



## Shine His Light!

YOU know that even when it's dark at night, the moon gives us light. Yet, you know too that the moon does not produce light on its own, right? It reflects the light of the sun from its surface.

We're still having the FEASTCON fever with the theme, *Let There Be Light!*

The Feast Conference Visayas is happening now, December 8, in Cebu City. Thousands of people are led to The Light – JESUS – The Light of the World. And Jesus said that “You (too) are the light of the world.” (Matthew 5: 14).

But then again, we shine our light by shining His light!

Today is also (supposed to be) the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. It was moved to December 9 since it coincided with today's Second Sunday of Advent.

We Catholics are blessed and grateful that we have Mama Mary. And for the umpteenth time, may we remember that do not *worship* her. She herself points us to Jesus as she said, “*Do whatever He tells you.*” (John 2: 5)

Mama Mary is *moon* to her Son. Jesus is the *Sun* (Get that?)

Mama Mary brilliantly reflects the Light of Jesus to us.

We too, again, are called to Shine His Light – to be the Light of Jesus to the world.

On this Second Sunday of Advent, we light again another candle – The Candle of Peace – something we all need badly with what's happening in our country, and in the world.

In our SPECIAL FEAST today, let us all Shine His Light!

Welcome to The FEAST, where *You are Loved!*

*Mayroong Magandang Mangyayari Sa 'Yo!*

**Alvin Barcelona**

## ADVENTure Time!

"Welcome to our *ADVENTure*.

Welcome to our *ADVENTture with God*."

Thus, Rev. Fr. Paul Jacome welcomed us in last Feast Sunday's Mass, celebrating the beginning of the Advent Season, page 34.

Usually, the color of our title is **blue**. But look, our title has two colors: **purple** and **green**.

**Purple** is often associated with royalty, as in Jesus, our King, whose coming we are awaiting this Advent season.

**Purple** is also the color of piety and spirituality-- our mood this season of preparing for Christ's coming.

**Green** represents crop harvests, growth, abundance, renewal. That's why with the merry **red**, **green** is also the color of Christmas.



Yes, it's *ADVENTure Time*: our Grand Feast! Grand Welcome by Bro. Alvin Barcelona, *page 3*. Grand Worship led by Bro. Nico Narvaez. Grand Feast talks by Bro. Bo Sanchez, *page 16*, and Bro. Ryan Capitulo, *page 10*.

Grand Worship led by Bro. Nico Narvaez, *page 14*.

Grand feature on Jesus Christ Cares for Cancer with Bro. Alo Gelano (*right*), chairman and Sis. Maritess, board secretary, *page 23*.

Grand sharing by Bro. Lep Sumera, Feast Manila Builder, on how God provided for the Feast, even before he asked for it, *page 27*.

Grand sharing by Sis. Mhadz Pamaong (*below, left*) on her amazing renewal, *page 7*.

And don't miss the exciting announcements of Bro. JC Libiran, *page 28*. and Bro. Audee Villaraza, *page 34*.

*Blessed ADVENTure, Everyone!*



All for God's Glory,

**Randy Borromeo**  
Media Ministry  
Executive Director





## Welcome!



### **BRO. ALVIN BARCELONA:**

I arrived at the airport at 3:00 a.m. today. I came from Davao where we held a Grand Feast yesterday (Saturday, November 30).

Thank you, you are all here. Welcome to our Grand Feast at Feast Bay Area!

Of course, we sang this song *Liwang sa Dilim* because not only do we need light amid the dark happenings around us, it's also because we are celebrating the huge victory of our FEAST CONFERENCE 2024!

Amazing three days! And we saw Jesus (role played by Jonathan Roumie in the his television series *The Chosen*) We saw Jesus not just in Jonathan Roumie, but in those three amazing days.

And you know what? It's just the start. The reason we were in Davao, we kicked off Feast Conference Mindanao for February 2025. This Friday (December 6, 2024), we fly to Cebu for Feast Conference Visayas. And there's going to be Feast Conference in Baguio, and a Feast Conference in Batangas.

We're lighting the World with the Light of Jesus!

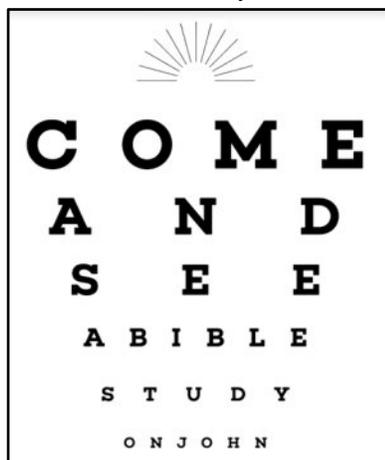
## Preparation

And what do you know, it's already December! Time flies. Merry Christmas!

But, of course, as Catholics, we first go through Advent season.

How beautiful is our Faith! We go through a process and we know that before it gets to be exciting, we are preparing ourselves for Christmas.

Today (December 1) is the First Sunday of Advent. And we've got a fully loaded, power-packed Grand Feast today as we-- our various Feasts-- are joined in the Feast Bay Area. Because we're going to have our last two talks of our amazing series, *COME and SEE-- The Bible Study on the Gospel of John*.



The first talk to be given by an amazing preacher. We're going to learn that *Jesus Meets You Where You Are*. And when you encounter Jesus, your life will change forever.

And in the final talk, we're just so excited to hear Bro. Bo again. Where you empowered and blessed by Bro. Bo in his talk in the FEASTCON? We're going to hear him again in Talk 11 of the series, telling us that *God Is Calling You Again*.

So, brace yourself for our Grand Feast today. But before that, let me prep up a little more.

The first song I sang is an Original Pilipino Music Rock, *Liwanag sa Dilim* (<https://genius.com/Rivermaya-liwanag-sa-dilim-kaya-mo-to-lyrics>).

I'm going to share with you one last song-- an-all time classic praise song: *This Little Light of Mine*, as we're still in the mood of shining the Light of Jesus to the world-- as our theme *Let There Be Light* ushered us to do so.

## Let the Light Shine!



<https://www.google.com/search?q=this+little+light+of+mine+composer>

May we give a clap offering for the Feast Bay Area. We also have The Feast Barcelona of Academy-- students and teachers joining us today. Thank you!

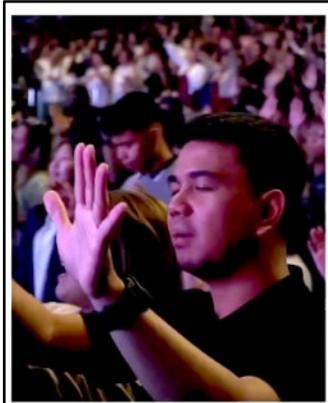
And, of course, for the Himaya Band, thank you!

# NOVENA TO GOD'S LOVE **DECLARATION OF ABUNDANCE**

We start our Feast with our favorite prayer:



**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.**



Let's have our Grand Feast!  
Get ready for more!

6 The FEAST FAMILY December 8, 2024

# Testimony



## **SIS. MARIZ PAMAONG on video:**

I was living a double life then. I was part of a workplace where temptations were all around. I was a smoker for seven years. Name it, I was into it: beer, barkada, and vices.

I have a broken family. So, I looked for love from different places, from different men, and from different forms of entertainment.

I was in a relationship with a married man. I was not proud of it. Because I was already a Feast servant then.

At that time, whenever I was onstage, there was this nagging feeling from the enemy: "You're worshipping, but outside The Feast, you are a mistress."

I stayed for six months in that relationship. I thought that I would be stuck in that relationship. I thought that it was my worth.

In November 2018, I was brokenhearted. I was at my rock-bottom when I met God. I met Him in my room. I was praying for Him to remove anything that's not from Him. I cried myself to sleep.

When I woke up, I received this message from a co-Feaster: "Mhadz, would you like to attend the Kerygma Conference (now named Feast Conference)? I have an extra ticket."

Of course, I said *Yes*. I was like, if that's the only way for me to divert my attention from my woes, then I would join the Conference.

So, I attended. And there I heard this message which I felt was meant directly for me.

In the class led by Fr. Dave Concepcion, he said, "Someone here needs this message: God has to break your heart to save your soul."

I went out of that class. I called my boyfriend and I told him, "I need to stop this. I love you-- but I love God more."

How was I convinced that God is true? Every day, God would remind me that I am no longer a mistress but I'm already His princess. Because of His grace, I learned to forgive my family and myself for what I had done.

God is good. He orchestrated everything-- from the Kerygma Conference ticket given to me, to my surrendering my life to Him, to my co-Light Group member giving me a *Didache*, to being gifted with a Bible as a Christmas gift.

Since then, I decided to focus on my spiritual growth. I wanted to know God more. His goodness manifested in the people around me. I'm so grateful to The Feast and to the friends He has brought me. This is a wonderful journey that I'd like to share. Light Group is a gift. The Feast is a gift. Surrendering your life to the Lord would open so many doors in your life. You would see His goodness.

**BRO. RYAN CAPITULO:**

This beautiful testimony exemplifies one important lesson that I'd like to share with you today. When we encounter Jesus, our lives will change forever.

To bless you even more, I'd like to call on that wonderful lady you just saw on the video to join me here onstage. Please welcome Sister Mhadz Pamaong.



Thank you, Mhadz. I honor you for your courage to share something that may have brought you shame and maybe, your loved ones as well. But we are so blessed today because you shared your faith journey with us.

I just have a few questions.

There may be some here who are still distant from God since they are just starting on their faith journey. How would you introduce God to them? What would you tell them about the Lord that you encountered.

**SIS. MHADZ:** I believe that God is not someone you can move away from. There's nowhere you can go that is away from His presence. But you can feel far from God.

In my case, I felt far from God because of my sin. I gave so much authority in the flesh that it gave me depression, guilt, and shame. I carried that for a very long time. But I praise God because when I was unfaithful, He remained faithful to me.

My message to those who feel the same thing, please know that there is still hope. It always starts with going back to Jesus and to His Word.

I believe that the same grace that is meant to give us faith is the same grace that will help us go back to God.



**BRO. RYAN:** For many of us here, you are our hope today. Since you shared your story today, you gave hope to many people. Again, thank you for that.

I like what you said, "God is relentless."

He will keep on chasing us

My second question: There may be some here who are doubting their faith. How will you encourage them to have faith in God?

**SIS. MHADZ:** Doubt is already part of our lives. That's the first temptation of the Devil. In Genesis 3, the Devil kept asking, "Did God really say that?"

I believe that in my faith journey, in my walk with Christ, I have encountered God telling me that He has been so gentle, compassionate, and patient to those who struggle with their beliefs.

To keep it practical, I found friends who would walk with me and to whom I could confide in.

Praise God for this Community because The Feast is a gathering that you can join and the people here don't do doubt-shaming. I have these extremely wonderful ladies in my Light Group. We are being vulnerable with our weaknesses.

Another what I hold on to is Matthew 17: *Ask and it'll be given to you. Seek and you shall find. Knock and it'll be opened to you.*

If we keep pressing on and if we keep seeking God, it'll be given to us, it'll be opened to us. Praise God for that.

**BRO. RYAN:** I agree with you that God is very patient.

Friends, if you will be forgiven and accepted again, stay here in The Feast because we will accept you again. We will never get tired of accepting you because we are inspired by what God is doing in our lives. God gives us so many chances. So, please, get rid of your doubts.

Mhadz, my last question: If someone may take home only one important lesson from your message, what will it be?

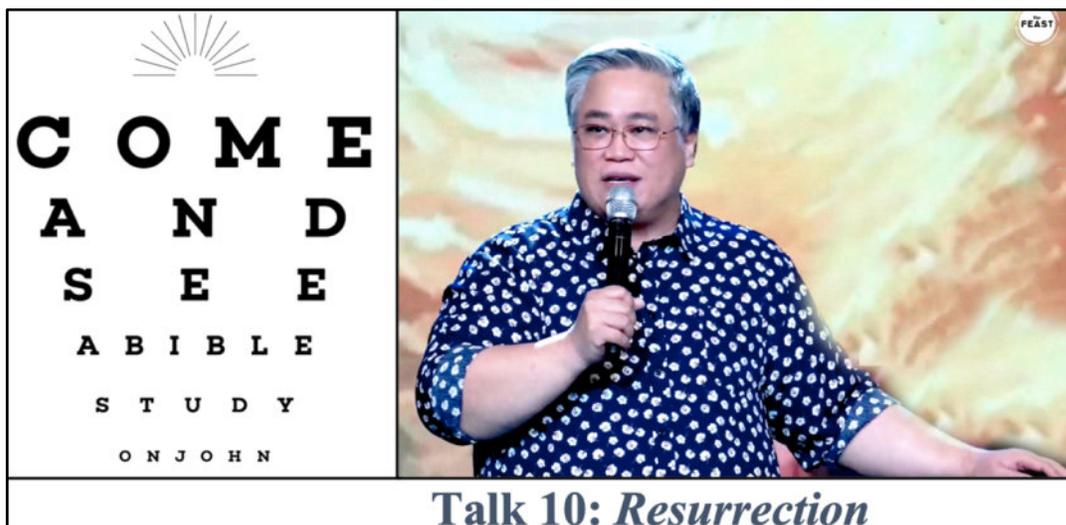
**SIS. MHADZ:** I would echo what Bro. Bo Sanchez said last FEAST CONFERENCE: God is in your mess.

I have learned that if we cooperate with God's grace, He can turn our mess into a message. The only reason I can stand here is God did not see me for who I was-- but who I could become.

**BRO. RYAN:** I assure you that you have blessed so many here. You are that hope that many people were waiting for today. Thank you, Mhadz.



# Talk



## **BRO. RYAN CAPITULO:**

Truly, the testimony of Mhadz exemplifies our message. We are comforted by the grace that God has given Mhadz. That was a difficult situation to be in. But isn't it comforting that God embraces everyone?

You might have thought you will remain in your rock-bottom. You thought you're too far away from God. You thought there's no hope for you.

But I'm telling you that God will meet you where you are. He *will*. Because God met Mhadz at the lowest point of her life, at the most embarrassing moment of her life. God met Mhadz when she was too embarrassed to admit what she was doing. God met Mhadz when she felt so unworthy.

And that's what God is doing to each and every one of us. We have to believe it because it's true.

I'll be giving you a summary of Talk 10 of our series *COME and SEE* because we were not able to take it up on November 17, 2024, when we did not hold our Feast due to the weather forecast that Super Typhoon Pepito would hit Metro Manila on that day.

We are still studying the *Book of St. John*. Talk 10 is titled *Resurrection*. And the big message of Talk 10 is *Jesus Knows Your Name*.

G O D W I L L  
M E E T Y O U  
W H E R E  
Y O U A R E .

J E S U S  
K N O W S  
Y O U R  
N A M E



## The Call

St. John started the *Resurrection* story with Mary Magdalene going to the tomb of Jesus. She was shocked because Jesus' body was not in the tomb. She was distraught, she started to cry>

JOHN 20:11-13 NABRE  
"AND AS SHE WEPT, SHE BENT OVER INTO THE TOMB  
12 AND SAW TWO ANGELS IN WHITE SITTING THERE,  
ONE AT THE HEAD AND ONE AT THE FEET WHERE THE BODY  
OF JESUS HAD BEEN. 13 AND THEY SAID TO HER, "WOMAN, WHY  
ARE YOU WEEPING?" SHE SAID TO THEM, "THEY HAVE TAKEN  
MY LORD, AND I DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY LAID HIM."

This is a beautiful image written by St. John. We've seen this image. Where in the Bible did we see two angels?

It was in the Ark of the Covenant.

(The Ark is a gold-plated wooden chest where the Ten Commandments God gave to Moses was kept.

The *covenant* refers to the Mosaic Covenant, a contract formed between Yahweh and Moses in *Exodus* and resulted in the Ten Commandments which the Ark carries.  
<https://www.google.com/search?q=ark+of+the+covenant>)



There are two angels guarding the Ark of the Covenant which is the most powerful symbol of God's Presence for the Israelites.

St. John was telling us a very important lesson: That Jesus is God's Presence and Jesus is the Ark of the New Covenant that God made with His people.



We also saw two images of angels guarding the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve were expelled.

From this imagery, St. John is telling us that Jesus is the New Garden of Eden.

Jesus is the New Tree of Life, and that the gate of the Garden is no longer closed.

We also read in that particular Reading that Mary Magdalene mistook Jesus as a gardener.

JESUS IS THE NEW GARDEN OF EDEN.  
JESUS IS NEW TREE OF LIFE.  
AND THE GATE OF THE GARDEN  
IS NO LONGER CLOSED.

St. John is telling us that Jesus is the New Gardener of His Garden.

JESUS  
AS THE NEW GARDENER  
OF HIS GARDEN.

When Jesus called Mary Magdalene by her name, she recognized Jesus. She failed to recognize Him a few moments before that. >

This is the absolute truth:

You recognize Jesus when you hear Him call your name.

JOHN 20:16 NABRE  
"JESUS SAID TO HER, 'MARY!' SHE TURNED AND SAID TO HIM  
IN HEBREW, 'RABBOUNI,' WHICH MEANS TEACHER."

TRUTH  
YOU RECOGNIZE JESUS  
WHEN YOU HEAR HIM  
CALL YOUR NAME.

## Double Life

Twenty years ago, in 2004, I heard Jesus call my name. I was reading the very first book of Bro. Bo, *Thank God, He's Boss*.

I can't remember anymore how I got hold a copy of that book. While I was reading that beautiful book, God called me by name and He told me to attend The Feast. I attended for the first time at The Feast in Teatro Aguinaldo, in Murphy, Quezon City.

Oh, my, I just revealed my age. I was 31 then. I'm 51 years old now.

Instantaneously, I was drawn to The Feast. I was inspired and I was moved to be part of the Light of Jesus Family and to serve God there.

But there were complications. Back then, I was a practicing gay.

How was it possible? I wanted to keep on *practicing*. I had long hair then.

But God's call is very personal. He won't give up on us.

He continued to plant the grace that I needed to change. I had to turn away from that lifestyle. But it was hard. Initially, I resisted. I wanted to keep my *long hair*.

But God is relentless. He gave me the grace to strive to live a life of chastity and sexual purity. He allowed me to meet people who helped me along my journey. It was hard because I was already serving at The Feast-- but I kept on falling back into my old lifestyle.

I had to confess again. I had to start from zero to go through my faith journey again. I had a lot of spiritual directors. I went through a deliverance session. I attended many support groups like Courage Philippines.

After two years of falling into sin, repenting, and then falling again, and starting again, I finally received Divine Grace. The Lord gave me the grace to live in chastity and sexual purity. I've been chaste since February 1, 2006.

But mind you, I continue to struggle until now and I totally rely on His grace.

I've also realized that God is also asking us to do something for Him.

He wants you to live your life in such a way that you bring people to Jesus. Bro. Bo suggested that I join the Unfailing Love Light Group.

It's named as such because it's only the unfailing love of God that helps us overcome our burdens. As I struggled with homosexuality and same sex attraction, I started joining that Light Group which included LGBTs (all sexualities). All of us are on different stages of our faith journey.

Some question the intent of this Light Group. I would be criticized why we accept LGBTs. I tell them that I do accept them because I was once like them.



L	I	V	E	Y	O	U	R	L	I	F	E
I	N	S	U	C	H	A	W	A	Y		
T	H	A	T	Y	O	U	B	R	I	N	G
P	E	O	P	L	E	T	O				
J	E	S	U	S	.						

## Encounter

When the Apostles encountered the resurrected Jesus, I bet they were truly happy. But Thomas was not with them. So, he could not believe that they saw Jesus:

**JOHN 20:25 NABRE**  
"SO THE OTHER DISCIPLES SAID TO HIM, "WE HAVE SEEN THE LORD." BUT HE SAID TO THEM, "UNLESS I SEE THE MARK OF THE NAILS IN HIS HANDS AND PUT MY FINGER INTO THE NAILMARKS AND PUT MY HAND INTO HIS SIDE, I WILL NOT BELIEVE."



**LESSON**  
THOMAS MISSED JESUS  
BECAUSE HE WAS ABSENT  
FROM COMMUNITY.

**ADVICE**  
DON'T BE ABSENT  
FROM GOD'S FAMILY.

Don't be absent from God's family. We do our best to make you feel loved.

The Feast is not perfect. The people here are not perfect. You learned that from our sharing. But I can assure you that imperfect we may be, God is *here*. No one can contradict that. I am proof that God is here. Mhadz is proof that God is here in The Feast-- and we encountered Him, that's why our lives have been changed forever! Even if you doubt like Thomas-- even if you're doubting what I'm saying right now-- just allow yourself to encounter God here at The Feast.

When Thomas encountered the Resurrected Christ, he said, "My Lord and my God!"

Thomas' life changed. And yours too: When you encounter Jesus in The Feast, you will then say:

"My Lord and my God! And I will make You Jesus God and King in all aspects of my life!"

**JOHN 20:28 NABRE**  
"MY LORD AND MY GOD!"

WHEN PEOPLE  
ENCOUNTER JESUS,  
THEIR LIVES  
CHANGE FOREVER.



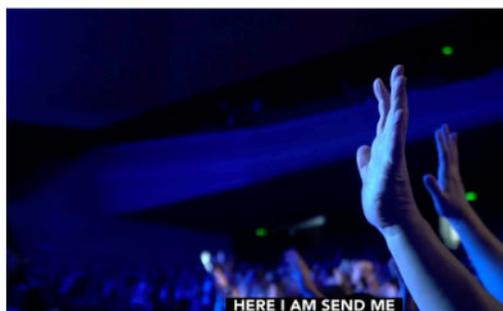
Thank you for listening. Enjoy the rest of The Feast.

# Worship!

## EXHORTATION

### BRO. NICO NARVAEZ:

Let's worship the Lord today. If you believe that the Light shines through us today, let's worship the Lord. Let's believe in what he is saying.



*Light of the World* Feast Music/Arranger: Adriel Zachary Yolkingco Producer: Adriel Zachary Yolkingco  
Producer: Paul Vernon Lim Composer: Vera Yajaira Viñas Composer: Almari Barcelona Composer: Vanya Fatima Castor  
Lyricist: Vera Yajaira Viñas Lyricist: Almari Barcelona Lyricist: Vanya Fatima Castor

**BRO. BO SANCHEZ:**

*Thank You, Father, for being here.  
Thank You so much for calling me.  
I hear you calling my name. It is so beautiful  
to hear You call my name.*

*You value me. You see me. Sometimes,  
I don't even see myself. Other people don't.  
Other people don't accept me-- and many times,  
I don't accept myself.*

*But You, You call me by name. You want me.  
And so my answer is "Yes!"  
Flood my soul with Your Light.  
Let Your Healing Light come, enter into  
my soul and do the miracles that You need to do  
right there.*

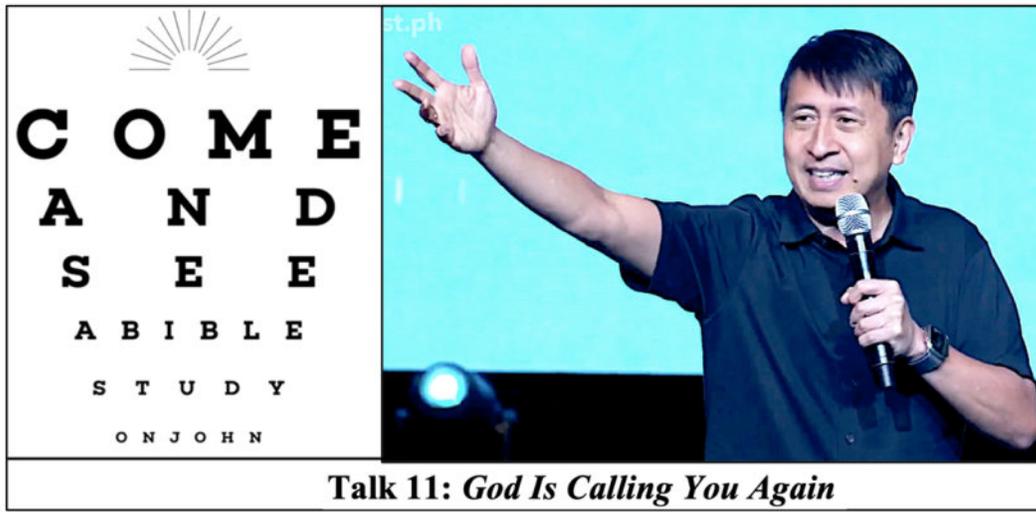
*I open myself to You Jesus. Come.  
Thank You, Father, for being here.  
Thank You, Jesus, for this relationship that  
You're giving us right now.*

*My answer is "Yes!" And may my Yes be bigger every day.  
In the Mighty Name of Jesus, we pray.*

Everybody say, "Amen."  
Everybody say, "Yes, Lord!"



# Talk



## **BRO. BO SANCHEZ:**

I want you to give a big, big hug to seven persons beside you and tell each one of them: "God is calling you again."

Let's give a big hand to our worship team. Thank you so much, guys.

Also, a big hand to Doc Ryan and Mhadz.

Beautiful.

Everybody say, "I'm happy!"

Tell somebody beside you, "I'm happy you're here!"

We're going to continue reading the Word of the Lord.

Everybody, extend your hands towards the Scriptures:



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

## Limbo

We're going to read the epilogue of *John*. This is the last talk of our series. This is the 11th talk. In the epilogue, we discovered something that's similar to *Avengers Endgame*. Its opening act is very different from the previous *Avengers* movies. The Earth's mightiest heroes were fighting alien invasion. They were doing heroic stuff.

But in the opening act of this particular movie, they were like in a limbo. They lost and they didn't know what they're supposed to do.

Captain America was leading a support group. Hulk was no longer smashing things. He was Professor Hulk. He became very gentle, and he was signing autograph for kids.



Thor, played by Chris Hemsworth, was supposed to be handsome.

But in the opening act of *Avengers Endgame*, Thor was drunk and had a fat belly.

I can almost imagine the girls saying, "Refund! We didn't come here to watch Chris Hemsworth in that way!"



## Crossroad

The Avengers were lost. It's almost like what happened to the Apostles in the epilogue of *John*.

Prior to that, they were powerfully going from town to town with supernatural strength, driving out demons, performing miracles, and healing the sick. Even when they saw Jesus alive again, not all their questions were answered. They were still lost. They were still in limbo.

This is what happened:



**JOHN 21:3 NIV**

**"I'M GOING OUT TO FISH," SIMON PETER TOLD THEM, AND THEY SAID, "WE'LL GO WITH YOU." SO THEY WENT OUT AND GOT INTO THE BOAT, BUT THAT NIGHT THEY CAUGHT NOTHING.**



This was not just, "We're hungry. We need fish. We will go out."

This was Peter saying, "I don't know what I am going to do. Maybe, my life for fishing for men is over. I'm going to go back to my old life and I'll start fishing again. This whole idea of giving my life to Jesus. I don't think it's for me anymore. I know Jesus rose from the dead. He's been appearing but for now I really don't know what to do with my life."

Have you been in that place? Have you been in that crossroad where you saw great things happen and your hopes are very high? Then, some crisis happened and you lost your way. You're down in the dumps. You're discouraged and frustrated.

You're asking, "What's next?"

That's the emotional state of Peter.

## 1. Four Steps to Renewal

When you feel like giving up on your calling, I want you to take these four steps:

### 1. Remember your conversion.

JOHN 21:4-6 NIV

"EARLY IN THE MORNING, JESUS STOOD ON THE SHORE, BUT THE DISCIPLES DID NOT REALIZE THAT IT WAS JESUS. 4 HE CALLED OUT TO THEM, 'FRIENDS, HAVEN'T YOU ANY FISH?' 'NO,' THEY ANSWERED. 5 HE SAID, 'THROW YOUR NET ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE BOAT AND YOU WILL FIND SOME.' WHEN THEY DID, THEY WERE UNABLE TO HAUL THE NET IN BECAUSE OF THE LARGE NUMBER OF FISH."



Does this sound familiar? If Peter had a Facebook account, he would have his old post that he did three years ago re-appear.

He would probably say, "OMG! It's happening again."

The first time when Peter gave his life to Jesus was that time when he could not catch anything. Then Jesus appeared. Jesus gave him some instructions. There was too much fish to haul because of that.

Jesus was saying: "Peter, I know you're lost. But hear me out. Do you remember that day when you gave your life to me? Go back to that. Go back to your *Why*. I want you to recapture that."

If you're lost now, I want you to go back to that time you were smitten by the love of God.

I gave my life to the Lord when I was 12 years old. My parents brought me to this crazy prayer meeting. We were 30 strange people. I was the youngest. We were weird. But that's what changed my life.

At that time, I was thinking: "Why were these crazy people praising God in this way? Is God really a God who is happy?"

It really boggled my mind. I slowly realized that this God is real. This God is alive. This God really loves me. I heard God calling my name.

Have you heard God calling your name? Jesus wants you to remember that. When you lose your way or when you get discouraged, go back to that first day when you heard Jesus call your name.

I was 13 years old when I composed my first meditation song. It was Jesus singing to me. I just wanted to bring it out that Jesus really loves me. I wrote a very sophisticated song.

The song goes this way: "*I love you. Yes, I love you. Yes, I love you...*"  
It's *I love you* 16x. I keep on going back to that.

## 2. Remember your consolation.

I'm using an Ignatian word. St. Ignatius of Loyola would talk about consolations and desolations. Consolations are times or moments when you felt the Lord.

It is your *Jesus is walking on the water moments*.

JOHN 21:7 NIV

"THEN THE DISCIPLE WHOM JESUS LOVED SAID TO PETER, 'IT IS THE LORD!' AS SOON AS SIMON PETER HEARD HIM SAY, 'IT IS THE LORD,' HE WRAPPED HIS OUTER GARMENT AROUND HIM (FOR HE HAD TAKEN IT OFF) AND JUMPED INTO THE WATER."



The *Book of John* that was written after the Gospels were written is assuming that his readers read those other stories. In the other story, Jesus was walking in the water, Peter jumps into the water to walk to Jesus.

Again, it is déjà vu. When you are frustrated and when you have doubts and you're wondering what you're going to do with your life, remember your conversion. But also remember those *God moments*, where you experience His power in a tangible way.

May I share with you one in my life that I love to remember?

It happened here in PICC 41 years ago. It was not The Feast. It was the graduation of my cousin. I was about 17 years old.

I said, "Hey, since I'll be in your graduation. I'll be your photographer."

At that time, I was trying to study photography. I didn't have a camera. So, I borrowed one. It was an expensive camera. The lens was even more expensive than the camera. I was a missionary then. The value of that camera and that lens was beyond from what I could ever afford.

So, I took photos of my cousin. After the graduation, I said my congratulations and I left. I was almost outside PICC when I opened my bag and the lens was gone. I felt so afraid.

As I started walking back, I was asking myself, "How can I pay for this?"

Until I felt this sudden warmth within me. This is really a miracle because I really felt God saying: "Son, I'll take care of you. Calm down. Trust me."

At that time, it was already evening. It was all dark. I really sensed God leading me to this patch of grass outside PICC. So, I started walking.

I asked myself, "Why here? Did I walk here?" I couldn't see anything but I kept on walking. I heard someone say, "Stop. Bend down."

I found the lens. That was my *God moment*.

When I have questions, I go back to my *God moments* -- to those moments in my life where there is no doubt that God was there.

I'm sure you have lots of *God moments*. I want you to collect those stories.

### 3. Repeat your Communion.

JOHN 21:8-9 NIV

THE OTHER DISCIPLES FOLLOWED IN THE BOAT, TOWING THE NET FULL OF FISH, FOR THEY WERE NOT FAR FROM SHORE, ABOUT A HUNDRED YARDS. 9 WHEN THEY LANDED, THEY SAW A FIRE OF BURNING COALS THERE WITH FISH ON IT, AND SOME BREAD."

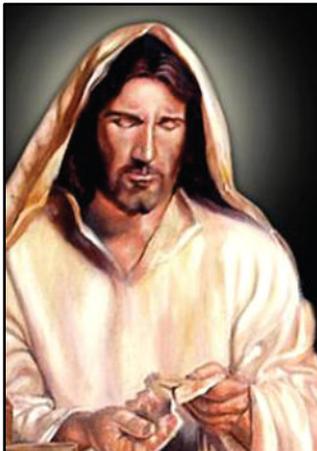


At that time that the disciples did not have fish-- because they weren't able to catch fish the whole night-- probably they were wondering: "How are we going to eat tomorrow?"

On the other side, Jesus was already preparing the best breakfast buffet ever for them.

I want you to hold on to that.

Whenever you are lost wondering what you will do in your life, keep on going back to the rituals that Jesus Himself established.



For us Catholics, it is the Eucharist. This was very special because the last meal that they had with Jesus was in the Last Supper. Jesus was going to break bread here with them.

I really believe that every Eucharist is a callback. Each time you go to Mass and receive Jesus-- even when you don't feel like going to Mass-- keep on doing it.



#### 4. Repeat your conversation with Jesus.

JOHN 21:15-19 NIV  
"WHEN THEY HAD FINISHED EATING, JESUS SAID TO SIMON PETER, 'SIMON SON OF JOHN, DO YOU LOVE ME MORE THAN THESE?' 'YES, LORD,' HE SAID, 'YOU KNOW THAT I LOVE YOU.' JESUS SAID, 'FEED MY LAMBS.' 16 AGAIN JESUS SAID, 'SIMON SON OF JOHN, DO YOU LOVE ME?' HE ANSWERED, 'YES, LORD, YOU KNOW THAT I LOVE YOU.' JESUS SAID, 'TAKE CARE OF MY SHEEP.'

We preached this before and I'm going to remind you why we are preaching about that. This verse is in English.



This was written originally in Greek. In Greek, there are different words for love. Let me put in front of you how the conversation went. Greek words of *love* used in this passage are *agape* and *philia*.

*Agape* is perfect love or divine love. *Philia* is friendship -- great love but not perfect. It's the human love. In place of *love*, let's use *agape* and *philia*:>

Peter is no longer the loud, boastful and impulsive guy who says, "Jesus, I will die for you."

He has humbled. He has gone through denying himself three times in front of a maid. He knows that he is made of brittle stuff. He's weak.

Peter cannot say, "Jesus, I *agape* You."

Jesus asked Peter, "Do you *philia* me?"

Jesus goes down to his level.

You know your weaknesses. Let's give to God the small that we have. Let's give to the Lord *what* we are and *who* we are and bring us to the Presence of the Lord.

And let Him be the one to say: "I will meet you where you are. I will go to your weakness. I will go to your questions. I will go to your doubts. If you still have doubts following me, it's okay. Just come. If you don't feel like praying, just pray. If you don't feel like reading the Bible, just read the Bible. If you don't feel like going to The Feast, go there every week-- because I'm going to meet you where you are."

Present to Him your doubts, questions, and confusion. Present to Him your mistakes, failures, hurts, and wounds. From every part of this congregation, give them to the Lord. He calls you by name. Jesus embraces you, as is, where is. He will heal what needs to be healed. He will touch what needs to be touched. And he will walk with you in this journey.

God is calling you back. Jesus is calling you back. Do you hear Him?

Do you hear Him calling your name?

He's calling you: "Come back. Come back to me."

JESUS: PETER, DO YOU AGAPE ME?  
PETER: YES LORD, I PHILIA YOU.  
JESUS: PETER, DO YOU AGAPE ME?  
PETER: YES LORD, I PHILIA YOU.  
JESUS: PETER, DO YOU PHILIA ME?



# MERCY MINISTRIES

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

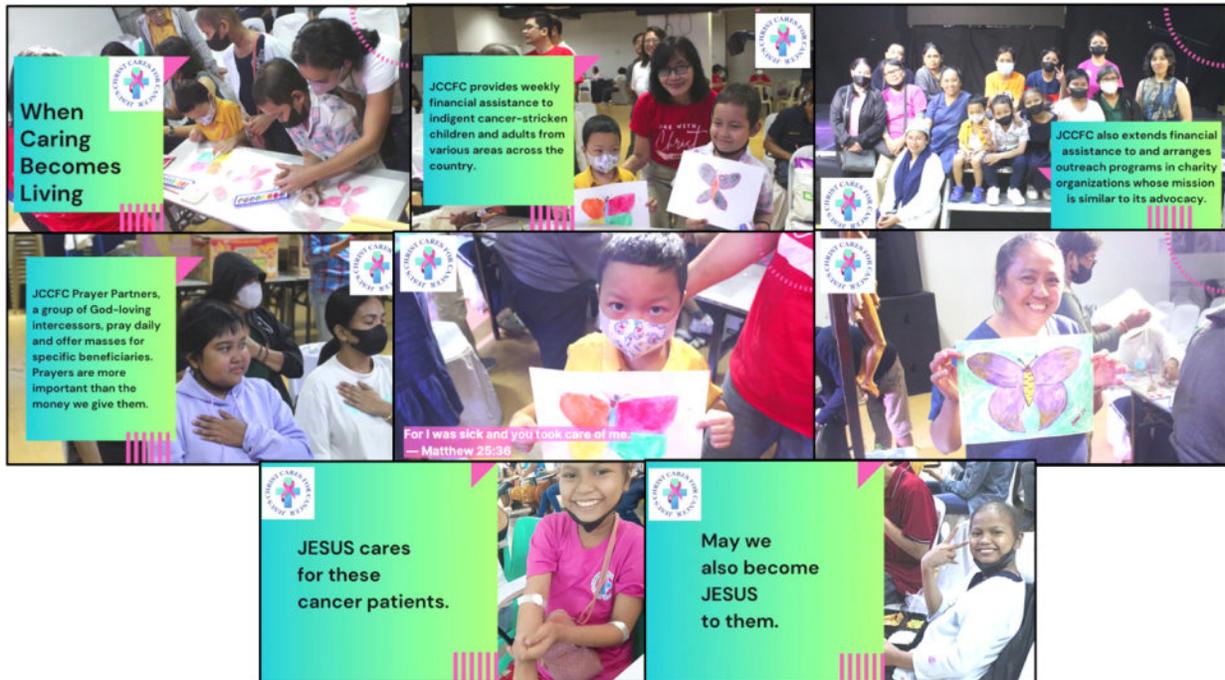
--Matthew 5:7

**IT's our GRAND FEAST, so this, our *Mercy Ministries* section, comes grand with a video on Jesus Christ Cares for Cancer and an interview by Bro. Lep Sumera, Feast Manila Builder, with Bro. Alo Gelano, JCCFC Chairman, and Sis. Maritess Cordero, Board Secretary.**

## **BRO. LEP SUMERA:**

Praise, God, in Your faithfulness.  
Praise, God, in Your truthfulness.  
Thank You, Jesus, that you continue to call us.  
There's so much take away from our Grand Feast.  
I would like to believe that as God calls us by name, there is that Light that the Lord is shining to us and giving us that clarity. And I guess it's important in this broken world. There's so much branding, labels, identities.

So, I need you to convince the person beside you, "You are God's Light."  
We show you a video about this group shining God's light in this area:





**BRO. LEP SUMERA:**

Friends, please join me in welcoming Bro. Alo Gelano, chairman of Jesus Christ Cares for Cancer (JCCFC) and Sis. Maritess Cordero, board secretary.

**BRO. ALO GELANO:**

Thank you very much, Bro. Lep. Thank you to Bro. Bo, Bro. Alvin, and Bro. Audee. And to everybody here in The Feast.

**BRO. LEP:** Bro. Alo, what is the purpose JCCFC? When did it start?

**BRO. ALO:** JCCFC is a cancer foundation. But we don't really dabble on the medical. Our foundation is a cash-aid foundation. You know, cancer is one of the most expensive sickness, one of the most dangerous to a person's life.

And for us, giving a bit of cash will help alleviate the patient's burden.

So, our mission is to just alleviate the suffering of the patients. And, of course, we pray that they get well. But let's face it, it's not a perfect science. We don't know if somebody will get well or not.

But we do know, we can help, even just a bit.

**SIS. MARITESS:** JCCFC started September 28, 2015. So, our Foundation recently celebrated its ninth anniversary.





**BRO. ALO:** This Foundation was established by Bro. Rey Ortega (*left*), a member of The Feast. He passed away in 2017 and he gave us this legacy.

**BRO. LEP:** If someone here is interested to help out or be a beneficiary of the Foundation, how may they?

**SIS. MARITESS:** JCCFC ministers to indigent patients-- the poorest of the poor. There are two criteria: 1. the patients are undergoing treatment (not those already in remission); and 2. they really have financial need. Somehow, the cash aid enables them to buy food. Please message us through our Facebook page: Jesus Christ Cares for Cancer.

**BRO. ALO:** Our target beneficiaries are not only the poorest of the poor but also those who are afflicted with the highest level of cancer-- already in Stage 4, terminal case. We have cases with very high mortality rate.

**SIS. MARITESS:** Just last November, we lost a four-year-old boy to leukemia. This year, we lost more than 12 beneficiaries.

But we do have miracle healings. We have here, afflicted with Stage 3 breast cancer. Now, she's serving with us as a volunteer.

**BRO. ALO:** We want to give them not only cash. We want the Lord to touch them. That's why we bring them to places like The Feast for spiritual nourishment. Our Foundation lives only through donations and so, we seek help from everybody for us to be of help to the least of our brethren.

**BRO. LEP:** You know what? My dad is a cancer survivor. He was a fighter of cancer for seven years. That's why when I found out about this Ministry, I was like, "Why did I found out just now? Because I'm telling you, when cancer hits, not only the patient suffers but the entire family as well. We were drained-- financially, emotionally, and even spiritually.

So, I'm happy with what JCCFC is doing, and now they are here to ask for our help, that we, too, may become part of the Light that they are shining to those in need. If the Lord is speaking to you today, calling you by your name, asking you to be generous, they have a table outside and they will be waiting for your love to be extended to the needy.



**BRO. LEP:** Final question: You have a monthly gathering. What do you do in that gathering?

**BRO. ALO:** Like I said, we try to give our beneficiaries spiritual nourishment. So, in our Assembly, we have a Mass.

Not only for the patients but for their family as well. They can't attend Mass because they are stuck in the hospital taking care of their sick member.

We also invite speakers like Bro. Bo and Bro. Alvin to give inspirational messages to them.



**SIS. MARITESS:** Our monthly gathering is every third Wednesday of the month. Aside from the cash aid and the spiritual food, we include anything that will uplift their spirit and make them kind of forget the struggle they're going through. I'm grateful to our First-Timers Ministry. Last October, they brought Laughter Yoga guru, Paulo Martin.



**BRO. ALO:** So, we also include fun treats-- the Laughter Yoga, haircut, massage. A beneficiary once said this is the only place that made him happy. He already passed away. If we are called to make our patients happy in the last days of their life, we will do this. But we can do this only with your help.

**SIS. MARITESS:** Thank you Bro. Bo. Bro. Alvin, Bro. Audee, Bro, Lep. the Production Team. We asked for this opportunity to appeal to you because, if I may be bold to reveal, our fund now can sustain the cash-aid program for only eight months. So, we appeal for your help. We're legit. We are all volunteers-- from our Chairman Alo to our coordinators. So all your donations go to our beneficiaries. Thank you, forever, Lord.

**BRO. ALO:** A final quote:



**Ways to Give**

Jesus Christ Cares for Cancer, Inc.

BDO Peso Account no. 01109 8000 356



Scan to Donate (GCash)

Thank you very much.

# Love Offering

I love what Bro. Bo said at the Feast Conference about a *God moment*. How many of you have experienced a *God moment*? I've experienced a lot. .

I had this one *God moment*. During the FEASTCON, my prayer was, "Lord, FEASTCON will be our date. I won't pray for Feast Manila, our Feast for the youth-- even we already lack funds. You have to feed me first. You have to meet me first."



That was my prayer...Then, after a while, suddenly, this man approached me and he said, "Bro, you're with the youth, right?" Then he handed me an envelope-- it contained P10,000. And I started crying.

Friends, that was my *God moment*. It is aligned to what's being preached today: God is calling you by name. He cares for you. He cares even for the concerns you've not yet prayed for...

Note, I received the P10,000 cash before the Love Offering session. My response was I emptied my wallet and gave all its contents to the Lord during the Love Offering. I'm a provider, I'm a father. I need all the cash in my wallet. But I gave them all to God.

I'm challenging you: Empty your wallet. I'm challenging you: Be extra generous today. It's our Grand Feast and every Grand Feast deserves a Grand giving.

So, lift your Love Offering envelope to the Lord. Repeat after me:



*"Jesus, I believe in Your faithfulness. I believe in Your goodness. Please receive my offering. Lord, please bless me more so that I can give more. In Your Mighty Name. Amen."*

With smiles, let's give to Jesus.

**FEAST** Help the Feast Mercy Ministries. Help them all.

 Azamin Lay Misares Foundation, Inc.	 Grace to Be Born Maternity Home and Nursery	 Ho Care Foundation Street Children-Caring Center	 Jeremiah 23:6-7 Foundation	 Pag-asang Family Scholarship Foundation
 LOJ Prayer Ministry	 LOJ Pastoral Care Center	 MARI, Mary of Alona	 Jesus Christ Cares for Cancer	 Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation, Inc.

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**FEAST**

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# Announcements

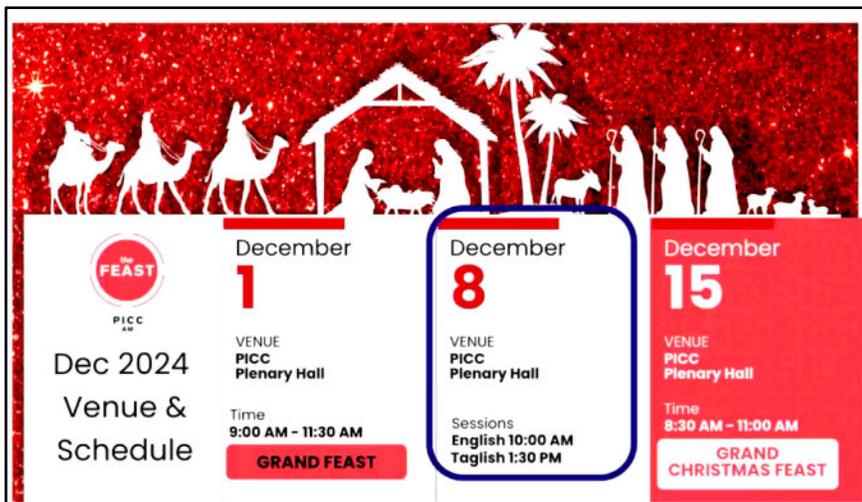


**BRO. JC LIBIRAN:** Tell the person beside you: “You are blessed. And you are a blessing.”  
 We are about to celebrate the Eucharist, and as we prepare for the Holy Mass, a few announcements:

- The Sacrament of Confession:



- Share your *God moment* online, #COME and SEE.
- Share your Grand Feast experience on social media #FBA Grand Feast and we will choose five sharings --each to win a special prize.
- Here is our Feast schedule this month:



Let’s now prepare for the ultimate worship: The Holy Mass.  
 Let’s applaud the Lord.

# Holy Mass



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## Homily

**REV. FR. PAUL JACOME**  
on the Gospel Mark 12:38-44

Excerpts:

Good Morning!

If it's not too much to ask,  
say to the person beside you: "I am blessed because I'm beside you."

We have entered the season of Advent.

You're probably wondering why the priests are wearing the violet chasubles.

If you noticed, we didn't sing *The Gloria*.

We toned down our decorations.  
There are no flowers-- only  
leaves. This is to somehow  
condition us that we are entering  
a season of preparation. We  
need not use many decorations  
and trivialities. We must focus  
on Someone who is to come.

The word *advent* came  
from the Latin word, *adventus*.

I'll give you another trivia.

The word *adventure* came from the Latin word, *adventuros*. These two words have  
the same root word which is *ad venire* which means *something that which is to come*.



**Concelebrant:**  
**REV. FR. BOB McCONAGHY**



## Advent Journey

If we will look deeper, we can say,

"Welcome to our *ADVENTure*.

Welcome to our *ADVENTure with God.*"

Even though this is a long period of waiting and preparing, take hold into your heart that God has something in store for you.

We are now in Advent. Soon, it will be Christmas. You might feel that it seems we're just going in a circular motion.

But my dear Friends, it isn't like that.

We are not going circular-- we are going deeper.

Have you seen a screwdriver? How about a screw? When you use a screwdriver, it seems it is going circular. But if you will look closer, you'll see it's going deeper.

It's just like our *ADVENTure* -- going deeper in God, with God, and always through God.

How can we traverse this path of journeying with the Lord?

The Readings for today invite us to somehow have handles:



### 1.Promise

Our God is the God of Fulfilled Promises. If you listened intently, you would have noticed the First Reading says: "*The days are coming,*" declares the LORD, "*when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah.*"

The Lord was also the One who told us in the book of the Prophet Isaiah: "*When the time is right, I, the Lord, will make it happen.*"

I hope you bring those promises with you. Let us claim them in the Name of the Lord. He will fulfill His promise.



#### First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

*14 The days are coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and Judah.*

*15 In those days, in that time, I will raise up for David a just shoot; he shall do what is right and just in the land.*

*16 In those days Judah shall be safe and Jerusalem shall dwell secure; this is what they shall call her:*

*"The Lord our justice."*



## Advent Wreath Candle 1: Hope

We have a beautiful Catholic tradition.

We light the candles on the Advent Wreath. The first candle is the Candle of Hope. Every time we light it and see that flickering of light, it's as if we are saying that no matter how long the night of waiting is, the dawn upon high will always break upon us.

The Lord will come and He will meet us where we are. But remember: the Lord will meet us where we are but He will not leave us where He found us. He will always lead us to the Father.

That's why our hope is not a mere positivity. When we speak of hope, our hope has a face, our hope has a name: Jesus. When we speak of that hope, we are resting and trusting in God's loving providence. He will fulfill His promise because our God is the God of Fulfilled Promises.



## 2. New Beginnings

Our God is not only the God of Fulfilled Promises but also the God of New Beginnings.

In the Catholic Church, as we enter the Advent season, we are also entering another liturgical calendar. So, you may greet each other "Happy New Year!"

It is a new year for all of us. If you notice, I am wearing purple or violet and it is characteristic of penance. A calling to return.

That is why that even though we are entering a new season, we are called and reminded to avail ourselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. After this Mass, you may want to avail yourself of the Sacrament.

We are not only preparing physically; we must also prepare internally. In this season, it's as if God is telling you: "Begin again-- but this time, do it with me."

Sometimes, we are too busy trying to put up a facade that we can do it alone, that we can do it without God.

But He is telling you today: "Do it with me."

I remember a lesson from my formator. I asked him, "Why is it sometimes, it seems that I cannot bring others closer to God when I tell them my stories or my personal conviction?"

He told me, "Sometimes, you're too busy letting other people know that you are strong. You forget to let other people feel your warmth."

That is the disposition we will have when we do it with God. People will know because we can never feign goodness.



### **Responsorial Psalm (25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14)**

**R: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.**

*4 Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; teach me your paths, 5 guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior, and for you I wait all the day. (R)*

*8 Good and upright is the Lord; thus he shows sinners the way. 9 He guides the humble to justice, he teaches the humble his way. (R)*

*10 All the paths of the Lord are kindness and constancy toward those who keep his covenant and his decrees. 14 The friendship of the Lord is with those who fear him, and his covenant, for their instruction. (R)*

### 3. Hearts

Our God is not only the God of Fulfilled Promises and the God of New Beginnings. He is also the God of our Hearts.

You have heard in the Second Reading: "May the Lord increase and abound in love for one another so as to strengthen your hearts."

The word *courage* came from the Latin word *Cor cordis* which means *Heart of hearts*.

Every time you will hear the Lord from the Scriptures saying, "Take courage. It is I," note that He is telling you to bring your heart to Him -- for it to be strengthened.

He also said, "*Beware that your hearts do not become drowsing and carousing in drunkenness and be drowned by the anxieties of life.*"

On the second part, He told us, "*Be vigilant at all times. Pray that you may have the strength.*"

Why? Because even the strength that we hope to bear is not even ours to begin with. Strength is grace from God.

My dear Friend, bring your heart to the One who will strengthen it-- and it's not other than the Lord.

We do not learn to fly by becoming fearless but by daily practice of courage. Courage is just Fear that learned how to say *its prayers*.

As we traverse this wonderful Advent journey, remember that God will fulfill His promise, He will give you a new life and He will always strengthen your heart. Amen.



#### Second Reading: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

*12 Brothers and sisters: May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we have for you, 13 so as to strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones. Amen. 4:1 Finally, brothers and sisters, we earnestly ask and exhort you in the Lord Jesus that, as you received from us how you should conduct yourselves*

*to please God—and as you are conducting yourselves—you do so even more.*

*2 For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.*

## *CROSSmas Tree*

**BRO. AUDEE VILLARAZA:**

As you go down the PICC stairs you will see a unique Christmas tree we call *CROSSmas Tree*.

We will decorate, spruce up this tree to remind us what Christmas is really all about.





## **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)

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## 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

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2. Pick Up from Your House or Office (Metro Manila Only) Cash or Checks  
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# **FAMILY ONLINE NEWSMAGAZINE**

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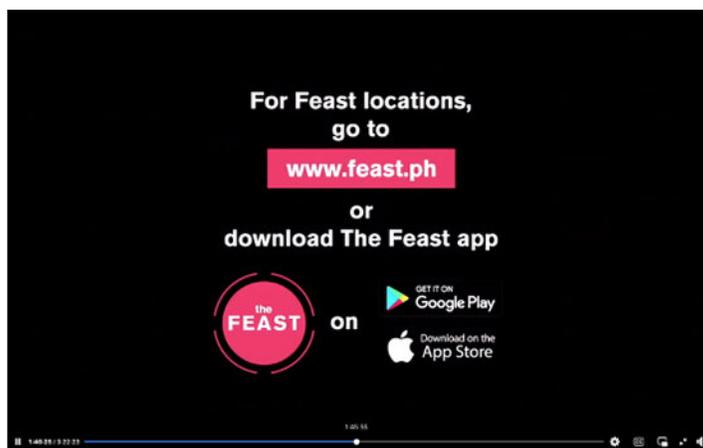
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***Go and make disciples of all men.***  
— Matthew 28:19

