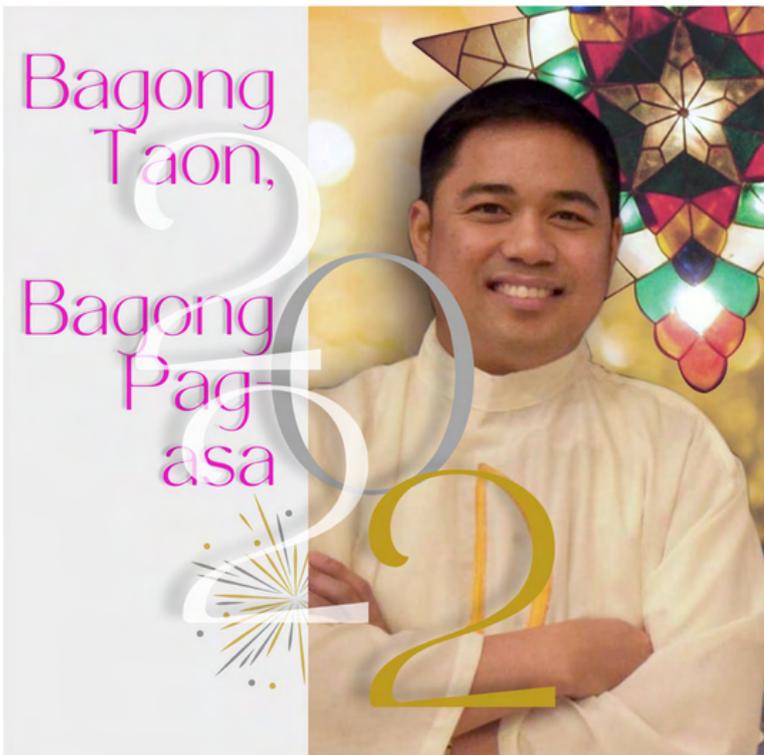




THE CLARETIAN

WELCOMING THE NEW YEAR WITH RENEWED HOPE



*Blessings to everyone as
we take a new journey
this year 2022 with the
prayers of Mary,
Mother of God*

*-Fr. Mauricio T. Ullep,
CMF*

Our Two-Week Respite

Claret School of Quezon City had a two-week respite from January 10 to 21, 2022. It was granted by the school due to significant number of staff, teachers, and students getting sick because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic as well as the holiday fatigue. Kudos to the school for expressing kindness and showing care for the health of the community by providing a much needed break. Teachers need to be at the top of their health because they are the second parents to young Claretians even if the set-up is just online. During the break, students and teachers alike got to relax and spend time recuperating, de-stressing, have fun, as well as finish and accomplish their pending school work. Most students enjoyed their break and were happy as they got to rest, watch movies, and play games. However, it is also saddening to think that this break happened because of a lot of people getting sick.

Claretians are urged to pray for God's blessing and protection from sickness during these trying times.

Lucas Francesco T. Gojar

5-Respect

Letter from the Editor

Good day Claretians,

As we see the end of the school year, let us remember our past learnings and inspirations brought about by the breakthroughs that we had this school year. We can likewise endeavor to keep ourselves more updated on more technologies, and to find time to read interesting stories and articles as we take our summer break.

Let us remember the inspirations that we have accumulated because of the different achievements we have accomplished, and remember that as long as we wish it and want it, we can accomplish anything with hard work and powerful determination. We remember the saying "The size of one's will determine the size of one's success". Remember that powerful success is only possible because of the powerful will, work, and determination of a person.

Finally, thank you for journeying with us this school year. Thank you fellow Claretians, and I hope to see you all soon. I wish you all a great summer.

Christian Raymond C. Solidum
(6-Charismatic)
Editor-in-Chief



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Amid the rise in Omicron-fueled Coronavirus cases globally, people around the world said goodbye to 2021 and welcomed 2022, with the hope that it will be better. The past year may not have run smoothly but there was definitely progress. A lot of Filipinos, including kids, already received their vaccines and more businesses are now open. As bad as the pandemic affected us over the past two years, it could have been a lot worse, especially without the vaccines. Because of that, we have come to this point where we can at least see light at the end of the tunnel.

Two years ago, we were dealing with a virus that was a total mystery. Today, we have vaccines that greatly reduce the spread of the virus and more importantly reduce its severe effects. Looking at the evidence given by the DOH, the cases have been steadily decreasing since February, so much so that the government has lowered the alert level down to one, the lowest since the start of the pandemic. On top of that, children from 5-11 years old have been granted permission to be vaccinated from the virus. There are more adults getting booster shots, making herd immunity possible this year. There may be more bumps in the road ahead as the virus is still upon us, but there's plenty of reason for hope.

So, let's not despair, but instead keep the faith. The past two years may not have been what we dreamed of, but it won't be like that forever. As we embark on this new year, let us remember that while we do not have control over the pandemic, we can make a positive difference by being responsible citizens by following the health protocols. More so, let us all continue to be kind to one another instead of putting each other down. Let us be more compassionate and understanding toward one another, so we can altogether walk towards a better year for everyone.



SBC FORUM: "DON'T WAIT. VACCINATE!"

On February 16, 2022, the SBC (Samahang Barangayette ng Claret) held a forum for the Grade School Unit entitled **"Don't Wait, Vaccinate!"**. This event, in collaboration with the Department of Health, was hosted by Samahang Barangayette ng Claret (SBC) Advisers, Ms. Ramona Victoria and Mr. Stephen Matthew Mangubat.

The forum began with a prayer followed by a short video presentation regarding the importance of getting vaccinated, as well as how vaccines work. Mrs. Hazel P. Copiaco, Asst. Principal for Student Affairs gave a short message on the purpose of the forum.

The day's esteemed guest speaker was Dr. Jo-Anne A. De Castro, MD, FPPS, FPIDSP. She is a pediatric infectious disease specialist, the current secretary of the Pediatric Infectious Disease Society of the Philippines (PIDSP), and an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics of De La Salle Medical and Health Sciences Institute. She is also the Associate Professor and Chairman of the Department of Microbiology and Parasitology of the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila.

Dr. De Castro's talk provided us with so many useful and relevant information regarding CoVid-19 and the vaccines that are now available. She talked about the different signs and symptoms of CoVid-19, its severity, as well as its long-term effects. She then proceeded to talk to the student body about the approved vaccines here in the Philippines and how they work. She enumerated and thoroughly explained the advantages and disadvantages of getting vaccinated. In the forum, Dr. De Castro particularly highlighted that the advantages far outweigh the disadvantages and reminded everyone that getting vaccinated is still the best protection against CoVid-19 and its related complications.

Immediately following the talk, there was a Q&A portion where Dr. De Castro answered the students' queries and debunked the many misinformation and disinformation regarding vaccines. More importantly, she was able to shed light on students' misgivings and anxieties regarding vaccination. Towards the end of the forum, students were definitely more informed and more positive about getting vaccinated.

Afterwards, the esteemed guest speaker was awarded her certificate. Then, Mr. Danilo V. Lemi, Grade School Principal, delivered his closing remarks where he expressed his gratitude to Dr. De Castro for such an enlightening talk. He also acknowledged the SBC for their continued efforts in providing the student body with relevant and significant activities.

The forum ended with the closing prayer and the singing of the Claret School March.

Sean Ethan G. Esguerra

6 - Eucharistic

THE ART OF GIVING

The CS-PTA sponsored an annual fundraising raffle draw entitled: **The Art of Giving Through Claret's Heart of Gold Raffle Draw**. Raffle tickets were sold to students, parents, faculty, and personnel for a fee of Php 500.00 for 20 tickets. The raffle draw was scheduled on March 19, 2022 at 2:00 P.M. The prizes were also handsome, consisting of P50, 000 for the 1st prize, a desktop computer for the 2nd, and a Nintendo Switch for the 3rd. They also have a mountain bike, a smart phone, a smart TV, an external hard drive, and an action camera for the prizes. Finally, on March 21, 2022, the results of the raffle draw were announced.

As a fundraising project, the amount raised will be donated to the Claretian Missionaries, the school personnel associations, and various CS-PTA projects.

Karl Alrick Zuriel S. Bilog

6-Biblical



SCIMACOM Week was held last February 7-11, 2022. SCIMACOM stands for Science, Math, and Computer.

The goals of this year's celebration are:

1. to develop 21st century skills among students namely: critical thinking, creativity, communication, and collaboration;
2. to promote love for learning through fun games, hands-on and engaging activities; and
3. to demonstrate independence, curiosity, and camaraderie among students.

Hence, the Math area through the leadership of Ms. Ederlyn Esteban has invited parents to be their resource speakers and to facilitate the different activities during Math classes. For the Science Area, the teachers facilitated the ScieMinute to Win it, Science Quiz bee, Little Einsteins, and AHA Moment or presentation of the different Breakthroughs and Cutting edge in Science and Technology.

Lizzette D. Romulo

Science Area Coordinator



2022 PR1ME MATHEMATICS OLYMPIAD

Last March 4, 2022, Claretian representatives Bren Peter S. Naagas (4-Loyalty), Christian James A. Difuntorum (5-Humility), and Steven Coase Parlan P. Cruz (6-Charismatic) with their coach, Mrs. Ederlyn Esteban participated in the 2022 PR1ME Mathematics Olympiad. The team joined the Zoom meeting and were given a few more info about the competition with another schools. The room splits into 2 with the Claret Team and the other school when the competition began. The first questions were easy. Then, it went harder and harder, from questions of multiple choice to answers only, then to full sentences with explanation of why the answer is correct to making our own word problems. The teams were given a 45-minute time to finish as much as possible, after they were asked about the activity. Then, Claret Team went back to the regular online classes.

It was March 14, 2022 when Scholastic announced the winners of the Olympiad. Several minutes in, the Claret Team was declared 1 of the 5 teams who got the highest scores. The team also won Best in Teamwork. The team's hard work pays off.

Steven Coase Parlan P. Cruz

6-Charismatic



Kalikawin: An interaction between two Claret Schools

A virtual interaction between grade school student leaders of Claret School of Quezon City and Claret School of Zamboanga City was held last March 19th. This activity was entitled **Kalikawin** which means to entwine or join together. This momentous event is part of the 75th anniversary celebration of the Claretian Mission in the Philippines, wherein participants of two Claretian schools got to interact with each other and joined together in activities through the spirit of unity, collaboration, and brotherhood.

The activity began with a prayer and opening remarks by Father Mauricio Ulep, CMF, School Director of CSQC. This was followed by a video presentation from both schools where participants were given a virtual tour of their respective campuses. Afterward, the first breakout activity was held which focused on getting to know each other better. The participants were able to break the ice and got a glimpse of what it was like studying in both campuses. Keynote speaker Rev. Fr. Jay Coching, CMF gave a meaningful talk about being servant leaders. Reactors Mr. Julliano Guiang from CSQC and Ms. Rissa Mae Fernando from CSZC shared their experiences about being former Claretians and how they are still applying the knowledge and virtues that they learned from Claret in their daily lives.

The second part of the activity began with another group activity between participants where, as a group, they drew a symbol of what Claretian education is to them. This definitely made the groups more at ease with each other, freely talking about ideas. What was surprising was that during the sharing, almost everyone drew a heart. It was apparent in the drawings of how compassion and service to others were ingrained in everyone and how truly aligned they all were when it comes to values, which Claret School has inculcated in them from the very beginning. This was followed by sharing by two 6th grade students from CSQC and CSZC who talked about their experiences as Claretians and what those experiences taught them. The last group activity for the day focused on the participants' plans moving forward as Claretians, which they shared with everyone else. This was immediately followed by a sharing of experiences by Claretian seminarians. The activity ended with a special message from Rev. Fr. Elias Ayuban, Jr., CMF and closing remarks by Rev. Fr. Christopher Ligason, CMF, School Director of CSZC.

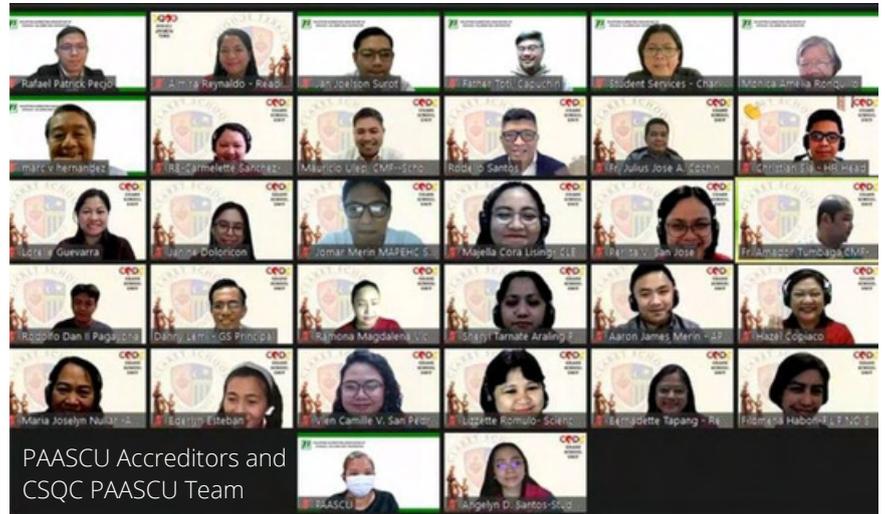
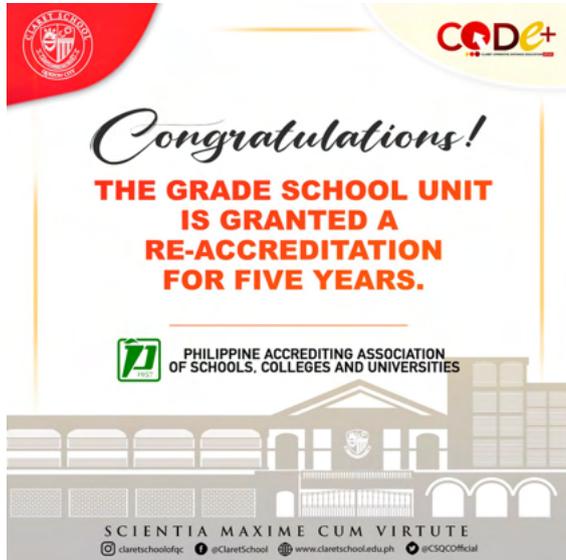
This event was truly revolutionary given that it was the first time it was held virtually due to the pandemic. It was great being able to connect with other Claretians and being inspired by former Claretians as well. This event not only allowed us to remember our roots as Claretians but also motivated us more to continue on the mission of St. Anthony Mary Claret of being servant leaders.

Kalikawin was a collaborative effort of CSQC Samahang Barangayette ng Claret Advisers and CSZC Sangguniang Pampaaralan.

Sean Ethan G. Esguerra
6-Eucharistic



CSQC DID IT AGAIN! 8TH PAASCU ACCREDITATION



Claret School of Quezon City Grade School Unit had their **8th PAASCU (Philippine Accrediting Association of Schools, Colleges, and Universities) Resurvey** last March 31 to April 1, 2022. It is a service organization that evaluates and accredits, or quality assures the academic programs of its member schools and does institutional accreditation.

In preparation for the resurvey, student interviewees were asked to go to a ZOOM meeting to be oriented of the interview process, under the guidance of Mr. Danilo V. Lemi, Grade School Principal. We were guided on how to navigate Zoom, and how best to communicate properly using the Zoom system. such as entering the Zoom Call, raising hands, sending chat messages during the interview. Interestingly, Zoom is quite different from Teams but the same principle applies.

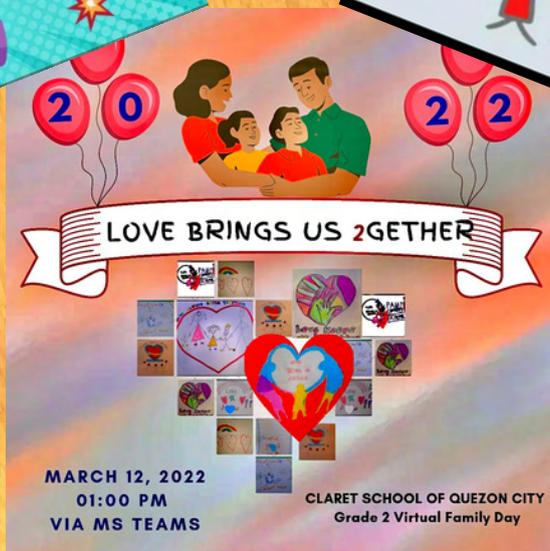
During the PAASCU visit, the accreditors visited classes to observe how they are facilitated via MS Teams. Student-interviewees were excused from classes to participate in the group interview. Students from grade 3-6 were called in and about 60 of us were in the interview. 8 members of the PAASCU team were present during the interview. Teachers were also interviewed separately.

I truly felt honored and proud to be given the chance to become a student of Claret School, as I hear my fellow Claretians respond to the questions raised by the PAASCU assessors. I felt more privileged and luckier to have my teachers, and for some reason, I missed my school more than ever. It is my second home and I will forever be indebted to the best things that Claret School had brought me.

I am hopeful that PAASCU will provide us the official accreditation soon.

Christian Raymond C. Solidum
6-Charismatic

Family Day 2022



In our Family Day we saw the winner of the logo contest, then we play games by a group. The first one was bring me which you guess the item and show it on your screen. The second one was Survey says so you have to say the best answer to question that the survey said. The third one was guess the song which you guess the song! But only in 10 rounds. Next we played BINGO as a class

and the we had three winners! so we spin the wheel and one of my classmates won. We got money from the games we played. Lastly we prayed. My mommy lead the closing prayer and I said intercessory prayer. Then we said good bye. Then we join a short solo-salo by congratulating the winners then left again. It was the best Family Day ever.

Zuvel Ezekiel G. Narag

2-Gentleness

Family Day and Pasasalamat 2022

On April 30, 2022, Claret School of Quezon City celebrated the Grade 6 Family Day that sided with the traditional Grade 6 Pasasalamat.



The event consists of 3 parts: Part 1 was the Thanksgiving Mass that was presided by Father Mauricio T. Ulep, CMF. Part 2 was the Grade 6 Pasasalamat, a traditional year-end event of the graduating batch. Part 3 was the Grade 6 Family Day with the theme **GREAT @ 6 (Godly, Resilient, Excellent, Affirmative and Thankful at 6)**. A collection of videos of previous family days showed the different fun-filled activities. The event's hosts were Mr. Jules Guiang, a Claret Alumnus, and Mrs. Maria Carmen Cereñado, PTA officer. The program included a trivia game to test the students' knowledge of things connected to Claret School, an AVP tribute to the teachers for molding the students from Grades 1-6, a piano solo care of Joaquin Drey C. Boquiron (6-Apostolic), and some students even won prizes during the virtual raffle.

For the closing remarks, Mr. Dewey Boquiron, Grade 6 PTA President, gave a message of thanks for the teachers and school staff who have led the Grade 6 students through all these years, sacrificing their efforts into shaping true Claretians. The event ended with a closing video presentation care of Mr. Emilio Jacinto Jr showing the batch's progression throughout grade school.

Christian Raymond C. Solidum

6- Charismatic

Noong ika-30 ng Abril, idinaos ang taunang Pasasalamat ng ikaanim na baitang. Ito ay isang napakahalagang tradisyon kung saan ipinahahayag ng mga Claretiano na magtatapos ng elementarya ang kanilang pasasalamat sa lahat ng mga taong tumulong at humubog sa kanila sa pamamagitan ng pagpapalabas ng mga video presentations.

Ang iba't ibang seksyon ng Baitang 6 ay nagpasalamat sa iba't ibang sektor ng pamayanang Claret. Ang pagtatanghal ng 6-Charismatic ay pinasalamatan ang mga frontliners na patuloy pa ring nagbubuwis ng buhay sa buong sambayanang Pilipino sa gitna ng pandemya. Ang 6-Evangelical naman ay nagpasalamat sa lahat ng kamag-aral at mga kaibigan. Sunod namang pinasalamatan ng 6-Marian ang mga administrador at support staff ng CSQC. Sumunod naman ang pagbibigay-pugay ng 6-Apostolic sa mga guro na nagsilbing pangalawang mga magulang ng lahat ng mag-aaral. Ang 6-Biblical naman ay nagpahayag ng pagpapahalaga sa mga magulang na buong-buo ang suporta at paggabay na ibininigay lalo na sa mga online classes. Binigyang pasasalamat naman ng 6-Eucharistic ang mahal na Panginoon sa lahat ng pagpapala Niya at sa patuloy na pagbibigay ng proteksyon at lakas sa lahat.

Matagumpay na natapos ang programa sa mensahe ng punongguro na si G. Lemi na nag-iwan ng mga paalala sa mga magtatapos ng elementarya. Ipinaalala ni G. Lemi sa lahat na huwag kalimutan ang mga natutuhan nila sa CSQC at palaging isabuhay ang mga ito. Ang Pasasalamat 2022 ay nagbigay-daan para maalala ng mga mag-aaral ang nakaraang anim na taon nila sa elementarya.

Sean Ethan G. Esguerra

6-Eucharistic

Year-end activities

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

May 28, 2022 was a significant day for 80 Third Graders and 119 Fourth Graders for they have received the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist for the first time. This special occasion was witnessed by their families, their advisers and teachers in the level, and other members of Claret School community. The Mass was concelebrated by Fr. Mauricio T. Ulep, CMF, School Director, and Fr. Amador C. Tumbaga, CMF, Spiritual Director. In this sacrament, the boys denounced their sins and Satan's influence in their lives. It was also the first time that they have received Christ's Body and Blood symbolically. It is hoped that through this religious ceremony, the first communicants will grow in the likeness of Jesus Christ.



Photo Credit: Jettro Alessandro M. Yao
4-Diligence

These young Claretians prepared for this special day by attending the online Catechism on the Sacraments of the Holy Eucharist and Reconciliation on April 25 and onsite practice and Confession on May 24.

VIRTUAL RECOGNITION DAY

Every year, Claret School of Quezon City gives recognition to students who excel in academics, curricular, extracurricular, and cocurricular activities. This year, since we are still in the time of pandemic, Recognition Day for Grades 1 to 5 were once again held virtually. The event was streamed online through MS Teams Live Event May 23, 2022. Those who were not able to watch can still view the event through the event links available in the Grade School Unit channel of the Claret Student Central and Claret Parent Central.

CLARET SCHOOL
QUEZON CITY

Scientia Maxima cum Virtute

GRADE SCHOOL UNIT
RECOGNITION DAY
SCHOOL YEAR 2021-2022

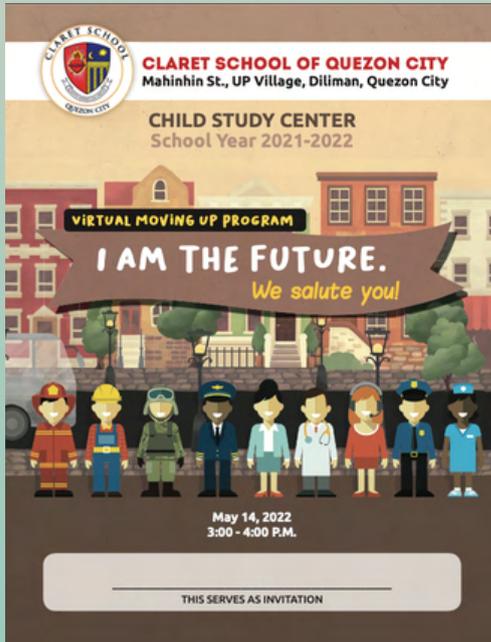
Grade 1	9:00 AM
Grade 2	10:00 AM
Grade 3	11:00 AM
Grade 4	1:00 PM
Grade 5	3:00 PM

CODE
GRADE SCHOOL UNIT
SCHOOL YEAR 2021-2022

MS TEAMS LIVE STREAMING

Year-end activities (con't)

CSC Moving Up Program (excerpt)



The Claret School Child Study Center culminated the school year 2021-2022 with the Virtual Moving Up Program last May 14, 2022, via MS TEAMS Live Event. The program **"I am the future. We salute you!"** was a tribute to all community helpers who continue to serve the country with their chosen vocation with passion and kindness to help others.

This annual program is an anticipated year-end event as young Claretians from the Child Study Center receive their merits of achievements and accomplishments for a year filled with perseverance and hard work. The administration, faculty, and staff witnessed eight (8) Junior Nursery students, thirty-eight (38) Senior Nursery students, and sixty-one (61) Kindergarten students move up to the next level.

Full article appears in the school website:
<https://www.claretschool.edu.ph/homepage/home-category-blog/454-the-csc-kinder-level-honors-the-community-helpers.html>

Geneve Gay F. Co, Charee F. Tamayo, Ma. Clarissa M. Yao, and Perlita V. San Jose

PAGTATAPOS NG IKAANIM NA BAITANG

Naganap ang *Grade 6 onsite Graduation* noong Mayo 25, 2022 sa Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish. Nagsimula ang programa sa ganap na ika-8:00 ng umaga. Ang *Thanksgiving mass* ay pinamunuan ni Fr. Mauricio T. Ulep, CMF, School Director at Fr. Amador C. Tumbaga, CMF, Spiritual Director. Pagkatapos ng banal na misa ay sinimulan ang programa sa pagtatapos. Ang buong programa ay ipinakita *via live-streaming* sa MS Teams. Bilang pagsunod sa *health and safety protocols*, limitado lang ang bisita sa loob ng

simbahan. Masayang nagtipon ang mga mag-aaral, guro, magulang, at ibang bisita para masaksihan ang mahalagang okasyon na ito. Tinanggap ng mga mag-aaral ang kanilang diploma at medalya kasama ang kanilang mga magulang. Natapos ang programa sa ganap na ika-12:00 ng tanghali.



Our First School Director

Hello Claretians! Would you like to know more about Father Santiago Gonzalez, CMF?

I asked some questions to two close friends of Father Gonzalez, here are the questions:

1. How long have you known Father Gonzalez, and can you give 3 key characteristics that you love most about him?
2. What is your most unforgettable moment with Father Gonzalez?
3. If Father had not been a priest, what do you think his profession would be?
4. What makes Father sad or mad?
5. If you could talk to him in heaven, what would you say?

One of Father's friends, Father Mauricio T. Ulep, CMF answered these questions.

"I have known Fr. Santiago Gonzalez, CMF when I was in my Theology years around 1999. However, I had closer encounters with him when I was about to be ordained priest in 2006 and when my mother died in 2007. More encounters with him happened during these recent years when I was assigned as School Director in CSQC. The 3 key characteristics to describe Fr. Santiago are: firm, strong-willed, and generous."

"The most unforgettable encounter with Fr. Santiago was last year when he, even as he struggled walking, came to my office, and repeatedly uttered thank you to me."

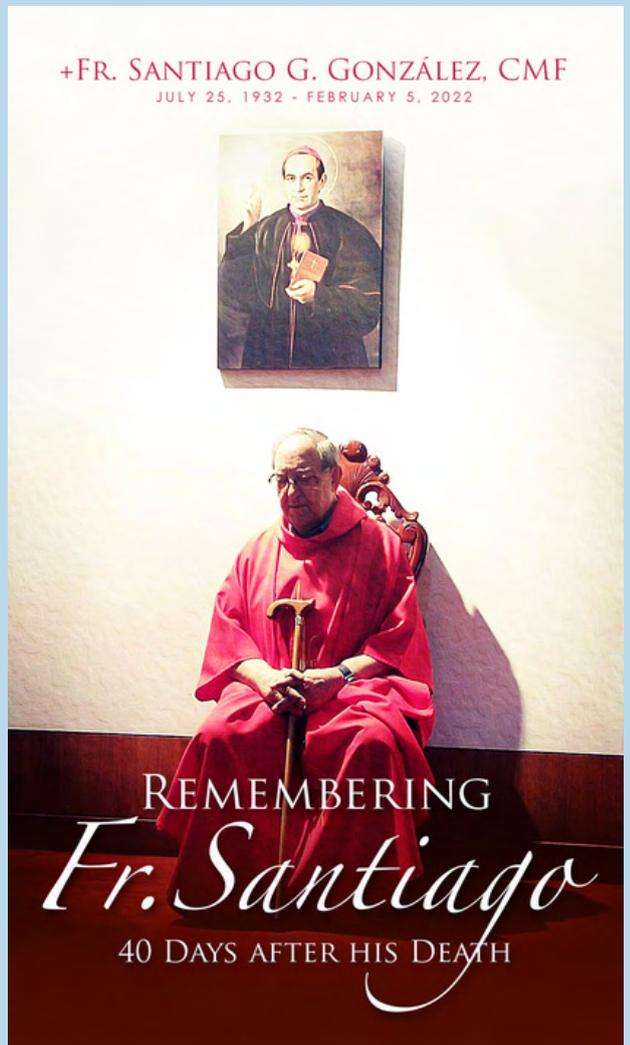
"I have never asked him his other options in life--if he were not a priest--but what I know of him is that he has been so dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to the Holy Spirit."

"Fr. Santiago is not happy when he finds error in some outputs or the expected results according to best standards are not met. He always wanted excellence."

"If I could talk to him, my message would be, thank you, Father Santiago and please pray for us especially for Claret School of Quezon City."

Ms. Marissa A. Rante, another close friend of Father Gonzalez, has this to say

"I met Fr. Santiago Gomez- Gonzalez, CMF personally in year 2005 when he was back to the Philippines and was elected as Provincial Econome of the Claretian Congregation in the Philippine Province. But I heard a lot about him when I arrived in Claret School of Quezon City in 2000. The 3 key characteristic that I love most about him were: He was so lovable and thoughtful despite his strict and authoritarian image. He was kind and generous of his time and resources. He was a visionary and faithful to his missionary vocation. He loved to talked about things for the development and improvements of the school community especially for the welfare of the students and teachers and personnel. He loved to celebrate mass with children like a grandfather or "lolo" who loves to talk anything and everything under the sun."



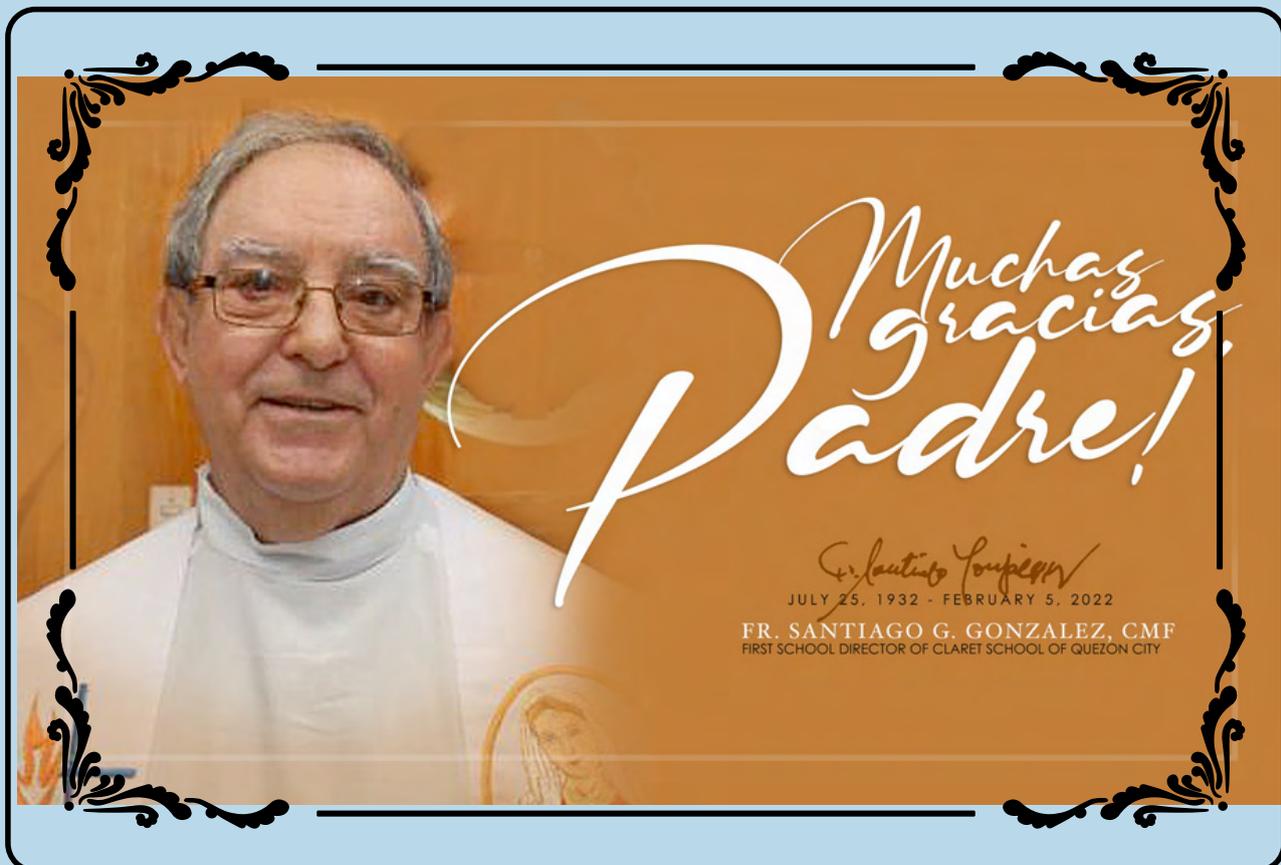
"My most unforgettable experience and moment with Fr. Santiago G. Gonzalez, CMF when he advised me regarding the program of computer technology and robotics. I learned a lot from him, and I can feel his full support for the program. He wants to have rigid trainings and exposure of students to competitions (local, national, or international). He supports and happy to recognize students and teachers' achievements with medals and trophies. He loved to take pictures for memories and recognition. He is so proud of the achievements of students and teachers as well. I can see his smiles and awesome greetings when he learned that the students have won, recognized, and achieved something. Bringing honor to the school is one of his legacy!"

"If Fr. Gonzalez was not a priest, maybe he was a very good banker or famous financial analyst. He is good in handling financial matter. He was very good in looking funds for the missionary seminarians of the congregation. He supports project, programs, and building of structures for the missionaries."

"Father Gonzalez feels sad when he sees people suffer, no means for living, no food for the family. I remember, he gave his allowance to the garbage collector during the lockdown last March 2020 to support his family. He gets mad when he sees people doing nothing for the good of everyone."

"If I could talk to him in heaven, I would say "THANK YOU!" for everything that you do. Thank you for your missionary vocation. Thank you for founding Claret School of Quezon City. Please continue to watch over us and pray for CSQC. Thank you for your living legacy for the whole Claretian community. You did a GREAT Job! Muchas Gracias, Padre Santiago Gomez-Gonzalez, CMF."

Don't ever forget Father Gonzalez fellow Claretians and the good work that he has done to all of us and the way that he has affected the lives of all the Filipino Claretians today. Muchas Gracias Father Santiago Gomez-Gonzalez!



The Graduates

We asked the graduating members of The Claretian about their thoughts. Here's what they have to say.

My Most Awaited Graduation

Graduation is swiftly approaching, this achievement I have been eagerly waiting for a long time is finally here. I'm so excited and it's very unbelievable. So, today I will share with you my learnings, realizations, the people who supported me and the hindrances I faced on this rollercoaster ride.

After countless times of experiencing hindrances and obstacles, the graduating achievement is finally within reach. It definitely was not an easy journey, the stacking and staggering assignments, the many challenges given by the ODL, the difficulty of trying to manage my time despite these strenuous obstacles holding me back. In spite of these, I never gave up and always stayed focus on my studies. The people who motivated me to always settle for the best are my family and friends who never let me down. They gave me a realization that you cannot achieve anything without perseverance and resilience. This realization is what triggered me to constantly remind myself of the purpose of why I'm doing this. That purpose is to give honor and happiness to these people. This is also my way of repaying their sacrifices that are long overdue by presenting them my capability to pursuit academic excellence. I will show them that the sacrifice that they did for me was worth it. Looking at myself right now, I am very honored and proud to tell that I succeeded. This achievement gave me a learning that the first and most important step to success is virtue and good attitude. I realized deeply that it is all about your decisions in life that placed you on that position because, you decide what your future would be either to be successful or not.

This graduation will definitely be memorable. In these major achievements, there will always be something you will learn that can change you to be better. Like my graduation, I had many new learnings that were truly significant on making my life decisions. But in the end, let's not also forget to thank the people who helped us reach this outstanding achievement.

John Allen A. Farinas II

6-Charismatic



A Graduating Student in ODL

This year 2022, I am going to graduate from Grade 6, moving to high school. So, I am writing this to tell you about my experience during ODL as a graduating student. These past 2 years, I always face countless problems from internet connection to academic concerns. But even so, I still had fun studying because of the activities that the teacher gave us, although some were a bit hard. Plus, I also learned important lessons that could be used in the future. Overall, I thank all the people who have been by my side these past years, my fellow students, my teachers, and school administrators. Thank You.

Karl Alrick Zuriel S. Bilog

6-Biblical

NOSTALGIA AND GRATITUDE

It seemed like yesterday when I walked into Claret School of Quezon City for the first time. It has been such a long time since then. Now that I'm graduating, I can't help but be nostalgic. I remember the days I played in the playground in front of the Grade 1 classrooms, the mornings I would talk to the kuyas and lady guards at gate 2 (often almost missing my first period), the whole days in the classrooms where I learned a lot from my wonderful teachers, (yes, sometimes even got called on for being too talkative), and of course, the late afternoons just hanging out with my friends in the quadrangle. So many places in CSQC brings back so many memories but I guess the best ones I have are not the places but the people I was with in those places. So, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped me over the past six years.

I want to thank my friends, for always being like brothers to me. Being an only child, it feels great that I gained lifelong brothers in Claret. Since 1st grade, they've always had my back. They helped me get up when things got rough. When I was sad, I always turned to them for support, they were always there. Looking back, I don't think I would've had as much fun or would've been as excited to go to school if not for my friends. So, thank you, bros!

I also want to thank my teachers for being my inspiration. They always helped me whenever I was confused with the lesson no matter how busy they were. They also always had a smile on their faces every time I greeted them at the corridors. I have always admired their kindness and patience and I feel blessed to have been their student at one point or another. To all my teachers from the 1st grade to the 6th grade, thank you for always supporting me. You are my second parents, you are my superheroes!

Finally, I want to thank my parents, they are the most important people in my life. They help me pursue my passions and dreams. Throughout elementary, they played different roles. They were my teachers, my coach, my friends, my confidante, my cheerleaders, and my prayer warriors. They helped me get through all the tough times and I always had their unwavering support, even at times when they did not agree with my decisions. I am especially thankful to them for that because it made me learn from my mistakes.

Now that I'm nearing the end of my grade school days, I can't help but be grateful to God for blessing me with these people. I would not be who I am today if not for all of them. Though it's going to be hard to say goodbye to my Claretian family, I know one day we will all meet again. We'll just take on different paths but our roads will cross again someday and until that day comes, I will remember and cherish all the memories I have shared with them. Now, as I look forward to new experiences and embark on a new adventure, one thing will remain, Claret School will always be my home and the people I've met here will always be a big part of me.

Sean Ethan G. Esguerra

6-Eucharistic

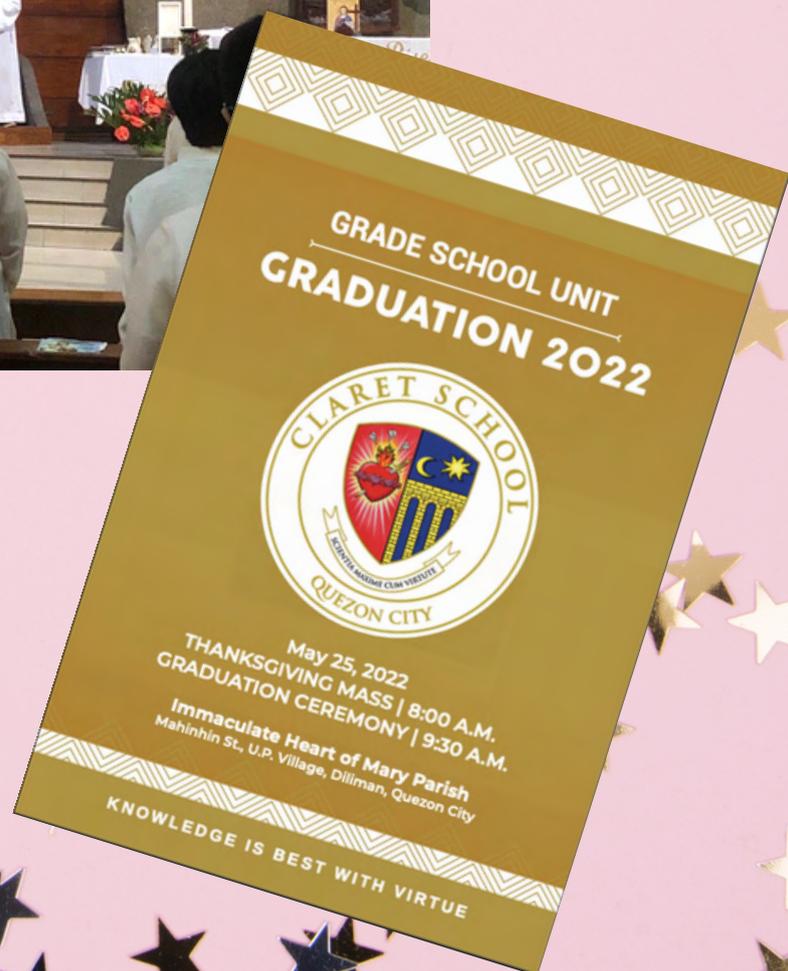


Photo credits: John Lorenzo E. Edles (6-Evangelical), Prinze John Berziel M. Vidad (6-Eucharistic)

Activities to do at Home

At home, I know sometimes you get bored and think you have nothing to do especially now during the pandemic when it is encouraged to stay at home. But there are many things to do! Here is a list of activities you can do at home:

1. Play board or card games with family

On occasion, when it is raining outside and you are bored, maybe you can play fun board games with family like Monopoly, Twister, Game of Life, Checkers, Scrabble, or Chess or play card games like Uno, Who am I, Memory Cards, or Scattergories. It is more fun if you play with family and friends or if you don't like these games, you can play video games virtually especially now when you can't go outside because of the pandemic.



2. Read books

Reading books is a great pastime. It is a great way to relax and go on an imagination adventure. There are many types and genres of books to the point where anyone can have a book that suits their interest. It is also a great way to get information when researching for articles, assignments, presentations, etc. From Sherlock Holmes to Geronimo Stilton, there is a book that can suit any person.



3. Have a family movie night

Cue the lights and get the popcorn, it is movie night! There are millions of movies which you can watch with your family. There are so many to choose from like Secret Life of Pets, Harry Potter, and Toy Story. There is a movie that will suit you. You can also make a giant pillow fort to stay inside while watching.



4. Studying hard

Since it is almost the end of the school year, we should focus and study hard in classes. You can do it by recalling past lessons to study for quizzes and long tests, doing assignments and tasks assigned by teachers immediately, staying organized and calm, and setting goals. Make sure to keep everything organized and do tasks on time. Participate actively in class discussions and in group projects. Study for the long tests and submit the Performance Tasks on time to avoid cramming.



While these are a few things to keep you entertained or focused on home, just make sure to still be safe. Wear face masks and face shields when going outside. Get vaccinated and wash your hands properly. And send prayers for Ukraine and the war between Russia and Ukraine. Pray that Ukraine will be safe and be protected from harm. Thank you!

Mateo Luis B. Pacheco

5-Respect

Holy Week Traditions

As a Christian community, we observe and commemorate the sufferings, death and resurrection of our savior Jesus Christ. Our way of memorializing these is through our holy week traditions. Holy week is important because it reminds us of God's sacrifice and His love for His people. The following are some of the traditions we commonly do during holy week:

We begin the observance of Holy Week on Palm Sunday. On this day, Filipinos go to church to attend the Palm Sunday mass and have their woven palm fronds or *palaspas* blessed by the priest. Waving palm leaves upon the priest's entry to the church is a usual practice and a commemoration of Jesus' entrance to Jerusalem.

From Holy Monday to Holy Wednesday, Christians participate in the reading of the *Pasyon*. The *Pasyon* is a 16th century epic poem representing the life, passion and death of Christ. On Holy Wednesday, we also practice the discipline of fasting and abstinence. When we fast, we eat only one meal a day, and two smaller meals that equate to one regular meal. When we abstain, we refrain from doing things that give us pleasure.

On Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, Christians recite the Stations of the Cross, a 14-step Catholic devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ's last day on Earth as a man. The individual moves from station to station, reciting prayers and meditating on a specific event from Christ's last day. On Good Friday, we observe fasting and abstinence, and quiet reflection as this is the day of Jesus' crucifixion.

On Black Saturday the Catholic church spends the day preparing for the night vigil mass that leads to Easter Sunday. The activity starts at 10pm with the blessing of the fire by the priest. This symbolizes passing from darkness to light.

Lastly, but the most important among all of them is Easter Sunday. The first activity we have here is the Easter Vigil Mass. The church rings its bells and sings alleluia which represents the resurrection of Jesus (back to joy). This continues to the Salubong, a traditional Filipino devotion commemorating the meeting of Mary and the Resurrected Jesus.

We can also abstain in many diverse ways. According to Pope Francis, fasting may be observed not only through food but also through the following:

"Fast from offensive words and say kind words,
fast from anger and be filled with patience,
fast from worries and have trust in God,
fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity,
fast from grudges and be reconciled."

Remember, Holy Week is for everyone. When doing these traditions, let us remind ourselves of the purpose and the representation of each tradition. Rejoice and spread love to each other. The practices and the traditions may be unique and interesting, but let us not forget that these must be done out of devotion for God.

John Allen A. Farinas II

6-Charismatic

Prayers of Peace

On February 24, 2022, Russian forces began invading its neighboring country, Ukraine. The world watches and prays for a peaceful and swift end to this war.

Dear Almighty God,

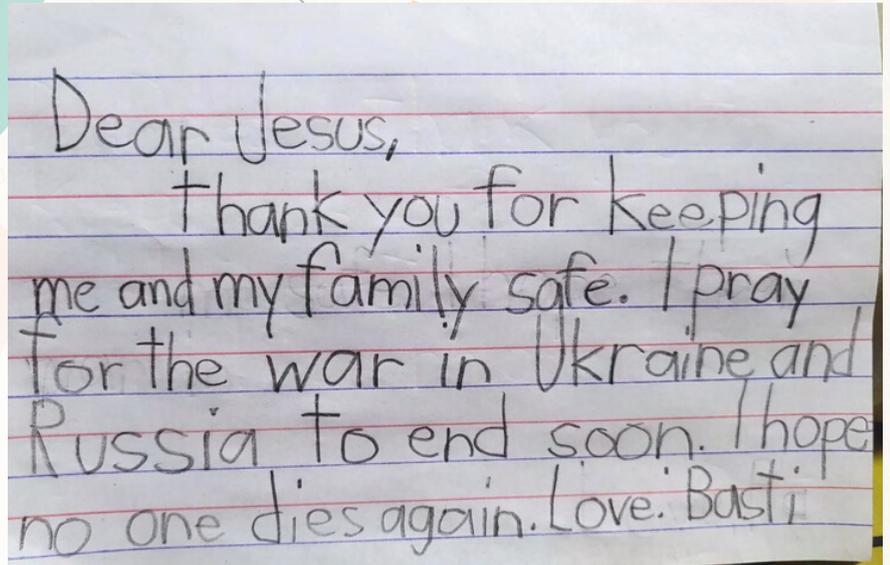
I pray for the leaders of both Russia and Ukraine to lead their countries in peace, have good judgement and know the value of life.

Have mercy and save the people suffering from pain. Pour them with love and take away the pain of war.

Love -Aston-

Aston Martin Imperial

2-Gentleness



Dear Jesus,
Thank you for keeping me and my family safe. I pray for the war in Ukraine and Russia to end soon. I hope no one dies again. Love: Basti

Sebastian Kell R. Ang

2-Gentleness

Sovereign and merciful God, I earnestly hope and pray that you intervene in the war that is ongoing between Russia and Ukraine. Let them stop fighting against each other and be at peace instead. I pray that they find peace and that they can settle things without using guns, rockets, and other forms of violence. As a normal person in a country, I may not know the perspective of what both of the presidents are thinking, but I hope that they are thinking of canceling the war now. Let them realize, Lord, that war is not a solution if they want to expand their powers and territories. Help them, Lord, to turn to You and surrender all their aspirations to You. Show them the right path so that they may realize that using violence and hurting others is a sin against You. I sincerely hope that the conflict between Russia and Ukraine will be stopped and that no further damage will break out. Lord, give their leaders a sound mind and a conscientious heart. Be merciful also, Lord, and forgive the sins that they are committing. I ask all these things in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Michael Sheanne Q. Lacuarta

6-Charismatic



Please Stop the Pain! Let go of Ukraine

Innocent eyes witnessing pain,
Do you really need to involve them on your domain?
Is your dominance really worth more?
Or is it because you want Ukraine to severely sore

Will this war conflict never end?
Will there be more doubtful time for Ukraine to spend?
Fear and blood are only some of their suffering
You must immediately stop on your eradicating

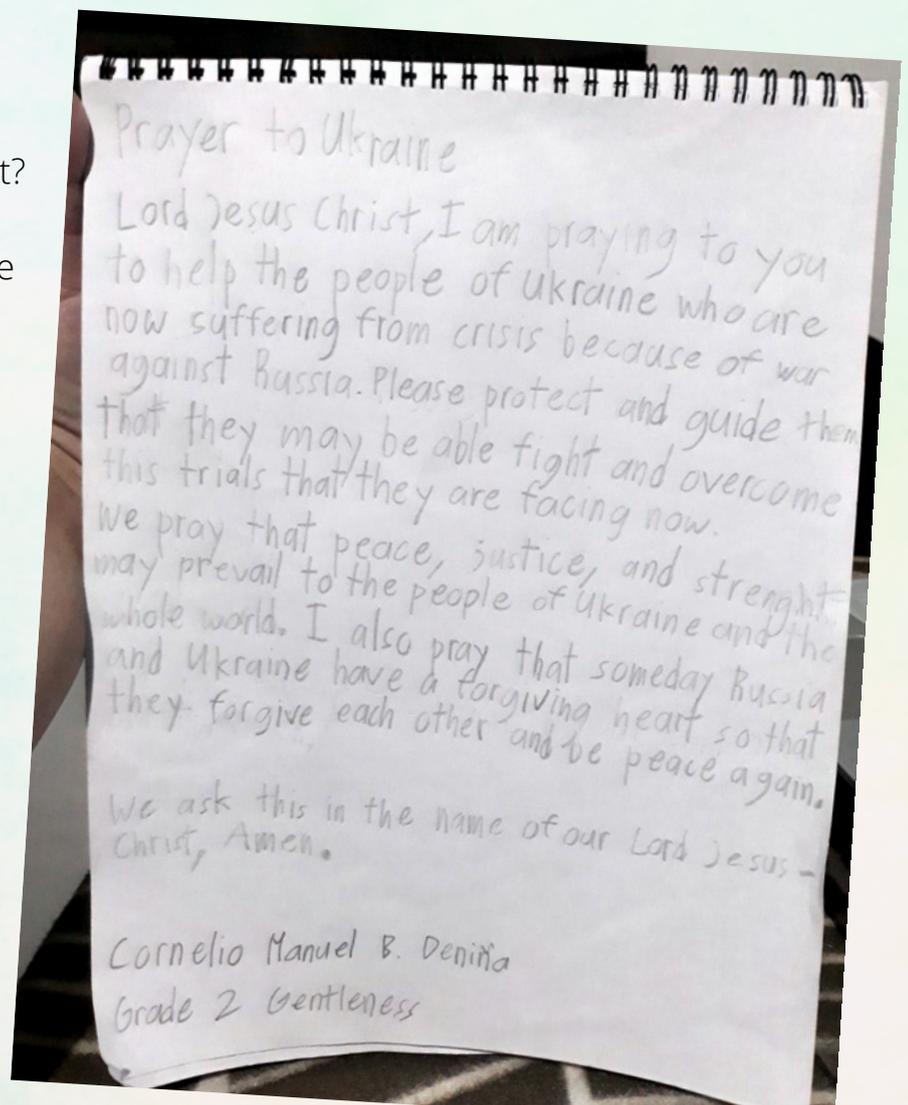
Please restore world peace
To finally give the whole world a deserving sigh of ease
Serenity for the world is what we need
But war is pointless, this is what we plead

This is a calling for all to unite
And continue to take on what path is right
Let us also not forget to share fairness to each other
And finally put an end to all who suffered

Please think this very well tonight
Will war be the solution to make all things right?
So please free all their suffering souls
And give back all the things you carelessly stole

John Allen A. Farinas II

6-Charismatic



REFLECTIONS AND REALIZATIONS

Loneliness has been the feeling I've had
ever since being forced into isolation.

My mind frantically searching
for an immediate solution

I keep myself busy
doing numerous different activities
But as nighttime befalls,
I'm still left feeling empty.

"Why," I ask myself,
do I have to feel this way?
I'm tired of this emotion,
why won't it just go away?

As I anxiously look for answers,
something glistening caught my eye.
It was then that I saw my rosary,
I smiled and let out a grateful sigh

I gently close my eyes,
and began talking to God.
I told Him of my worries, my frustrations, and my fears.
I let it all out, even shed a few tears

I finally opened my eyes
and everything seemed different.
The sun looked brighter,
my heart felt lighter

I still feel lonely, believe me I do.
The pandemic and this isolation, they really take a toll on
you.

But with God by my side,
I know that I can always get through.

Sean Ethan G. Esguerra

6-Eucharistic



Flowers for Mama

By Yael D. Maynigo

Grade 1 Faith

Papa went home one night,
A bunch of sunflowers by his arms.
And a bag of burgers and fries on the other hand.

He said to his five boys,
Always bring flowers for your mama
Especially during Valentine's Day.

And why there were burgers and fries, I asked.
He said they were for his five boys,
All mama carried and brought in this world.

I will always remember what papa said
To always give flowers to mama
Especially during Valentine's Day.

Afraid No More: The Day I Finally Got My COVID-19 Vaccine

I'm afraid of needles, always have been. I just want to get that out there. Which is why when I was told that I would be getting my COVID-19 vaccination, I was not at all thrilled. In fact, I was dreading it.

During the day of my vaccination, my parents woke me up early so we could be the first in line, thus avoiding the crowd, since it was on a first-come, first-served basis. While in line, I got to meet some fellow vaccinees. It was during this time we were given forms to fill out, which my mom assisted me with, and our weight was taken.

Soon, we were admitted in. The first thing I noticed was that the place was set up like a party with a circus fanfare theme. There were balloons and banners everywhere, which really helped in taking my mind off being poked by a needle. Furthermore, they projected a movie on a big screen to keep us entertained. I noticed also that the very nice people from the QC LGU were going around and talking to us, trying to make us feel comfortable, which I really appreciated. After a few more minutes of waiting, the doctors and nurses arrived and one by one, we were assessed, and our identities confirmed. The next step was the vaccination proper.

I have to say, during this time, I did not feel nervous at all. I walked into the vaccination room where the doctor thoroughly explained what vaccine I was getting and what I might feel right after. She also assured me that it would be quick and that I need not be afraid. Sure enough, after a few seconds, it was done! I then proceeded to the monitoring room to see if I would develop any adverse effects. Thankfully, I did not have any. It's noteworthy to mention that this room was also set up like a circus. There were even games for us to play and loot bags handed out. It was awesome! After about half an hour, I was given back my vaccination card and was deemed healthy to go home.

All in all, my first COVID-19 shot proved more enjoyable than expected. I did not feel anxious even once and I even met a few new friends. I would just like to acknowledge the QC LGU and all the healthcare workers who made our vaccination day awesome. Believe it or not, I can't wait to go back in three weeks for my second shot. So, for those kids like me who haven't gotten vaccinated yet, go get yours now! It would not only protect you from the severe effects of COVID but it would also protect the people around you.

Sean Ethan G. Esguerra

6 – Eucharistic





As we transition in the light of the pandemic, we shall conduct classes primarily on an online mode plus limited face-to-face student engagement which may cover laboratory work, clubs, sports activities, assessments and others.



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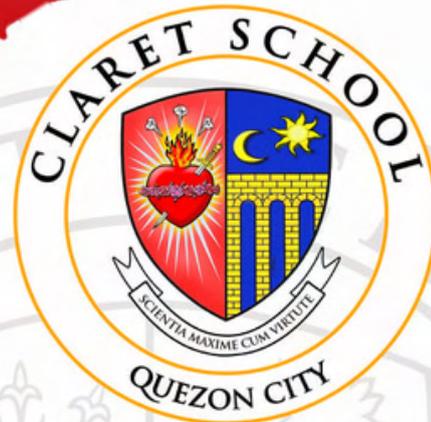
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