



# FAMILY

MARCH 31, 2024

## *You Won't Be 'Casper,' The Friendly Ghost*

SORRY to Gen Z friends who don't know who I'm talking about.

This cartoon is really old. It first appeared in 1945 and became a big hit when I was a kid watching cartoons in the 1970s.

But this, I believe, is the most common-- and biggest-- misunderstanding about the Easter message: That it's about our life after death.

But what kind of afterlife will it be? We imagine we will look like *Casper*, the friendly ghost. We imagine we will be translucent souls in white shimmering nightgowns flowing in the wind, ethereal beings floating on fluffy clouds, with Spa music in the background.

But in today's Easter Feast, you'll realize this is not exactly what the Bible says. God says each one of us will have a physical body—just an upgraded one.

Like Jesus, perhaps you'll have a body that can walk through walls, beam yourself anywhere in a snap (sorry for my *Star Trek* vocabulary), but still be so corporal, you can eat.

OMG. I won't be missing my peanut butter, unsweetened and organic.

And this insane world that we live in will, one day, be redeemed.

Get ready for an amazing Easter Feast!

May your dreams come true,

**Bo Sanchez**



**WELCOME**  
**to our Grand Easter**  
**Feast Talk:**  
***Walk Back to Jerusalem***

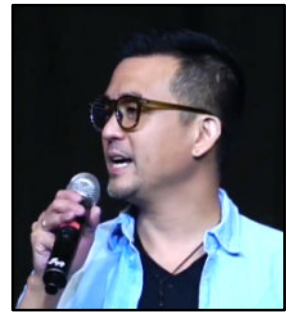


## Ask Your Questions...

IN his homily last Sunday Feast on March 24, 2024, Fr. Paolo Asprer asked: What is the meaning of life for you? Fr. Paolo presented the various meanings of life as defined by theologians, philosophers, and well-known writers, *page 3*.



Bro. Bo Sanchez asked: What kind of afterlife we will have? The answers are in his Grand Easter Feast Talk today. His intro is on *page 1*.



What is love? Bro. Audee Villaraza tackled the question in Talk 4 of our Feast Series, *Messy Saints*. *Flashback* starts on *page 16*.



Bro. Didoy Lubaton, welcoming us last Sunday Feast, talked about the question of his daughter Haley: “Daddy, is Holy week when Jesus died?” His answer is on *page 8*.



More questions? Our Light of Jesus Pastoral Care answers a lot of questions asked by the wounded, the hurting. Dr. Michelle Alignay, Ministry director, presents the latest programs giving hope to you and me, *page 27*.



Yes, ask your questions. To the right Person, so you get the right answers.

All for God’s Glory,

**Randy Borromeo**  
Media Ministry  
Executive Director





## ***FLASHBACK!***

**MARCH 24, 2024**

### **Holy Mass**

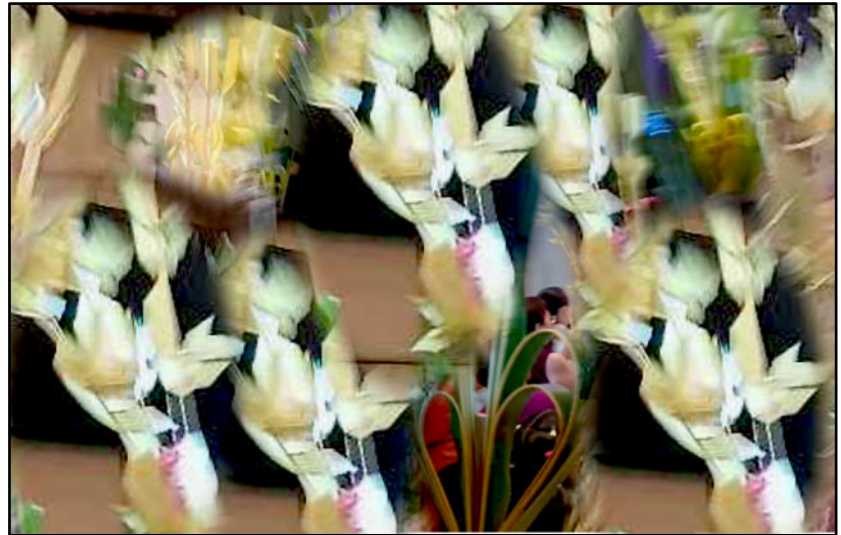


**AT THE PROCESSION WITH PALMS**

#### **REV. FR. PAOLO ASPRER**

**on the Gospel Mark 11:1-10**

*<sup>1</sup> When Jesus and his disciples drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup> and said to them, “Go into the village opposite you, and immediately on entering it, you will find a colt tethered on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here <sup>3</sup> If anyone should say to you, “Why are you doing this?” reply, “The Master has need of it and will send it back here at once.”” <sup>4</sup> So they went off and found a colt tethered at a gate outside on the street, and they untied it. <sup>5</sup> Some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” <sup>6</sup> They answered them just as Jesus had told them to, and they permitted them to do it. <sup>7</sup> So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And he sat on it. <sup>8</sup> Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. <sup>9</sup> Those preceding him as well as those following kept crying out: “Hosanna! <sup>10</sup> Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come! Hosanna in the highest!”*



## Homily

**REV. FR. PAOLO ASPRER**  
on the Gospel Mark 15:1-39

## **PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION**

### Excerpts:

What is the meaning of life for you? Sometimes, the simplest and shortest questions are the toughest to answer, isn't it? There is a tendency to complicate the simple and to simplify what's already complicated.

When I was studying Philosophy, that question was asked during our mid-term examination. When I received the test paper, I was flabbergasted. I didn't know what to write. Good thing, the Holy Spirit activated my memory and inspiration, and I was able to answer and pass my examination.

My professor remarked on my test paper, "Long live!"

I felt, however, that what he was really trying to tell me was that my answer was long and complicated-- yet the only answer should be, "Live life to the fullest."

American writer and humorist Mark Twain said that there are two important events in a person's life. First, the day we were born. Second, the day we find out why.

There is another philosopher who said, "Life has no meaning. It's actually an opportunity to create meanings."

Others even put an acronym on LIFE.

- **Live It to the Fullest Every Day**
- **Live In Faith Every Day.**
- **Learn It From Experience**



## Two Letters

Another speaker would say, "Life can be found between the two letters *B* and *D*.

*B* stands for *birth* while *D* stands for *death*.

What is letter *C*? It's *Choice*. Life can be found in the big things, small things, and everything in between. Perhaps life for you is in the simple things like: sipping coffee or wine on a weekend with your family and relatives; basking under the morning sun; one daring adventure or nothing; making other people happy.

The spiritual masters would say, "If you want to be truly happy, make other people happy."

The air that you breathe out is the air that you breathe in. Real happiness-- joy-- is placing it where it belongs --- the fulfillment of life's deepest purposes.

Today is Passion Sunday. We enter the most solemn week of the liturgical year of the Church wherein we celebrate Jesus' Passion – for God, for humanity, for life, for love. Our Lord Jesus was already a dead man walking but He was full of life.

The Jewish-Roman establishment connived to put Jesus to death for many reasons such as envy, hardness of heart, transgressions of the Sabbath law, blasphemy, and so on, and so forth. But Jesus seemed to be in control of the situation. There was surrender and acceptance of the unknown and of the uncontrollable.



## First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

*4 The Lord God has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them. Morning after morning he opens my ear that I may hear; 5 and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. 6 I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. 7 The Lord God is my help therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame.*

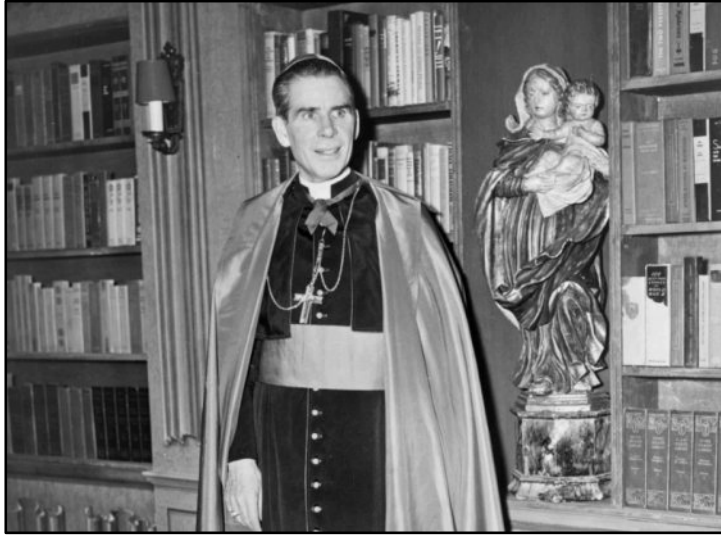
## Responsorial Psalm:

**Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24**

**R. My God, my God.**

*Why have you abandoned me?*





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## Prophecy Fulfilled

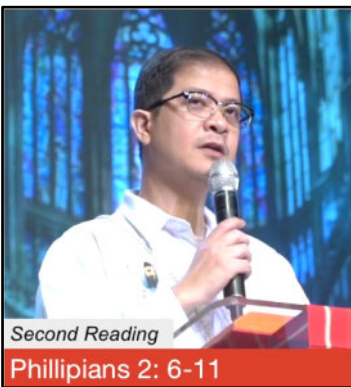
Renowned American theologian Bishop Fulton Sheen said: "We came into this world to live. But Jesus came into this world to die."

He was truly the servant of Yahweh... as foretold in our First Reading today. ... Whose glory is manifested in His self-emptying -- that's our Second Reading from St. Paul.



For life to be truly meaningful,  
for love to be truly authentic,

- it must cost,
- it must hurt,
- it must empty us of our *self*.



## Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

*6 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 the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which 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.*

## How Can We Live the Passion of Jesus?

Through **L.I.F.E.**

**LIVING.** Not just existing or surviving.

I attended the birthday of a good friend of mine. I asked her, "How old are you?"

She snorted. She said, "Father, it's my birthday, don't say bad words!"

I said to her, "Be thankful. Not everyone has the privilege to reach your age. That's my prayer for you: that you would not just add years to your life but add life to your years."

Our life is not just about length but about depth. It's not just about speed but about substance. It's not just about success but about significance. Our Lord Jesus lived for 33 years. I think He would have been a "millennial" when He died.

Many would say, "What a waste." But again, He lived a full life.

**INTIMACY.** Not just acquaintances.

It's good to reflect on our relationships, our friendships. There are different kinds of friends, isn't it? Friends who would stay with us during difficult situations. Some would leave us. There are those who would put us in dire straits.

These three types of friends were encountered by Jesus in His life. He embraced all of them.

The Gospel says, "He loved his friends to the end."

Do we really lose friends-- or do we just get to know who the true ones are?

**FAITH.** Not just waiting for the crisis to pass but being able to dance amidst the storm.

There is a spiritual author who said, "Faith is like climbing a huge staircase. You do not see the entire staircase. You just simply take one step at a time."

Our faith would not always give the answers to our questions. All our questions will only be answered when we meet God face to face. That's what we call "beatific vision."

For now, faith gives us perspective. Our outlook could either be our prison or prosper to a deeper life.

**EMPTINESS.** Not just struggling for excellence. For love to be real: it must cost, it must hurt, and it must empty us of our *self*.

Today is Passion Sunday. As Jesus embraces His Cross, He is very much afraid. But again, He takes the Cross wholeheartedly with courage and commitment.

Jesus seems to remind us that it's normal to be afraid of death. But we should be more afraid if we haven't started living intentionally.

Fear not death. Rather, fear an un-lived life. Amen.





**BRO. DIDOY LUBATON:**

Let's give the Lord a big, big hand, Everybody.

Yes, that's how The Feast is being treated now because we are on Passion Sunday. It's Holy Week. And it seems to be we're sad, we're laid back, we're a bit subdued.

I was with my daughter Haley at the back during the Mass.

She said, "Daddy, is Holy week when Jesus died?"

And I said, "Yes, this is the week when we commemorate Jesus' death on the Cross. But He did not stay dead. He's going to rise and become alive as we'll all celebrate Easter together on Sunday."

You know, what I realized is this: I am so grateful that we have a community like this. I'm so grateful that she gets to ask that kind of question in the middle of our Community gathering. That I, as a parent, would not have a hard time explaining Lent to her. She sees it in action. She sees it with the Community celebrating, doing it all. We were there, with the palms, and she was asking questions and such.



## Love Offering

I realized that values, especially what we value the most, are not what we teach. They are not taught. They are caught.

This is why I invite you today to give.

Today is Passion Sunday. The word *passion* comes from the Latin word *passio* and *pathos* in Greek-- and it means *to bear, to endure, to suffer*.

And why are we all here celebrating that? Because there is *purpose* when we bear, we endure, we suffer. We heard from the long Gospel today, the longest Gospel of the year, in the animated way that the Liturgy team did earlier, with Fr. Paolo, and it was us reliving through the story about how Jesus endured the persecution, how He bore the Cross and suffered in His crucifixion.

And why are we doing that? Because there's a beautiful purpose-- because that is God's way of serving and loving us. It is His will and we are one with that today.

Sometimes-- I'm not kidding you-- when you see Love Offering envelopes, it makes you feel allergic, right?

You're like, "That's not for me. It's okay. I gave already."

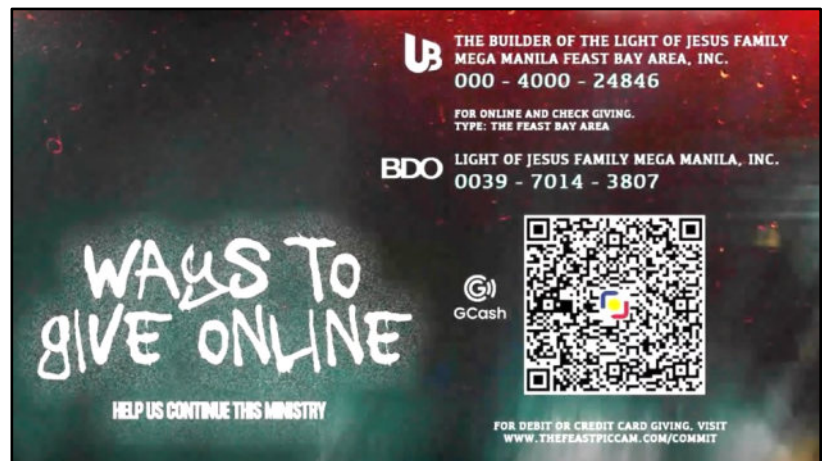
But today, I invite you, as a church, as a Community, to endure, to bear, and to suffer.

And I want to connect it also to our upcoming Holy Week Retreat and Grand Easter Feast. Come, I invite you to the Retreat... It's part of God's Plan to bear, endure, suffer...

Let's lift our Love Offering. Pray this with me:

*Dear God, Thank You for this opportunity to give. Bless our giving. May it build Your Church. May it build Your Community. Do Your mighty work through our giving. In Jesus' Name. Amen.*

Give joyfully to the Lord. Thanks, Everybody, and enjoy the rest of The Feast today.



## Worship!:

**SIS. MHADZ PAMAONG:**

Good Morning, Feast!

Brothers and Sisters, you may have reasons for coming here today. Maybe it's your first time to come in here at The Feast. Or maybe you just woke up. Or maybe you just want to be in the Presence of the Lord.

But whatever it is, one thing is for sure-- and I am confident to say--that the grace of God is here.

So, with arms opened wide, let us all worship the Lord. Come on, heads up...

At this moment, we are going to sing who God says He is. He's worthy. Lift your voice. He is worthy...



Praise You, Jesus! We magnify Your Name in this place.  
We glorify You! You're worthy!

*Father, we come in here to You today with our hearts and hands wide open. We're coming here today as one, in desperate need of Your love and forgiveness.*

*Father, help us confirm the truth, Lord. Help us confirm our faith. And I pray, Lord, that You fill us with Your Living Water-- until it overflows.*

Everybody, sing of God's Living Water.  
This is our prayer today.



Brothers and Sisters, is your heart thirsty today? Do you long for true peace in Your heart? Have you been searching everywhere for the things but they could not simply satisfy your soul? I know-- because I've been there, too.

So, I invite you today to come to Jesus. Because His Word says: "Whoever is thirsty, let Him come to me."

And so, we cry out to God.  
And we sing...





12 The FEAST FAMILY March 31, 2024

**BRO. BO SANCHEZ:**

*Father in Heaven, I bring before You my burden-  
I bring before You my worry. I bring before You that  
which is bothering me. I bring before You my wound.  
I bring before You my hurt. I bring before You  
my need. I bring before You the storm that's raging,  
blowing fierce and strong in my heart. I bring before  
You all that is chaotic within me and I am claiming that  
right now in Your Presence-- because of what You are doing in my life.*

*You are giving me peace. You are giving me joy. You are giving me Your Presence.  
You are giving me abundance. You are giving me miracles. You are giving me blessings.  
And You are giving me Yourself.*

*And so, today, as we worship You and as I come before You, I'm claiming right now  
that the Living Water, that beautiful spring from Your Heart. The spear, oh yes,  
that spear pierces through Your Heart, and water and blood flowing out-- that is mine.  
You are giving that to me-- healing, change, transformation, in the Name of Jesus. Amen.*



# NOVENA TO GOD'S LOVE DECLARATION OF ABUNDANCE

Give the Lord a big hand and love Him today. God is here. His grace is here. Everybody, say our favorite prayer together:



## Talk INTRODUCTION



### **BRO. BO SANCHEZ:**

Give God a big hand. God is here.

I want you to give a big hand to all our servants, serving the Lord here onstage, as well as those all around us. Thank you. Thank you so much. Such a beautiful time of Worship. I want you to hug somebody or give a handshake if you're a bit shy, and tell that person: "God is here."

I'm just going to share with you my personal opinion. I can't back it up with texts, Scripture, or doctrine. I'll just tell you my hunch.

How many of you are cooks? I believe that it's very possible that in Creation 2.0, you will still be cooking. But because you are in a perfected state, the culinary dishes that you will whip out will be Michelin-level. When you cook, it'll be so delicious that for the people-- saints of God, who will be taking one spoonful of that thing that you cook-- there will be tears in their eyes because the dish is so out of this world.

How many of you are architects, engineers, and masons? If you are, then love what you do. I have the sneaking suspicion that in the new Jerusalem, you will still be building stuff in galaxies far away. You will be building cities.

How many of you are singers, songwriters, and musicians? Again, this is just my guess: but I have this belief that you will still sing and create music in the Kingdom that is coming. In that Kingdom, your music and your songs will lift nations. Your music will inspire the world.

Whatever you're doing in this world, whether it's having breakfast with your children, a date with your wife, you're doing laundry at home, or loving your parents while listening to their repeated stories...

When you do what you're doing, you're building the Kingdom of God. Building God's Kingdom is not just about going to church, praying, reading the Bible. Building God's Kingdom is what you are doing right now here on Earth-- if you follow Jesus in every single moment.

## Talk



### BRO. AUDEE VILLARAZA:

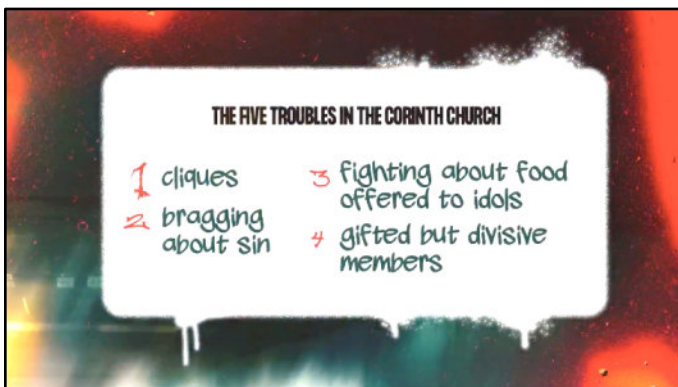
Thank you, Bro. Bo.

For now, at this moment, I want you to lift your hands as we honor and give reverence to the reading of God's Word.

Let's all sing:

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

We are on the fourth installment-- we're almost wrapping up our series *Messy Saints*. We've been talking about the different problems that the people of Corinth had been experiencing.



Let me give you the fourth one:  
about how the people of Corinth were gifted  
but they had divisive members.

And I pray that the Lord minister to you.

16 The FEAST FAMILY March 31, 2024





So, we're taking a page from the Book of Corinthians-- Corinthians 1:13. Chances are, if you've ever sat through a wedding-- either you got married or somebody you know got married, you would be very familiar with this piece of Scripture. Paul said:

**1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-13, 11, 14:1 NLT**

If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing.

If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing.

And he said the most beautiful words:

Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged.

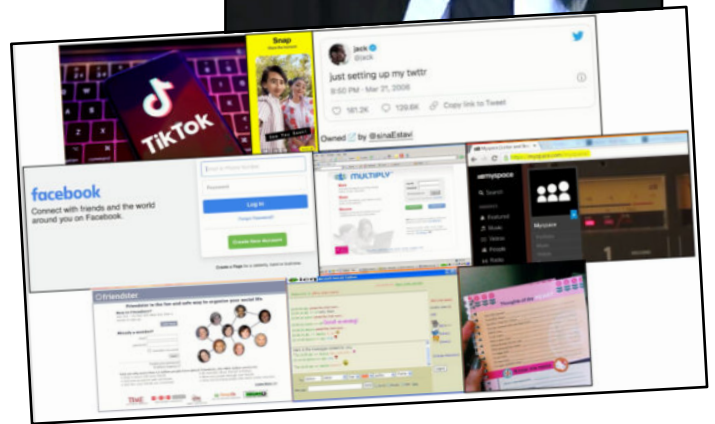
Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. Prophecy and speaking in unknown languages and special knowledge will become useless. But love will last forever!

When I was a child, I spoke and thought and reasoned as a child. But when I grew up, I put away childish things. Three things will last forever: faith, hope, and love, and the greatest of these is love. Let love be your highest goal!

Preach that to yourself: *Love is my highest goal.*

The FEAST FAMILY March 31, 2024 17

Lord, this is Your Word. And today it will unleash wisdom, and information, and change will happen in the life of your people. This is what we're declaring in Jesus' Name. Amen.



One more time, Everybody:

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

*Let Love be your highest goal.*

I want to take you through a timeline of how social media has evolved in this world. What is the trendiest social media platform nowadays?

It's *TikTok*.

But before *TikTok*, there was *Snapchat*.

Before *Snapchat*, there was *Twitter*.

Before *Twitter*, there was *Facebook*.

Before *Facebook*, there was *Multiply*.

Some of you probably sold some stuff in *Multiply*.

Before *Multiply*, there was *Myspace*.

Before *Myspace*, there was *Friendster* – this revolutionized social media.

But before *Friendster*, there was *ICQ*. The young people don't know the struggle.

*ICQ* was a chatroom where you could enter and chat with anybody. That was the first time in history where you could chat with any person around the world, and you wouldn't know who they were.

This is where the *ASL* term was invented. It stands for *Age, Sex, and Location*. When somebody says *ASL*, you would tell them how old you are, your gender, and your location.

Some of you don't know the struggle because back in the day, you had to dial up to get an Internet connection. Once connected, you get disconnected every 30 minutes. Why? Because you ran out of load. You would need another scratch card.

The second reason you would get disconnected is that somebody lifted the landline.

Young people today are so blessed because of WiFi.

But before *ICQ*, what was the thing that you used so you could get to know someone? It was called the *Slam Book* -- a notebook that had random questions that would be answered by your friend so you could get to know him or her.

Questions like, "What is your favorite color?" "What is your motto in life?" The most favorite question was, "Who is your crush?" For me, the hardest question that the *Slam Book* always had was, "What is love?"

Your young mind wouldn't know the answer so you would just copy what others wrote.

## What is love?

Love has many definitions.

But when it comes to love, I believe that there is nobody other than St. Paul who best described it. To me, that's the love that really depicts the kind of love that only God can give.

Paul was really the one who got so close to *love*. The Greeks have four ways to define love:

1. *Storge*: love within family; 2. *Filia*: love between friends; 3. *Eros*: love that is erotic or sensual 4. *Agape*: love that only God can give.

But one common mistake that people make whenever they read Corinthians 1:13, they think it's romantic love because it's always used in weddings or relationships. But is that the reason Paul wrote it in the first place?

Let me give you the answer. It's not about romantic love. Paul was not giving advice to boyfriends and girlfriends. Paul was saying that he was talking about spiritual gifts:



### 1 CORINTHIANS 12:8-10

To one person the Spirit gives the ability to give wise advice; to another the same Spirit gives a message of special knowledge. The same Spirit gives great faith to another, and to someone else the one Spirit gives the gift of healing.

He gives one person the power to perform miracles, and another the ability to prophesy. He gives someone else the ability to discern whether a message is from the Spirit of God or from another spirit.

Still another person is given the ability to speak in unknown languages, while another is given the ability to interpret what is being said.'

## Different Gifts

If you're new to the Charismatic Renewal Movement, some of these words might be alien to you. But if you've been part of the Charismatic Movement for a while, you would know all these spiritual gifts: the gift of prophecy, the gift of healing, the gift of faith, and the most famous gift of all – speaking in tongues.

What Paul was saying was that these people from Corinth had all the spiritual gifts. They were a gifted nation. But that became the problem-- because they focused too much on their gifting and they didn't celebrate anything else.

For instance, at that time, if you were somebody who had all or some of the spiritual gifts, people celebrated you. But sadly, if you were not gifted with any spiritual gift, you were put down.

This still happens in society today. Sometimes, we celebrate those who are truly gifted, and we put down those who aren't.

Picture this incident with me. A father is complaining about his two children.

He says, "I don't understand it. My eldest daughter is smart but my son-- he's a good kid he's dumb."

Parents, you need to know this truth. Each of your children is bright. They are bright in different ways. Psychology says that there are nine kinds of intelligence. I'll give you some of them:

1. Naturalistic-- the ability to identify, observe, categorize, understand, and manipulate natural elements like plants, animals, and the environment. People with naturalistic intelligence can make your dead plant come to life within a week. They are also known to be dog whisperers or cat whisperers.

2. Musical-- the ability to comprehend and produce musical skills such as rhythm, lyrics, and patterns.

3. Logical-Mathematical-- the ability to analyze situations or problems logically, identify solutions, conduct scientific research, and easily solve logical/mathematical operations.

4. Interpersonal-- the ability to understand and interact effectively with others.

5. Spatial-- the concept of being able to successfully perceive and derive insight from visual data. People who have spatial intelligence normally become architects, designers, or map readers.



**COMMON MISTAKE MAKING GIFTS THE HIGHEST GOAL OF LIFE**

What am I saying? No child in this world is plain dumb. It's just that they are wise in a different way than you. Parents, please don't ever compare your children with one another. Each of them is different. They are intelligent in their own way.

The most common mistake that parents make is that they would treat gifts as the highest goal. That's wrong. Love should be your highest goal.

Have you ever heard somebody say, "I want to be as gifted as Jesus?"

No. When you look at Jesus the first thing you think is "I want to be as loving, as patient, as generous, and as merciful as Jesus."

When Jesus came, He never thought about His gift. He preached about the love of God. To Him, love is the highest goal.

Paul was saying that you can have all the spiritual gifts in your life. You can be the most talented person that walks in the room. You can be the most gifted singer here on stage. You can be the most award-winning athlete in the gym. But without love, all these gifts will be meaningless.

**WITHOUT LOVE ALL THE GIFTS MEAN NOTHING!**

What's amazing about that is if you look at it from the opposite spectrum, Paul said that if you don't have any talent, but you have love, then you have everything because love is the highest goal. It's no wonder why Jesus said three things will remain:

**1 CORINTHIANS 13:13 NLT**  
Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love...



## Why Is Love the Greatest?

**1. Love lasts forever.** When you get to Heaven, you won't need faith and hope anymore because you're already face-to-face with your God. On the other hand, you will continue to love God and continue to grow in that love day by day.

**2. God is love.** God doesn't need to have faith because He doesn't need to trust outside of Himself. God doesn't need to hope for anything because He knows the past, present, and future. God is personified by love.

I want to end this by telling you what love can do through the story of my Dad.

When I was young, I wasn't very close to my Dad. I didn't know his story.

When my Dad was one year old, he was accidentally shot in his right eye by his three-year-old cousin who was the son of a soldier.

He lived in Majayjay, Laguna. The cousin was toying around with a gun. He was in the adjacent room. He accidentally clicked the gun. The bullet went through the room where my Dad was in. The bullet went through the back of his head to his eye.

All his life, my Dad had only one eye-- the other eye was blind. Growing up, he had to wear sunglasses until he was old. He couldn't do a lot of things that normal people like you and me could do. But one of the normal things we enjoyed doing was driving. But my Dad couldn't drive fast because his peripheral vision on the right side was blind.

When I was 13 years old, I didn't understand why my friends would always ask me why my Dad was always wearing sunglasses even at night. I didn't know until I was 13 years old when I walked in on him while he was by the dresser. It looked like he was brushing something. As I got closer, to my shock, I saw that he was washing a plastic eye. It was out of his socket.

From that moment on, I thought to myself, "Oh my gosh, my Dad is the Terminator."



## How Jesus Carried His Cross

Many years ago, we had a big family reunion. There were a lot of relatives there that we didn't know. It was the usual party until I saw my Dad rise from his seat because he ran to a family that I didn't know. He ran like it was his long-lost family. He started hugging the father, the wife, and the kids. He was so proud of who that family was that he went around introducing the father to everyone.

He said to me, "Audie, this is Tito Floro."

When we were driving home, I asked him who was Tito Floro.

He said, "Oh, that was my cousin. He was the one who accidentally shot me."

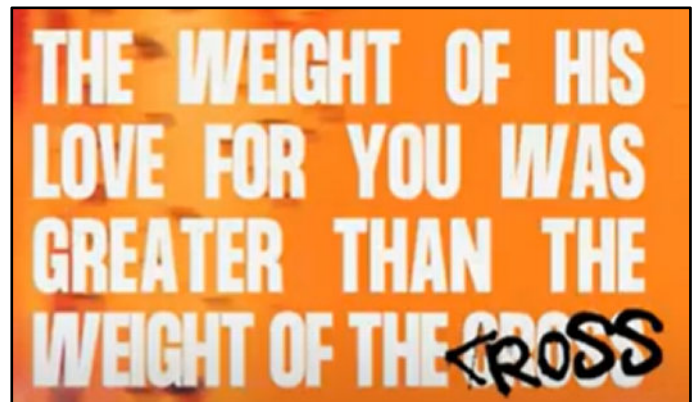
I was shocked. I said, "Why did you embrace him like he didn't impair you for life?"

My Dad said, "I don't want to add a burden to his life-- simply because I know he's been through so much. You don't know the kind of life he has lived. By me forgiving him, it means the world to him."

At that moment, I understood how it is to forgive somebody.

The truth that I need you to hear is this: "Hate is dead weight." When we carry our crosses in this life, we're carrying them like they are dead weight. It's hard to carry a cross-- if you're carrying it as a *cross*. You know how Jesus carried His Cross? Why He was able to carry that Cross towards Calvary?

He lifted that Cross because He loved you and me.



## How To Carry Our Cross

You've got crosses that you've been bearing from situations, in the form of sin. Sometimes, even in the form of a person. How do you lift that cross?

I'm not telling you to love your cross. I'm telling you that if you let your love lift your cross, you'll be able to lift that cross all the way to the mountaintop-- just like what Jesus did.

Love changes you. It lets you live this kind of life where you know that you can be just like Jesus.

When God created you, He created you to be just like Him.

But over time, we lose that identity because of sin. But that's in the very DNA we all have within us.

St. Paul wasn't simply talking about love-- he was talking about God. So, when he said that love is kind, he meant God is kind. When he said that love is kind, he meant that God is not boastful.

Since you have been created in the image and likeness of God-- I want us to do this together: If you can bear with me, I want you to replace the word "Love" with your name, and let's read together:

That's who you are. That's how God created you to be. God is love and He is here. But you cannot be love to others without first receiving love from God.

Let's receive the love of Jesus who came down and demonstrated a love like no other. A love that knows no bounds. A love that traverses past, present, and future. A love that does not keep a record of wrongs. This is the kind of love that the Lord can give, and our responsibility is to just receive it.

With an open heart, say this with me:

*"Lord, I receive Your love, I receive Your mercy. I receive Your Love and I let it change me right now. Thank You, Jesus, for this Love. Hallelujah!"*



(Name) is patient and kind. (Name) is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. (Name) does not demand his/her own way. (Name) is not irritable, and (Name) keeps no record of being wronged. (Name) never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.



# Commitment

## **BRO. BO SANCHEZ:**

You were singing a song that says, “Lord, I give my all. I give my life. Lord, take control.”

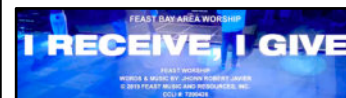
I’m going to ask you this question: Are you ready to do that? *All* means your past, your present, and your future. *All* means your regrets, the hurts of the past, the troubles you’d gone through, and also the uncertainties, and the fears of the future.

Are you really giving your all, and are you really saying, “Lord, take control?”

*Take control* means “Your will be done-- not mine anymore. I’m going to follow You. I’m not going to follow what I feel, my moods, even my own beliefs. I really want to follow You, Jesus.”

If you’re ready to do that, then let’s say a prayer together. It’s going to be a renewal of your baptismal vows. Maybe for some of you, it’s the first you’re going to say this radical prayer. Whoever you are, pray this prayer with me:

*Jesus, I give my all to You. Lord, take control. I am following You for the rest of my life. You’re my King. I will serve You forever. Amen.*





# MERCY MINISTRIES

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

--Matthew 5:7

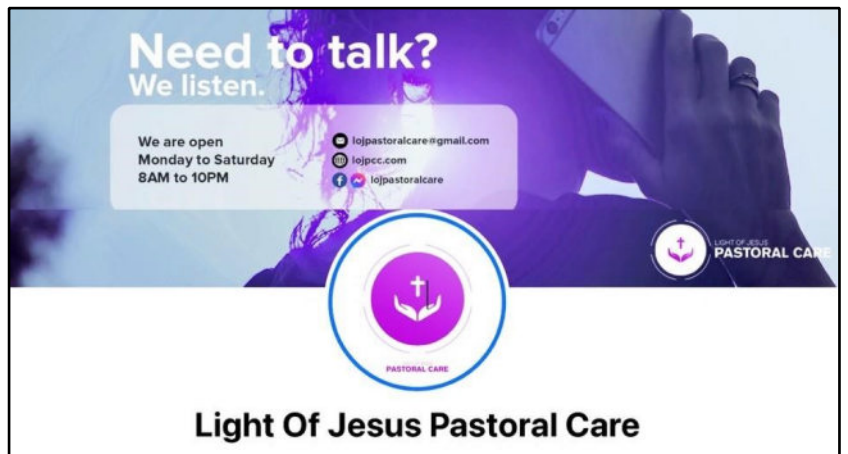
## LIGHT OF JESUS PASTORAL CARE

### *Someone To Listen to You*

THE Light of Jesus Pastoral Care is a 24/7 Ministry. Any time of the day or night, you may tap its online website and someone is there to attend to you ready to listen and to provide support amid your difficulties.

One of the Mercy Ministries of our faith-based Community, Light of Jesus Family, the Light of Jesus Pastoral Care Center provides psycho-spiritual support to the emotionally burdened.

Co-founded by Bro. Bo Sanchez and Sis. Ditas Español, the Ministry provides comfort to those in need through face-to-face, one-on-one care sessions, plus 24/7 care via the telephone.





## Messages of Hope

What are the messages of the LOJ Pastoral Care giving hope to those in need?

We learn about them through the talks of Dr. Michele Alignay, the director of LOJ Pastoral Care, for various groups.

Dr. Alignay's secular work is practicing psychoeducation as a speaker, consultant, and resource person for seminars and trainings on family life and well-being.

In the process, she shares about the services of the LOJ Pastoral Care through her numerous edifying talks.

The LOJ Pastoral Care has lined up these major projects:

### 1. Caring Church Workshops

This is training for Feast servants (in the Philippines and abroad) conducted by Dr. Michele Alignay, and Sis. Ditas Espanol, former director, plus a team of Pastoral Carers.

The whole day workshop trains Feast servants to understand mental health issues and psycho-emotional concerns of our brethren, and to learn the basic skills of psycho-spiritual support for others.

These skills include Listening, Empathy, Affirmation, Power Up, and Prayer.

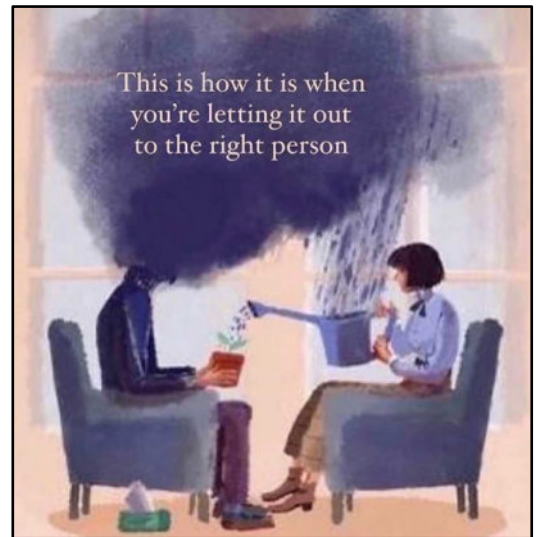
### 2. Webinars in June and July 2024.

The topics for the webinars are

- Relationship Boundaries
- Revisiting Adult Self-Worth
- Dealing with Grief

### 3. Basic Pastoral Care Training.

The Ministry will be opening classes by 2025.



Posted on the LOJ Pastoral Care Facebook



Posted on the LOJ Pastoral Care Facebook

In July 2023 the LOJ Pastoral Care Ministry celebrated a major event: its 30<sup>th</sup> Founding Anniversary. On its Facebook page, the Ministry posted:

“We had a small and special gathering to affirm our dedicated Pastoral Carers for what they have been doing for others. If you know a Pastoral Carer, or you’ve been cared for by them, say a special prayer for their well-being and mission.

Make the Pastoral Carers, the persons who care for you through our sessions, feel truly cared for and appreciated.”

#LightofJesusPastoralCare

#feastmercyministry#The Feast

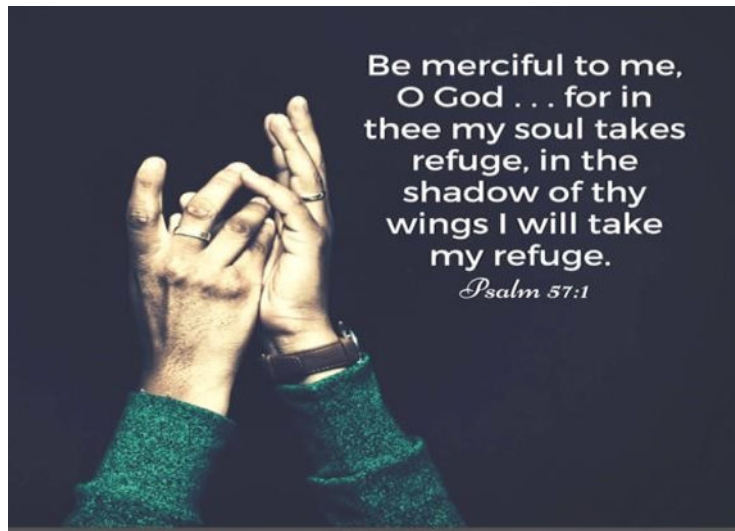
**28** The FEAST FAMILY March 31, 2024

## Connect with LOJ Pastoral Care

The LOJ Pastoral Care Center may be reached through the following:

- Scheduling of sessions may be reached through Facebook Messenger  
<https://www.facebook.com/lojpastoralcare/>
- Other online links:
  - [www.lojpcc.com](http://www.lojpcc.com) ○ [lojpastoralcare@gmail.com](mailto:lojpastoralcare@gmail.com) ○ [lojpastoralcare@gmail.com](mailto:lojpastoralcare@gmail.com)
- We provide the following services:
  - ‘*Care Sessions*’ – One-on-one session with a Volunteer (scheduled online chat or audio call)
  - Prayer or Intercessions – prayer requests may be sent via messenger (<https://www.facebook.com/lojpastoralcare/>)
  - Group Sessions – special learning sessions

Operational Hours: Monday to Saturday: 8AM to 10PM (Manila Time)



Posted on the LOJ Pastoral Care Facebook

The FEAST FAMILY March 31, 2024 **29**



## **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**

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

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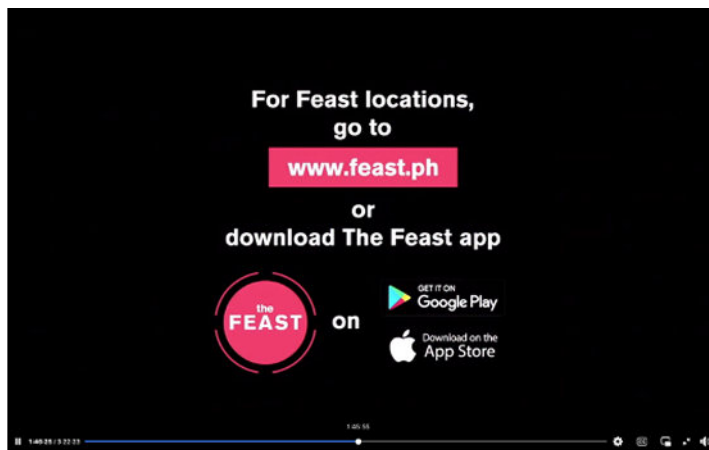
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***Go and make disciples of all men.***

— Matthew 28:19