as His followers.



The Concert for a Cause is actually a Concert for a *Cost*—as the Kerygma 5 start the concert proper with a tag showing the campaign already has an initial P600.00 donation, of which the top donation is P500.00, the target total target proceed as P500,000, and 2 donors giving the first cash gifts.



The K5, singing Christmas songs, oldies but goodies, and favorites, *from top*: Bro. Alvin Barcelona; Bro. Obet Cabrillas; Bro. Jon Escoto; Bro. Arun Gogna; Special Guest Sis. Rissa Singson Kawpeng, editor-in-chief of *Kerygma*, now named *The Feast* magazine; and Bro. Adrian Panganiban, concept and show director...

The campaign continues, appealing to “Spread the love this season of giving...”

And look, the donations swiftly increase...

Spread the love in this season of giving.
Send your donations through:

SVRTV Foundation Inc:

BDO Saving Account No:
000-1605-06123
(routing code BNORPHMM)

Send your Pledges Or Deposit slips to:

Viber/Whatsapp: +639209133547 (Rowena Caquena)
FB Messenger: <https://www.facebook.com/gigi.alvarez1>

... to P342, 331!



Feast Singapore kindly doubles the collected amount...
And our Mercy Ministries receive a Christmas gift totaling **P695,662--** over a hundred more than the target collection!

And then a shower of balloons in all the colors of the Rainbow—the sign of God preserving life after the Great Flood, and eventually, saving us from destruction, as promised in Geneses 9:13:

“I have set my rainbow in the clouds and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth.”



Blessings

Motherly Love

By PAULA BELEN



I AM a house mother in the Jeremiah Foundation 33, the Light of Jesus Feast Mercy Ministry that provides shelter and pastoral care for sexually abused girls.

As a house mother, yes, I give motherly love. I help implement Jeremiah 33's program to take care of our Jeremiah girls, attending to their daily needs, helping them in their journey from the trauma of their dark past to a new life of dignity, through psycho-spiritual counseling.

But as I take care of our girls, I go through struggles of my own, especially during these difficult times of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID) Pandemic. I am away from my own family and I miss them so much. I worry too much for their safety, burdening myself with a lot of "what-ifs...."

What if I catch the virus... What if my family members get infected... Or what if the Pandemic gets worse than it already is?

But as I guide our Jeremiah girls, I find comfort with the very spiritual messages I share with them. I am beyond grateful that I've come to know God and His promise in the verse after which our Foundation was named, Jeremiah 33: 6-7: *...I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security. I will bring Judah and Israel back from captivity and will rebuild them as they were before.*

Yes, amid my anxieties, I'm still thankful that my family and even my friends are still here—all of us still breathing!

And I know that it's God who sees us through our difficulties. He who gives us hope and strength. He who protects us and keeps us safe.

God bless us all!

*It's your turn! Share your blessings and be a blessing to others to glorify God.
Email now your story to library2819@gmail.com*



FAMILY

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, 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 Family. 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 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

Website: <https://kerygmfamily.com>

Telephone Numbers: 8725-9999/ Fax 725-1230

Our Partner Beneficiaries

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



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



He Cares Mission provides shelter for street children.

Pag-asa ng Pamilya Foundation gives scholarships to poor 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.



LIGHT OF JESUS FAMILY
DISASTER RECOVERY MINISTRY

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 and click 'Give' button Paypal I US Donations.

2. Pick Up from Your House or Office

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

3. Mail 12 Post-Dated Checks to Our Office

For US and CANADA: Address Checks to Kerygma Family, 848 n Rainbow Blvd # 1937, Las Vegas, NV 89107

For Other Countries/Philippines: Address Check to Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation and mail (registered mail) to Shepherds Voice, 60 Chicago St., Cubao QC Philippines 1109

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

Account name: Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation

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

Banco de Oro Savings Account no: 3970019804 General Araneta, Cubao Branch

Banco de Oro - Savings Account no. 160506123 SM Cubao Branch

PNB - Current Account no. 371157500015 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 to 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 or text us at (63) 922-828-9890/ (63) 998-968-4416 or Fax to (+632) 725-1230.



FAMILY ONLINE NEWSMAGAZINE

***The Feast Family* online newsmagazine is produced by the Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation, which is also our partner beneficiary, with editorial services by the Light of Jesus Family Library Ministry.**

Founder: Bo Sanchez

Mercy Ministries Chairman:

Hermie Morelos

Editor-in-Chief:

Cynthia U. Santiago

Feast International

Region Head:

Vic Español

Chief Photographer:

Edmundo L. Santiago

Media Ministries Head:

Randy Borrromeo

Reporter-Writer:

Cybill P. Bayto

Publication Consultant:

Chelle Crisanto

Contributors:

The Feast Builder

Finance Officer:

Rowena Cequeña

Human Resources Manager:

Erika Ventura



For comments, article contributions, write or call us:
Email Address: lojlibrary2819@gmail.com
Landline phone numbers: 8725-9999, Fax 725-1230
Mobile phone: 0998-953-0657

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