



anawim HERALD

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2022

What She Will Always Remember

NELIA VIDAL VILLACAMPA was born on October 15, 1944. So, she is now 78 years old.

She can no longer remember where she went for her elementary and high school education. But she does remember that for college, she went to the Manuel L. Quezon University where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree, major in Commerce. She first worked as a cashier in a hospital's pharmacy, then, as a clerk in Diamond Theater in Quezon City.

She got married to Antonio Fajardo Cosio but notice that she no longer uses the surname of her husband. That's because all too soon, her husband died of heart attack.

She laments, "When my husband died, that was the Waterloo of my life. After his death, I never used his family name anymore because I wanted to forget the pain of losing him."

Please turn to page 12



Big Events, Big Love!



YES, we enjoyed big events in the last quarter of Year 2022!

Read about our exciting Anawim projects for our lolos and lolas in the report of our Mercy Ministries Chairman Bro. Hermie Morelos, *page 2*.

On October 3, 2022, we celebrated the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of indigents, and thus our major inspiration in Anawim, *page 5*.

We celebrated Christmas early—on December 6, 2022. Day before this, on December 5, Anawim supporter Sis. Amie Pesebre celebrated her birthday with a Hairstyling Treat by no less than master hairstylist Angelo Falconi and his team to give our grannies — as well as our grampas—that Christmas party look, *pages 11-15*.

Yes, Big Events which mean Big Love for our lolos and lolas. On their behalf, my Biggest Gratitude to you all, from the bottom of my heart.

May your dreams come true,

Bo Sanchez
Bo Sanchez

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT



ANAWIM HEROES

WE started the last quarter of 2022 with our regular Board Meeting held at St. Therese Retreat House in Bagiuo City on October 28 - 30, 2022.

At right, Anawim Admin servant leaders happily welcome Board members, indeed our Anawim heroes, from left: Carlos Dimson, Anawim Lay Mission executive director; Ar Cie Binohhi, Anawim Center administrator; Stella Apao, Human Resources and Admin supervisor.

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS

We deeply thank God that He has blessed us with Institutional Partners who generously support Anawim. Plus, we have upcoming partners too.

UPCOMING INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS
American Chamber - Ford Philippines
Miriam College
FBA Ushers
FBA PM Singles Ministry

Among our kind supporters are ministries of The Feast Bay Area (FBA), the main prayer gathering of our Light of Jesus Family, our faith community founded by Bro. Bo Sanchez. Bro. Bo kindly shares with Anawim and our other Mercy Ministries a portion of the tithes of Feast members to sustain their operations. Glory to God!

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS
IMG
FBA Kingdom Builders
Ardent Networks
CAFA America
Analog Devices
Unfold Media Inc.
Creative Communications Society of Adamson University
Feast Canada
Yes Land

SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS

By God's Grace, our institutional partners and other donors have immensely helped us implement our Anawim projects.

DIAPER DRIVE

Aside from food and medicines, an urgent need of our grandpas and grandmas are quality adult diapers--at least three pieces a day per elderly-- that minimize if not totally prevent rashes.



Thank you, Kimberly Clarke!

Savings from the Diaper donations are used for meals.



DONOR CARE

To say "Thank you" to donors, Anawim gives them gifts such as our Devotionals, The Feast magazine, or the latest books of Bro. Bo Sanchez.



ANAWIM FARM

Our lolos and lolas live in resort-like cottages on a sprawling five-hectare land donated by a member of the Light of Jesus Family.

As we are blessed with donations, Anawim has also built an organic farm on the property now with three-fold benefits: 1) food such as vegetables, chicken, goat meat; 2) source of livelihood for farmers using shredder machine for bio fertilizer and vermicompost (nutrient-rich fertilizer made out of earthworms and microorganisms); and 3) because of the farm harvest, now a cut on food expenses

All for God's glory,
HERMIE MORELOS
Chairman
Light of Jesus Family
Mercy Ministries





Celebrations!

ST. FRANCIS FEAST DAY

Choosing to be an Anawim

ANAWIM Lay Mission started the last quarter of 2022—October to December—with a celebration of the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, venerated for his ministry to the poor, and thus the inspiration for our Mercy Ministries for indigents.

Born around 1181, Francis died on the evening of Saturday, October 3, 1226 at the age of 44.

Pope Gregory IX set a decree fixing the Feast of St. Francis on October 4, “the day he entered the Kingdom of Heaven.”

We celebrated St. Francis Day one day ahead, on October 3, 2022, at the Anawim Chapel which we named St.

Francis of Assisi Chapel.

Deeply grateful to God for giving us St. Francis, we especially celebrated St. Francis Day with a Thanksgiving Mass presided by Rev.Fr. Romeo G. Nimez, CICM, concelebrated by Rev, Benoit Bambili Luanyi, CICM.



During the Mass: Liturgy Reading
by Stella Apao; Holy Communion;
Lay Ministers; Choir; Ladies in Blue...



Anawim Executive Director Bro. Caloy Dimson exhorting on the inspiring virtues of St. Francis.

Riches to Rags

Anawim, a Hebrew word --*inwetan*-- refers to *those who are bowed down*, or *the poor ones*. Not just the poor, but specifically *the poor faithful ones*— those who believe in God even amid their dire situation, their difficult times. (Anawim <https://anawim.com.ph>)

The world loves winners, especially those with rags to riches stories. We love St. Francis because he is a winner—but his is a *riches to rags* story.

We marvel at Francis, son of a wealthy family but who chose to become poor.

History has it that Francis was born around 1181 in Assisi, Umbria, a region in central Italy. It is said that his mother, Pica de Bourlemont, was a French noblewoman—meaning coming from high, elevated class of society, an aristocrat with true integrity. As such, biography accounts say, she christened Francis as Giovanni-- the Italian name for John the Baptist.

But, as the story goes, his father, Pietro di Bernardone, a wealthy cloth merchant, wanted a man of business, not of God. So, grateful for his business success mainly in France, he renamed his son Francesco, or Francis, meaning free man.

God, however, had another plan. As the Lord would have it, Francis would be choosing to be, yes, a man of God.



FEAST: After the Holy Mass, Fr. Nimez enjoying a well-deserved sumptuous lunch; ... And so do the rest of St. Francis devotees.

Journey to Sainthood

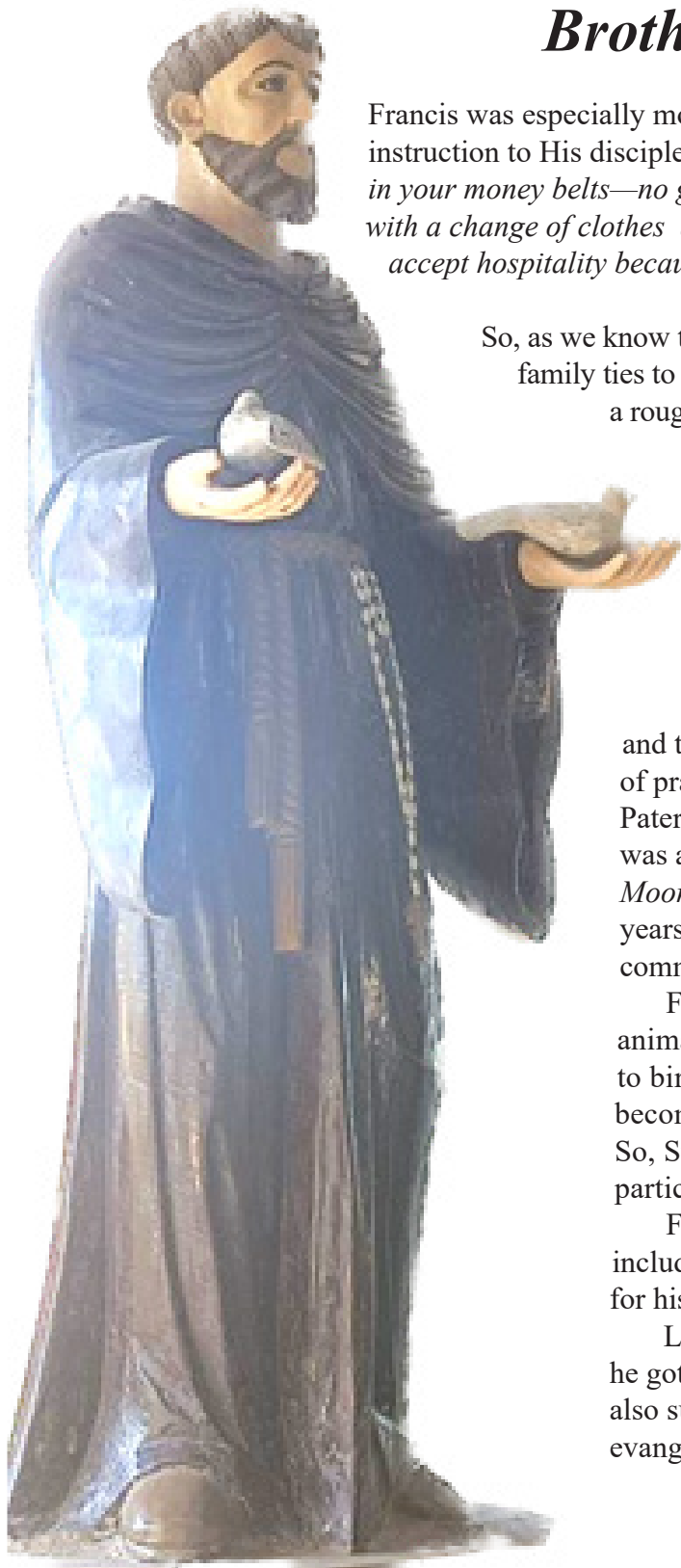
Stories about Francis relate that as a rich man's son, he lived a carefree life, going into archery, wrestling, and horsemanship. But early on, he was actually disillusioned about the worldly life. Thus, in his bios, we read about the story of the beggar. Accounts relate that he once gave a beggar whatever was in his pockets. His friends jeered at his "foolishness," and in rage, his father scolded him.

But for his altruistic sense of business, St. Francis is now the patron saint of merchants.

Rather than being in business, Francis was more fascinated with being a knight, a medieval hero. And this fantasy became a reality. Records show that in 1202, he joined the army fighting a battle for Assisi against the Italian province Perugia. Assisi lost and Francis became a prisoner of war.

Noting that his dress indicated that he came from a rich clan, his captors let him live and demanded ransom from his family. After a year, his family paid the ransom and he was set free.

Apparently amid his hardship, Francis learned to turn to God. Biography accounts say he reportedly saw visions of God, heard His voice, mandating that he must rebuild the Christian Church. So, his Ministry well contributed to a new life for the Church. And he also literally built churches damaged by wars during his time.



Brother Sun, Sister Moon

Francis was especially moved by what he heard while attending Mass-- Jesus' instruction to His disciples when they go minister to people: *Don't take money in your money belts—no gold, silver, or even coins. Don't carry a traveler's bag with a change of clothes and sandals, or even a walking stick. Don't hesitate to accept hospitality because those who work deserve to be fed.*

(Matthew 10:9-10 NLT)

So, as we know today, Francis renounced his worldly goods and his family ties to embrace a life of poverty to be with God's poor, wearing a rough robe tied with a rope-- somewhat the kind of humble habits now worn by members of the congregation he eventually established—the Franciscan Order of the Catholic Church-- the men's Order of Friars Minor (Mendicant Order) and the women's Order of Saint Clare (Poor Clares).

St. Francis is known not only for his ministry to the poor and underprivileged but also for his extraordinary care for nature, seeing the sun as brother and the moon as sister. Thus, among his writings is a hymn of praise of nature which award winning author Katherine Paterson reimaged as *Brother Sun, Sister Moon*. Francis was also the inspiration of the movie *Brother Sun, Sister Moon* by director Franco Zeffirelli focusing on the early years of Francis as seeing communion with nature as also communion and love for Jesus.

Francis' love for nature extended to a deep care for animals. And so, the stories about Francis preaching to birds that God loves them, and persuading a wolf to become friends of residents of a village it used to attack. So, St. Francis is also the patron saint of ecology and particularly, of animals.

Francis was also blessed with the gift of healing the sick, including lepers—miracles that would be a significant basis for his canonization as a saint.

Living with the poor and ministering the sick, in time he got sick too, suffering conjunctivitis and malaria. He also suffered an eye disease—severe trachoma— while evangelizing in the East.



Celebrating in Faith

No Anawim celebration is complete without the group picture. So, here is the group celebrating St. Francis' Feast Day--masked amid the Coronavirus Disease Pandemic--posing in faith in front of the statue of St. Francis and Jesus on the Cross.

On the Cross, Jesus suffered wounds on His hands, His feet, and the fatal pierce in his side. Francis received marks of those wounds—called the stigmata—right on the Feast of the Exultation of the Holy Cross on September 14, 1224. Accounts have it that on that day, while Francis was attending a retreat in La Verna, a mountain in central Italy, a seraph visited him and the miracle happened. He was the first person to ever experience the stigmata -- the evidence that would seal his canonization. <https://www.sma-church.org › st-francis-of-assisi-receiv...>

The very first person, historically recorded, to receive the stigmata, Francis endured nail marks on his hands and feet, and a gash in the side of his chest.

Tired and already feeling weak, he returned to Assisi where he died at the Porziuncola--blind or almost blind. But some accounts have it that he became blind as he shed tears for the sins of the world.

Francis died on October 3, 1226, at the age of 44. Two years after, in 1228, Pope Gregory IX canonized Francis as a saint.

In Matthew 5:3, Jesus said, *Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.* St. Francis of Assisi inspires us to live this mandate very well. To choose to be anawim in spirit. How to do it?

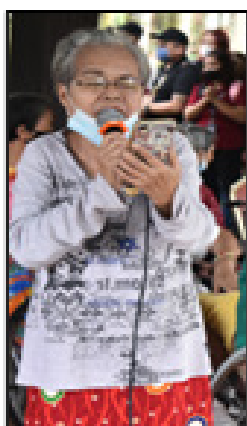
He left us with this practical, inspiring message: Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible .

--With Reporting by Babes Zambrano

Celebrations!

Anawim Christmas 2022 *That Clear-Cut Party Look!*

Anawim's Christmas was scheduled on December 6, 2022. Day before, December 5, the celebration actually already started with the birthday celebration of Sis. Armela 'Amie' Pesebre (*right*) who, as her birthday gift for our elderly, arranged for a Hairstyling Treat, inviting salon entrepreneur Angelo Falconi to bring his team of professional hairstylists to give our grannies — as well as our grampas— that Christmas party look.



MERRY WELCOME, clockwise *from top left*: At the Anawim Garden Entrance; greetings by Bro. Hermie Morelos, chair, Light of Jesus Family Mercy Ministries; and Bro. Carlos Dimson, Anawim executive director; songs by Lola Ruth and Lola Fely assisted by Sis. Arcie Binohhi.



Crowning Glory for God

Angelo Falconi III studied at the Australian College of Hair Design and Beauty Manila and put up the Angelo III Salon Professionals, choice beauty haven of celebrities and you who don't mind shelling out your hard-earned cash to get Angelo Falconi touch your crowning glory.

Our Anawim lolos and lolas didn't have to court Angelo's attention for he promptly left his ace clients the moment Amie Pesebre invited him to bring his Salon professionals to help celebrate her birthday in Anawim— for God's glory.

To cut it short, so you don't have to cut in, an Angelo Falconi hairstyle is as clear cut as, well, a beautiful Falconi cut.



Merry Christmas!



Thanksgiving Mass

The celebration begins with Thanksgiving Mass presided by Fr. Ronaldo Benueza, CICM.

Advent Wreath prayers led by Stella Apao



Holy Communion

Blessings

Anawim received two wonderful Christmas blessings: solar panels and sewing machines.

Solar energy is the most abundant source of energy as the amount of sunlight that strikes the Earth's surface in an hour and a half is enough to handle the entire world's energy consumption for a full year. One-way solar technology converts sunlight into electrical energy through photovoltaic panels-- which Anawim installed recently, assuring less expenses on power consumption.



INAUGURATION RITES, clockwise from *top left*: Fr. Benueza and Bro. Hermie blessing panel installation; Fr. Benueza, Bro. Caloy joins ribbon cutting to open the panels; Bro. Hermie, Sis. Lynda Reyes and Sis. Aida Dy, Anawim Board members, Bro. Caloy, and Engr. Michael Cas, president of Solarche Photovoltaic Systems, installer of Anawim's solar panels.

Above right, blessing another Christmas gift, sewing machines donated by Tingog Partylist headed by Congressman Jude Acidre.

Merry Party!

Lolas and lolos, Bro. Hermie, Bro. Caloy, and Anawim staff singing wacky action songs led by Angelo Banatao; Bro. Obet Cabrillas and wife Joie, belting out a love song, with music by Jonathan Serrano; host Babes Zambrano-- This is merrily Anawim Christmas!



HIS MERCY NEVER CEASES!

*The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.*

--Lamentations 3:22-23 English Standard Version (ESV)

YES, our God of Mercy remains with our Anawim grandmas and grandpas every day through our visitors!



Thank you, Chris Lingbaoang!



Thank you, Jessa May Ibarra!



Thank you, PAPH Travel and Tours!



Thank you, Primesearch Service Provider!

Nelia Villacampa

... from page 1

What She's Thankful For

They were blessed with a son, Michael Angelo, for whom Nelia had to work harder to be able to send him to school.

"I was able to send my son to school until he finished his college degree," she proudly shares. "And now, he is an OFW (Overseas Filipino Worker).

But then, all too soon, she was alone again. Michael got married and fending for his family, he could not afford to support Nelia, then

Then, Nelia, a Catholic and regular church-goer, happened to have a church-mate, Lourdes Evelyn R. Bondoc, who she hoped could help her.

"I asked her to help me, to accommodate me in her house," Nelia muses. "But she could not take me permanently since she also had other concerns."

But God would not leave Nelia alone. Lourdes happened to know about Anawim and she promptly referred Nelia to our Home.

Nelia arrived in Anawim on March 16, 2017. And since then, she's been deeply grateful for Anawim blessings she has well received.

"The peaceful place, free accommodation, medical care, programs, gifts, workers," she happily enumerates.

At right, she enjoys free hair cut during the recent Anawim's Hairstyling Event.

She adds, "Aside from providing my needs, what I most appreciate is the loving care of friends in Anawim."

This she cherishes and will never forget.

— With Reporting by Ar Cie Binohhi



LET'S GET CONNECTED

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Thank you very much
And God bless you more and more!

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Anawim Herald

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