

EDITOR'S FOREWORD

In the beginning of the semester, when the Sinaran 2022 editorial team had our first meeting, we put our trust in Brother Mejoery who is well known for his creativity to design our cover page. The cover page which illustrates and embodies College General's theme for this year which is "By journeying together we can revisit the past, firmly rooted in the present and look to the future." Just after two weeks he presented us with seven masterpieces! We have selected one of it as the cover page for this edition.

The images of St Chastan & St Imbert followed by the Statue of St Philip Minh and companions depicts our past. Even though these martyrs are often depicted with blood and sacrifices, we need to remember that through their steadfast love for God and unwavering faith even in the time of persecutions, our saints in the past have become our glorious role models for the present time, "Unless a grain of wheat falls in the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain, but if it dies, it bears much fruit." (John 12:24)

The modern buildings in the backdrop highlight the future, the people of God in the modern world and the intermediate green field "pasture" represents our current time, the time full of potentials, opportunities & the time for the "Mission!" Mankind as a whole, survived the Covid pandemic with the help of technology (MySejahtera, Foodpanda, Grab, Zoom, Skype, online banking etc). Technology is the new "weapon!" Hence, Sinaran 2022 will be attempting to explore questions that are often asked by the Gen Y and our brothers will be sharing their personal encounters in the modern world via engaging essays and infographics. Well, most of us are Gen Y too!! Lastly, enjoy our daily activities photos, moments we captured digitally. We pray a lot, work hard & play harder. Who knows you too might be inspired to join us! If you do so, come & see, for the greater glory of God!!

EDITORIAL TEAM

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President's Message

BY JOURNEYING TOGETHER WE CAN REVISIT THE PAST, FIRMLY ROOTED IN THE PRESENT AND LOOK TO THE FUTURE

Dear Rector, Fathers, Staff and Seminarians of College General,

Vatican II invites us to read and discern the signs of the times in the light of the Gospel and the Churches' Living Tradition. What are some of the current signs and what is the Spirit prompting the Church towards?

By journeying together, let us revisit the past, be firmly rooted in the present and look ahead to the future with hope.

- Sign No. 1: The call of Pope Francis for a Universal Synod of the Church 2021-2023 with the theme: "For a synodal Church: communion | participation | mission".
- The call of the Asian Church to celebrate 50 years of the establishment of the Federation of the Asian Sign No. 2: Bishops' Conference by Cardinal Charles Bo, President of the FABC and Cardinal Oswald Gracias, Convenor of the FABC50 2022 with the theme, "Journeying together as peoples of Asia.
- Sign No. 3: The call of the Malaysian Bishops to begin a journey with the Malaysian Church leading up to the PAN Malaysian Pastoral Convention in 2026 with the vision of "The Catholic Church in Malaysia coming together as clergy, religious and laity to celebrate, listen and walk in the light of the Lord". (cf. Isaiah 2:2–5)
- Sign No. 4: The judgement and imprisonment of a former Malaysian Prime Minister based on corruption charges and various other political developments in the country.

Sign No. 5:

2024

The impending Malaysian General Elections due not later than 2023 and the call for free, clean, fair and just elections.

Sign No. 6: The signs of the Holy Spirit emerging in your personal life and

Sign No. 7: The decision of the Bishops of Peninsular Malaysia, in principle, to extend the Philosophy Cycle from 2 years to 3 years commencing in

As a disciple of Jesus Christ in the Catholic Church, you are invited and expected to be personally and ecclesially involved in all the above signs. There is no room for indifference, disinterest or being a

mere observer in this process and journey.

I hope and pray that all seminarians will discover or rediscover their primary calling as disciples of Jesus Christ in the Church through Baptism while you continue to discern and deepen your secondary calling as ministerial priests in the same church.

May the College of Martyrs and Mother Mary, the Mother of all vocations, assure you of their prophetic and intercessory presence in your journey ahead.

Rt. Rev. Sebastian Francis, D.D.



Rector's Message

"If you wish to be my disciples take up your cross and follow me" is the mandate on discipleship based on Jesus' saying on discipleship in the gospels (Matthew 10: 38; Mark 8: 34 and Luke 14: 27).

From this invitation to discipleship, Jesus formed his disciples, explained to them, instructed them about their role and behaviour and sent them on mission with power and authority over the evil spirits. Discipleship involves discipline. The willingness to embrace the Cross, respond to the call to discipleship and participate in the Mission Christ gives is truly an adult decision gushing from the desire within us towards of communion in the church.

Catholic Seminary Formation is the process of accompaniment by which men are prepared for the life and journey of the Catholic priesthood. Here at College General, we place great emphasis on adult formation, accompaniment, and nurturing of relationships.

Adult formation is integral in the four main areas of formation namely,

- i) Human formation centres on the make-up of the human person and the building of relationships which involves dealing with the feelings, emotions, behavioural patterns etc while shaping the human person into a person of integrity, someone people can trust and count on. Emphasising on human aspect of the priesthood gives birth to the priest who is so real and able touch and draw people around him closer to Jesus Christ.
- **ii) Spiritual formation** develops the seminarians personal love and relationship with Jesus Christ and the Church. It is the powerhouse that will enable the priest who is called by God to minister to the people entrusted to him.
- **iii) Intellectual formation** encourages the seminarian to have a mind that hungers for more knowledge of the world, the Church, human culture and Jesus Christ to better understand the world and what it means to be a Catholic priest in that world today.
- iv) Pastoral formation creates, shapes, and nurtures the desire to care for God's people, the Church and serve them as Jesus, the Good Shepherd, serves them.

Coming from the west and heading towards the east, these missionaries embraced the mission of Jesus and carried their crosses daily. Pursuing the call, trusting that Jesus accompanies them, they became bridgebuilders connecting the people to Jesus the Good Shepherd. Once settling in Malaysia, these missionaries creatively began the work of forming local clergy for the local church. Among such dedicated missionaries were two College General professors, Saints Jacques Honore Chastan and Laurent Marie Joseph Imbert who were martyred in

College General, being the formation house for this region of Asia, enriched the Church in Asia by producing models of faith and mission in the persons of Saints Philip Minh Van Don, Peter Quy Cong Doan, Paul Loc Le Van, John Hoan Trinh Doan, Joseph Lu Van Nguyen and companions as they received the crown of martyrdom in their homeland of Vietnam and Blessed Nicholas Bunkerd Kitbanrung martyred in Thailand.

Today, building of such a rich tradition, in a time and space that is different, young men continue to respond to the call of Jesus the Good Shepherd. At present there are 30 men from the nine Arch/dioceses in Malaysia who are being formed at College General to serve the Malaysian Church as Diocesan priests after the heart of Jesus in their own Arch/dioceses. The seed of vocation was planted by numerous people, lay and clergy. Here they will be formed as adult his interaction of the control of th

formed as adults living together in community for a life as a pastor within a community which includes people of diverse backgrounds, faith understanding and religious traditions.

Looking forward to the synod in Rome in 2023 and the 50th Anniversary of the FABC, it is with enthusiasm and appreciation that "new priests" will be formed. College General excitedly awaits the outcome of these two milestones in the Church's history as we continue to be disciples, servants and witnesses of Jesus in Malaysia, Asia and in the world amidst the challenges and obstacles that are sure to come.

Ever in kindness, always with hope. —

Fr. Simon Labrooy Rector. LABOR

HUMAN SUFFERING: A TORN TICKET!

When covid-19 broke in December, 2019, jolting all as global pandemic. Striking high mortality rate, horrifying all like death gone mad. Fatality well-known and predictable, but without vaccine, all like sitting ducks. Halting all to a total locked down. Wreaking all to a rigid personal hygiene routine; repetitive hand washing, mask wearing, social distancing, and self-isolation as standard code of conduct. All else is helpless.



INIMITABLE HUMAN SUFFERING.

Suffering, be it natural, man-made or without known cause, all antagonistic yet mysteriously intimate to life. Ostensibly random yet all to render our already battered human life all the more perilous. This repulsive absurd senseless suffering is not only devastating but most wasteful. And all at our human cost.

Humanity is familiar with suffering, thus, our long endurance. As victim of senseless suffering, however, is like dying without end. Heinous; the more we resist the more it persists in driving to the ground. The writing is all over the wall; suffering is bottomless, aimless and empty. However pointless and irksome, suffering without exit, redress or liability, that even to revolt is only adding to the problem. Suffering, however we see it, just will not rust even after it had returned us all to dust!

An iconic literature on such foul suffering is that Book of Job and the ever ironic Book of Ecclesiastes that insists that all is vanity. Being the chosen one, Job had it all; a loving wife, happy home, seven sons and three daughters and an ever-expanding estate. Hell broke loose on him for no reason other than an impromptu complement from God. That is all it takes to have messenger after messenger coming to shell shock Job with pointless but irrecoverable terror that his wife told him to 'curse God and die.' (Job 2:9). Just as all were taken from him with utmost cruelty, all were reinstated abruptly. Job remain clueless as ever why he was the innocent victim!

This is the trade mark of senseless suffering; going through the mill for no reason, let alone an apology. Strange but true, like it or not, it is pure non-rational. However, as intelligent being, any resemblance of a rational explanation is better the blank. Without surprise, even the most simplistic explanation for suffering as punishment from God is revered as heartening. Could it be that suffering is so inexplicable that even a poor explanation is better than its dread silence!

THE OTHER SIDE OF SUFFERING

However excruciating our suffering, we human just cannot wash our hands off as helpless victim. First thing first, suffering is never all bad, dark and evil. At it is in our given circumstance, giving all the necessary traction and friction to live the moment. Sinister and merciless, but toothless in diminishing life. In fact, it gets us down to count and realize our dormant human resource and capital. In relentlessly driving us to the ground to "Learn how to die, and you learn how to live" . Odd suffering, as Victor Hugo pointed out that by suffering human beings become angels!

Besides, part of our messy suffering quandary is our doing; our bad habitual reaction to suffering as helpless victim. Imagine, a marine in combat zone, while in action he was shot in the arm. What good will it do in playing the victim! On the contrary, his entire well-trained top-life-priority-response kicked-in. He settled down aptly to attend to his wound while on the lookout. The marine is never helpless because he is well prepared. Likewise, we are hard-wired with self-healing potency. With our ever potent belief and resilience as wholesome being we domesticate untameable suffering. Our human response to suffering works as battle half won.

All part of our in-born self-healing given body. That even our doctors tell us that nothing heals, except our own impeccable self-rejuvenating body. Suffering, though unwanted yet indispensable in realizing our human true worth. Thus, we are neither helpless nor hopeless victim, because as our self-healing body ensues, our optic transforms suffering as our 'Torn ticket of being made for the Eternal'.



By Rev. Fr. Stephen Lim

Word of wisdom from pastoral exposure.



XAVIER SINNAPAN

For me, word of wisdom that touched my heart was from Fr Lionel Thomas at St Peter's church (Malacca), "We may be treated differently than we suppose, and it may disturb our emotions; but don't be sad, because you are lucky to experience such situations, and God wants you to take the lessons from it, to no do it in your journey to others."

For us, word of wisdom from Msgr Nicholas Stephen during our pastoral at St Peter Claver church (Ranau) was very deep and meaningful, "Anytime you have difficulties in facing many obstacles in your journey; persevere, double up your prayers and never leave Mother Mary! Ask for her intercessions... and most importantly keep smiling and stay with Jesus, peace.





RON FERNANDEZ

I did my pastoral at St Louis church (Kluang) with Msgr Peter Ng & Fr Alex Chelvam. The word of wisdom that touched my heart from Msgr Peter would be his answer to my question on what should we do to increase the capacity to love. Msgr Peter replied, "Give the little you have; God will multiply. To increase love, you need to give out love first! Be like the Sea of Galilee not the Dead Sea. Sea of Galilee gives out water and as a result, full of life and beauty. Meanwhile, Dead Sea only takes without giving out anything (no outflow) and thus,

becomes salty & literally barren and lifeless." Just love everyone, fueled by compassion and care for others! Next, for Fr Alex, I love his reminder to me; "Whenever you experience anything evil due to the action of others, learn from it and break the cycle! Ensure others don't experience such evil from you.

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My one month pastoral was with Fr Robert Daniel in my home parish, Our Lady of Lourdes (Ipoh). The most important word of wisdom that I acquired from Fr Robert was "always strive to gain knowledge because it makes you great but remember serving the people with humbleness makes you Human! Both are important.







The word of wisdom I received from Fr David Arulnatham is very simple but very significant, "Be present, Be Loving and Be a Companion."

Regency Brothers



Current organization:

Church of Divine Mercy, Shah Alam.

Word of wisdom:

Being a disciple, is to C.A.R.E... have COURAGE to serve, AVAILABLE to be reach out, ready to RESPOND and EAGER to learn.



Current organization:

Community Transformation Initiative Sdn Bhd, Śungai Buluh.

Word of wisdom:

"Working with the financially, emotionally or socially impoverished, financially, is an encounter of walking with and seeing the Heart of Jesus the good shepherd.



Current organization:

Church of Immaculate Conception, Penang

Word of wisdom:

3 perkara untuk menjadi MURID Yesus; kesanggupan untuk BELAJAR, boleh DIAJAR dan bersedia untuk menjadi seorang PELAJAR. Siap dibentuk seperti tanah liat - diadun menjadi wadah yang berguna.



Current organization:

Persatuan Kebajikan Agape, Melaka.

Word of wisdom:

To savour the cross is to serve everyone. The peak of realization comes from the fact that God has given you the opportunity to serve his people

Pastoral Reflection by Ashvin

In the heart of Tampin town, amidst hills and greenery is the quaint parish of St. John Vianney (SJV). I was sent to this parish for my second pastoral attachment from January 2022 to February 2022. SJV and Tampin are of personal significance to me. My family's history is very much connected to this small town and parish. My father spent his formative years in Tampin and received his 1st Holy Communion in the old chapel of St. Philomena. My late great-grandparents are interred in Tampin.

The parish of SJMV Tampin covers a vast area of outstation parishes and communities in Gemas, Gemencheh, Palong, Bahau, and GATCO. I accompanied Fr. Albet Arockiasamy as he tirelessly drove to visit the small communities in these towns. The pastoral visits underscored the role of a priest in making the sacraments available for the people. I recalled the words of St. John Marie Vianney, the patron saint of priests, which I had once read: "The priest is not a priest for himself; he does not give himself absolution; he does not administer the Sacraments to himself. He is not for himself, he is for you.".

In addition to pastoral visits, I was deeply touched by the many young people whom I encountered and built friendship with. They reached out to me and made me a part of their parish life. Our conversations over meals and sports made me realise that young people are searching for meaning and purpose in their lives. They desire to be met where they are, to be listened and to be accompanied. I was also reminded of the importance of integrating faith and reason when engaging young people in conversations about our faith.

At the end of my pastoral exposure in SJV I found myself feeling like the seventy who were sent out for mission by Jesus. When the seventy returned, they returned with joy. In as much as mission touches the life of the people whom we are sent out to, I also believe it touches and changes the person who is being sent out. For me, the people of Tampin did exactly that.



Ashvin Andrew Xavie (2nd Year Philosophy - Archdiocese of Kuala Lumpur

Pastoral Reflection by Hilary & Victor

Greetings and peace be to all,

I thank God for this privilege to share my pastoral experience while in the seminary. For me, doing pastoral in the parish and other places has been a meaningful and enlightening experience in pursuit of God's call. Initially, I had underestimated the challenges that I will be facing in my pastoral work because of the pandemic.

Thinking about the pandemic, I was worried that I could never do anything, especially during my one-month pastoral in my parish Holy Nativity Terawi, under the Archdiocese of Kota Kinabalu. I experienced difficulties reaching out to people because of the S.O.P by the government. However, I managed to strengthen my spiritual



life by attending the Holy Mass daily, recite the Divine Office with parishioners, and other spiritual exercises that leads me to experience spiritual transformation and build a stronger foundation for my vocation.

I also had to learn to adjust to my parish programmes and the new environment that posed spiritual, mental, and physical challenges while living in the parish. Hence, whatever I do, I have to understand the importance of being balanced. Knowing how to balance my prayer life with my other daily chores, conversation, and relations with others has been essential.

Though my first pastoral work in my parish was not as what I expected because of the pandemic, I still find enjoyment because I realized that am not alone in my journey. God has His plans, which I certainly do not know what! But I am sure God is always there to help and guide me through the parish priest and my fellow parishioners. Thank you once again, and God bless you abundantly!

> By, Hilary Timothy Ist Year Philosophy – Archdiocese of Kota Kinabalu

TO SERVE CHRIST BY LOVING — & CARING FOR THE POOR

My first pastoral training started when I finished my study in IY. My rector (Rev Fr. Mattheus Luta) assigned me to do my pastoral work in my home parish, St. Peter Calver Ranau. As a seminarian it is essential to experience the "real life" pastoral formation. It is part of my training to acknowledge and experience the pastoral work because, it will help me to improve my discipline and intellectual capability as well as increase my spiritual formation and most importantly to serve the people of God.

During my pastoral work, I experienced lots of beautiful moments with the parishioners. Especially when I followed the priests to reach out and serve people at the rural areas. To witness them sharing their foods and their passion for their community makes me cry deep in my heart because even though they were lacking so much due to their poverty.

Nevertheless, they still sharing the little that they have generously. This experience was priceless, and indeed a wonderful gift for me.

I will surely share this valuable experience with others. My pastoral work also taught me to be humble, to share the love of God and to serve joyfully. In John 12:26 where Jesus said that "if anyone serves Me, he must follow Me, and where I am, there My servant be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him".

Therefore, as a seminarian I really appreciate and thankful to God for the opportunity that he has given to me, to spread his love, to share his love and to serve wholeheartedly the people of God.



By, **Victor Mahil**

Reminiscing a decade of memories. Fr Edwin Peter Is Back...

THE SEMINARY VISITING ME!

GPS location - College General. On sight buildings that are affected by age but a seminary life that has a new feel to it.

Believe me! A new vibe I am experiencing. No longer just made up of seminarians from Peninsular Malaysia arch/dioceses of KL, PG and MJ but seminarians from across the waters from Sabah & Sarawak.

As I enter the gates of CG - a grassroot and yet national philosophate, an overwhelming feeling stirs within me to watch the growth of a seminary filled with brothers uniting from the West and East...each one bringing their own richness, stories and selves to offer to the Risen Lord as a gift for transformation throughout their seminary formation years for the benefit of the People of God whom they could eventually serve.

I feel privileged to be on the teaching faculty of CG once again after a 10-year laps – to see former students, peers and newer faces who are now formators and staff, makes my heart beam with enthusiasm and much joy. Although teaching methods are a far cry from the old world...with all the new digital methods and advancements, I tend to question how will I manage the millennials of today? How do I share with them life's deeper questions? What do I look at?

Looking back, I have journeyed many seasons in my own life as a laity, seminarian, clergyman, seminary formator and parish pastor walking in the direction of breaking through and treasuring the essentials of life rather than grabbing everything in front of me that make it up.

Perhaps this thought comes along from the experience at pre-marriage courses where presenting couples share with those soon to be married their experiences and the tools to journey into married life. In the same vein, I hope from the bottom most of my heart that the concepts and notions that I share would guide and equip the dear seminarians in gaining the mentality they need for their journey of life, theological studies and their eventual priestly life.

My walk together with these seminarians has been an enriching experience of synodal listening too – a joyful encounter of a hopeful journey in the Risen Lord! Today I truly believe that the aim of our philosophate is not just to create budding philosophers or theologians but more importantly true priest-disciples of the Lord for a contemporary Malaysia.

ARISE, SHINE FOR YOUR LIGHT HAS COME! Isaiah 60:1

By, Rev. Fr. Edwin Peter Former Rector of College General (2005 – 2009)



My love for the immigrants and the lesson from the waves in the beach...

Today is 9th August 2022 and it has been 541 days since I started my journey as a seminarian at Penang College General. The one and only thing that has motivated me to join the seminary formation has been my love for the immigrants. Because they don't have anyone to guide them spiritually and socially, they are stranded amid the confusion between the spiritual world and the social world. That notion motivated me to join the seminary, and I am committed to serve them broadly in the spiritual and social world. At the beginning itself, I was distracted by my father's admittance into hospital, and later his leg amputation. At that time, my brothers encouraged me not to lose hope, and to continue my journey in the seminary.

At the beginning of my journey, I found that the path I had chosen was not simple but full of struggles. At that time, the second Covid had struck, and there was a nationwide lockdown. College General had also decided not to allow seminarians from leaving our premise until things got better outside. The biggest struggle that hit me during that time was a spiritual crisis, where my faith in God seemed lost and my life became

meaningless. The struggle and pain were extreme, in words I couldn't explain. The life ahead was dark and I felt that I was slowly losing my mind. To strengthen myself, I fasted and prayed morning, afternoon, evening, and night but it didn't seem to make any sense, I attended daily mass but it was also seemed meaningless.

> I tried many spiritual exercises to seek the light ahead on my journey and cling to it, but everything appeared to fail. So, I decided to leave the seminary because I felt that it had destroyed my faith and myself. It was the 1st Monday of the week in October 2021. I woke up early in the morning, around 4 am with the idea of leaving. I looked out of my window, and in the distance, I could hear the sound of the waves at the beach crashing on the shoreline. A thought came into my mind which was something like this "The waves always hit the rock and the shore but they never complain nor withdraw." That was the time, my mind and heart were awakened and the thought of leaving was gone!

The feeling was like a new force or life entering into me, and it has continued to motivate me to the maximum. It reveals to me that my own desires must be subservient to those of the Trinitarian God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit). It is God who is forming me in this seminary, so the personal struggles are necessary. From that day onwards, many things in my life have changed. Whenever any form of struggle or temptation hits me, I always recall the thought I had when I almost gave up everything. In simple words, be open and stand still, let God deal with it. This is the motivation that holds me and helps me to move forward on my journey to priesthood.

By, Dennis Raj A/L Rasu 1st Year Philosophy – Diocese of Penang

Holy Eucharist, and his words "remain in my love" empowers me!

I remember my first time being amazed by the Eucharist, and the experience has stayed with me and it always reminds me of how I felt at that time. It was one of the things that inspired me to pursue this vocation. Living in the seminary, there are times when everything is fantastic, but there are also times when things are difficult. The feeling of wanting to give up is there. But one thing that keeps me





going is God's unfailing love for me. God is always there for me and continues to shower me with his love. The verse "Remain in my love" strengthens me even more, and this verse personally struck me because it reminds me of being in God's love, love that knows no bounds; there is nothing I should be concerned about. I can sense God's love in the Eucharist and in those whom God sends to me to assist me in my struggle. "Remain in My Love."

By, Larry Misol
2nd Year Philosophy – Diocese of Keningau

Inspiring formators and beauty of mother nature, revives my spirit ...

When I first arrived in the College General, I was excited to start a new life to journey with God towards priesthood. In my thought I assumed that the community life will be exciting. However, as days and weeks passed by, seminary life was not that easy for me, especially waking up early in the morning for lauds and lectures in English language. Then, I come to realization that resuming back student life after 10 years gap is not that easy.

However, God has been gracious to me and He has given me wonderful priests to guide me through this challenging time. Special thanks to Fr Simon Labroy, Initiation Year (IY) director who always says "before you I was" and through his valuable and sincere sharing about his very own seminary life experiences motivates me to overcome my difficulties. Other than the formators, I also motivate myself by spending time in the nature. Whenever I need my "solitude – personal time," I would take a walk around the CG compound and sit in a place where I can view the beach to relax my mind. Besides that, I also like to spend time in the library for reading books and share the new things that I have learned with my friends.





Is God fake news?

by Leon

Any modicum of God-talk in public can be taken as cringy, insensitive to even downright insulting to many circles of society. Conversations about God will lead between an overbearing trust or a blind faith with hardly any rational arguments about God, to an indifferent, almost syncretic view on God, or an outright denial of the existence of God, having Nietzsche's "God is dead" as the epigraph of arguments. God-talk since antiquity till today will be the topic on which many will ponder and debate on; the deliberation on and of God however should not just be among the religious or non-religious but a solid basis on which we live out our lives.

God has become a distant idea which has lost its effect in our daily living, any worship of gods for that matter either becomes a practice of sheer religiosity out of superstitious fear or a cultural norm in which we adhere to, to appease our family and to an extent our consciousness. Through logical arguments – which is beyond our discussion – the reality of a higher being can be rationalized; since the dawn of mankind there was always an element of belief in the unknown, as civilisation progresses, analytical and methodical proof has concluded that a reality beyond us exists from Aristotle's Prime Mover, to Thomas Aquinas' argument of contingency, St Anselm's ontology to even the Kalam argument supports the existence of God. Albeit, as refutable as some of the arguments are, there is a surety that the ability to conceive such ideas with mental gymnastics proves that the existence of God is more possible than the nihilistic idea that we came from nothingness and are meant for nothing.

The cancelling of God became trendy nowadays because there has been a loss of faith and trust in religion. True, atrocities have been caused in the name of God, but cancelling God for the sake of the errors its followers carried out is not a reason to deny its existence. There is no loss in believing in God, for the believer and the non-believer, death is an ultimate truth, however with God there is hope of an after-life, this simplified explanation of Pascal's Wager supports the necessity of God. It is necessary to live beyond ourselves and to accept the possibility of a greater being lest we become overly anthropocentric in our understanding of life. God through religion, provides that platform of answers for the after-life, morality and the essence of being human as part of the big canvas of life which involves others around us.

C.S. Lewis said that if we want a religion of comfort, then Christianity isn't it; Christianity demands not only a blind faith but a faith with conviction and certainty. Being a Christian, goes beyond the foundation of logic by accepting that a God has become man in the person of Jesus. Religion per se does not help us to understand God but an encounter which transforms all the aspects of our life, God is real to Christianity because it is not a 'religion of the book' but an ever-living faith through its times and people. It demands a life that forgoes hedonistic and nihilistic ideals which results in the self-absorption and destruction of the self, it perpetuates the sacrality of humanity.

All belief, goes beyond rationality and has an element of faith, even in the most rudimentary sense, it is best defined as "the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). Therefore, a belief in God takes faith, and to reach to such a faith is by contemplating the world around us and acknowledging that there is something







greater than us. Evidence of God cannot be empirical for then it places God as a demiurge or just another god, rather God can be experienced through our non-sensory senses of our feelings, emotions and passions, and it can be seen through the reflections of the very lives who has been touched by Him.

By, Leon Gautier 2nd Year Philosophy (Diocese of Penang)

Is God fake news?

by Ron



Introduction

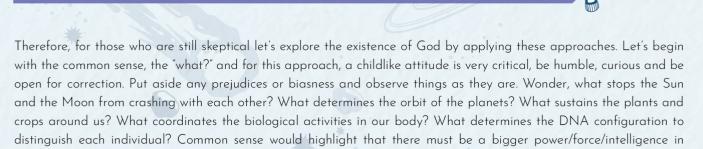
One of the best things in the College General Seminary is the panoramic view, especially the magnificent sunrise in the morning. So, whenever we are allowed to do our outdoor meditation, I would never miss the chance! At 6.30am while the moon and stars are still visible, the rising sun on the horizon would unleash its splendors and effortlessly anyone who witnesses this "morning glory," would utter the words of the psalmist "I look up at your heavens, shaped by your fingers, at the moon and the stars you set firm, what are human beings that you spare a thought of them or the child of Adam that you care for him?" Yes, the order, harmony and the majestic grandeur of mother nature is the first evidence that God is real and not a mere fake news! How could such a sophisticated & diversified reality exist without the God, the creator? How could anything begin without, an unmoved mover, the source of everything who has initiated the first movement in the universe and bring everything into being? In fact, the Earth is only a tiny speck in the vast universe! Based on the observations

done by the Hubble Space Telescope the observable universe is thought to consist of at least 200 billion galaxies and this number would significantly increase when the more advanced James Webb Space Telescope becomes fully operational.

Four Approaches To Find The Truth (GOD)

Based on my studies, there are four different approaches which lead to the Truth (God).

- Common sense to grasp the "what
- > Science to understand the "how
- Philosophy to discuss the "why"
- Theology to answer the "who



action to control all these happenings, since such well-coordinated, organized and precise configurations could not be

mere accidental or results of some random evolution!

Next, the philosophical approach, the "why?" Why are we here, why there is something rather than nothing? As nothing is permanent in this world and everything is subjected to decay and death, non-living things wear out while living things get old and eventually die. According to the nihilist, human life is just a repetitive meaningless endeavor and every day is just a meaningless struggle. Life has no intrinsic meaning or value. Reflecting on this, if we are just living instinctively without any moral law/virtue then what is the difference between human beings and other so called lower faculty beings such as the animals and the plants. Unless we have greater purpose in this existence what right do we have to kill & consume those beings? Hence, to justify life, the great Greek philosopher, Aristotle stated that life has "telos," a purpose, a final cause. The purpose is directed towards the Perfect Good or also defined as God (expounded further by St Thomas Aquinas in his writings). Purpose of life is to live a virtuous life and as a result achieve the state of "Eudaimonia," to flourish and master the moral excellence – to attain the Perfect Good/God.



Other than that, the scientific approach is another method to comprehend God by understanding how this physical world works. There is a famous saying by Werner Heisenberg a German theoretical physicist & father of Quantum Physics, "The first gulp from the glass of natural science will turn you into an atheist, but at the bottom of the glass God is waiting for you." True enough, God will reveal himself to sincere seekers even/especially through their scientific research. Let's look at Dr. Francis Collins the writer of the bestselling book "The Language of God" and he was the former Director of the Human Genome Project (one of history's biggest research projects) as well as a member of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences. In his book Collins declares that he sees no incompatibility between science and religion. "The God of the Bible is also the God of the genome, He can be worshipped in the cathedral or in the laboratory." Besides that, according to the popular belief Nikola Tesla, the father of Modern Electricity once stated that the "Fibonacci sequence," which could be observed in every natural phenomenon is the "signature of God!" The mathematical law which governs the entire universe is indeed the "finger of God" in action! However, the empiricist, those who solely depend on their sensory experience alone would not be able to gather sufficient empirical evidence to proof the existence of God. The inability to see, hear, smell, taste & touch God directly doesn't necessarily disprove God's existence because there are many things which act and exist around us but cannot not be perceived by the human senses. A simple example, would be a dog whistle, a high-pitched whistle used to train dogs, typically having a sound inaudible to humans. Meanwhile, more complex examples which puzzle modern science would be gravity, electromagnetic waves and other wireless technologies. True indeed, we have observed, experimented and developed mathematical models to manipulate these technologies for our well being but the question is do we really know what is the true essence of these things? As specified in the NASA website, nobody really knows what gravity "is" in any fundamental way, we only know how it behaves. Thus, science humbly leads us to seek for the One who has caused gravity to exist. If gravity is real then God is real too, not fake news! Also, worth mentioning here that ironically, everything ever observed with all our instruments only adds up to less than 5% of the universe and the rest of the universe (95%) comprises of unobservable Dark matter & Dark energy.

Finally, the theological approach, God is real and he is the source of everything. God is the ultimate answer for the Who. All things were created through Him and for Him. In fact, I shouldn't be using "finally" because all other approaches actually have been leading here, to God! As St Paul said in Colossians 1:16, "For by Him all things were created that are in Heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him." God gives hope and purpose for this life, by providing a broader perspective towards life, the Eternal life. Hence, regardless how miserable current life is, those who have faith in God will be more patient and resilient to face the challenges, hardship becomes sacrifice when offered to God. Every unpleasant experience in life integrated to be the "soul-making formation" for intellectual development, moral growth and opportunities to practice virtues to name a few. Catechism of the Catholic Church provides explicit explanations on the nature of God and purpose of creation (for those who need further reference). On top of that, one crucial point that I would like to emphasize here is, contrary to the "Spinoza's God" who is an entirely impersonal power, who does not bother about human being's needs, the Catholic Church's Triune God namely, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit is always in communion with each other and thus shares the similar affection, love and care with human beings. We have been created by God the Father, redeemed by God the Son and sanctified by God the Holy Spirit!

Therefore, to conclude my discussion, God is not fake news instead God is very real and we can experience the effects of His love in every dimension of our lives. For those who claim that God is not real because they cannot see God physically is like a fish in the ocean surrounded by water but refuses to believe the existence of water because it cannot see the hydrogen & oxygen molecules distinctly. Our God is a loving God who has given us the gift of free will to seek Him and love Him. St John Paul II in his encyclical, Fides et Ratio (Faith & Reason) has elaborated the central theme of the relationship between faith and reason and their unified journey in the search for God. Hence, reason is not a rival instead reason compliments faith to seek, to know, to love and to serve the Almighty God. Blessed be God forever, "God is great, life is great!"

The greatest privilege God gives to you is the freedom to approach Him at any time.

By. S. Ron Fernandez Constantine 2nd Year Philosophy (Diocese of Penang)

Saya Tidak Seorang Diri, Tuhan Menyertai

COVID-19 tidak lagi asing bagi kita kerana telah memberi impak yang sangat besar dalam kehidupan dunia kini. Masih segar dalam ingatan saya apabila membuat keputusan untuk memasuki seminari dan letak jawatan daripada perkerjaan pada awal tahun 2021. Saya mula kerisauan hati apabila tidak dapat merentasi negeri ke Kota Kinabalu untuk menjalani pembentukan tahun inisiasi. Kebimbangan ini terus menjadi persoalan sehingga menerima khabar daripada Uskup Agung Kuching untuk mengikuti kuliah secara maya dari St. Peter Major Seminary, Kuching. Syukur! Saya dan Kenny dapat mengikuti kuliah tersebut bersama seminarian di Kota Kinabalu selama tujuh bulan sehingga kami dapat kelulusan merentasi negeri pada bulan Oktober.

Pengalaman ini memberikan saya inspirasi untuk terus bersabar dalam pembentukan kepaderian. Saya percaya sekiranya Tuhanlah yang memanggil saya untuk mengembala para dombanya, Dia tidak akan meninggalkan saya bersendirian. "Jangan bimbangkan apa pun. Dalam segala hal, dengan berdoa dan memohon, dengan mengucapkan kesyukuran, beritahulah hasratmu kepada Allah." (Filipi 4:6) Syukur pada tahun ini kami berjaya melanjutkan pembentukan falsafah tahun pertama di College General, Pulau Pinang.

Walaupun negara kita telah beralih kepada endamik namun kehidupan harian kita tidak lagi seperti dahulu. Kita perlu menyesuaikan diri dan mengubah kehidupan mengikut norma baru. Di seminary juga, kami tidak terkecuali daripada kesan COVID-19 ini kerana kami masih tidak berpeluang untuk melakukan aktiviti pastoral yang mana salah satu daripada asas pembentukan di seminari. Sesungguhnya, saya tetap percaya Tuhan mempunyai rencananya yang tersendiri dan pasti akan campur tangan sekiranya kita tetap mempunyai iman dan harapan. "Bergembiralah dalam harapan, tabah menghadapi kesusahan, dan terus-menerus berdoa." (Roma 12:12). Tuhan memberkati!

By, Boniface Chang 1st Year Philosophy - Archdiocese of Kuching



我是一位摇篮教友,出生于天主教家庭长大。起初我与主相遇的经验是我的家 庭信仰生活,温馨主爱家庭环境成长,我与祖父母及家人一起祈祷,颂念玫瑰 经祈求圣母玛丽亚,为我们家庭祈求天主。我也不能缺少进教堂参加主日弥撒 我感觉天主就在我的家庭之中,与我同在,并降幅鼓励我们,不论生命遇到 什么挑战及困难,一心一意不断依靠爱我们的主耶稣而生活,有耶稣住在我家我 们就心满意足,耶稣是我一家之主。

在我们生命成长的过程,都有遇到不少的困难及挑战。但我的心情低落的生活,我 会去安静的地方祈祷,与主相遇的美好时光。每当我在朝拜圣体的时候,让我感受到圣体前 的耶稣正在与我面对面,看着我满身都是犯罪的伤痕,医治我心灵的创伤。仿佛主耶稣基督 告诉我说孩子,你的罪得赦冤了,不要再从犯了! 主对我的爱是多么美丽及感动,导致我的 眼泪自然不断的流下。

接着,诵读圣经章节,也是一种与主相遇的机会,默想圣言,应着福音的教导,在 我的生命充满力量及勇气继续面对生活上的困难,有耶稣的教导,如何爱主爱人,努力的完 成天主赐予我身上的使命。

> By, Henry Lim Initiation Year - Diocese of Johor Melaka

EVIS's Reflection

Kopisanangan toinsanan, alansan daa ososonong ngawi tokou id suang ngaran Kinorohinaan.

Otopot nopo kopio nga, sumiliu songulun paado nopo nga okon ko iman-imanonku, nga nokuro om poingkuro, singkog kad minomili oku sinumuang do seminari. Iman -imanon ku nopo daa kopio nga popounsikou do molohingku, manansawo om kiharo karaja di tosonong. Sinumuang do seminari okon ko ososonong, norikot kopio pinagon, gisom no do tinongkiadanku ngawi karaja om iman-imanonku. Suai ko iri, iso i apagon kopio di opurimananku timpu diri nga, monongkiad om mongiduan songulun di koginawaan. Koboros nogi ginawoku do nunu di rati monongkiad songulun di koginawaannu, montok diti di amu po noilaan

poingkuro kotutukon. Om nokuro tu koboros oku miagal diti? Sabab sumuang nopo do seminari nga aiso jaminan do atadbis yahai ko amu, do sumiliu songulun paado insan tadau.

Popoilang oku do iso kinantakan di toun 2006. Ontok nopo diti nga haro iso program motivasi UPSR id sikul dahai. Maya diti program, iti nogi kumoinsan kopio do nokosoliwan boros ginawoku do sumiliu oku do paado insan tadau. Iti nopo nga soira oku do nouhot di penceramah do nunu iman-imanonku om tilombus oku do suminimbar do sumiliu oku songulun paado. Ontok nopo diri nga, opurimanan ku do sisimbar ku nopo nga mangan nopo tomod do koirakan. Om kinantakan nopo diti kakal poinsorou ku po tomod gisom baino. Gisom nopo di diri nga, kogumuan tambalutku om mongingia id sikul momolohou doho do paado, nga amu ku gia toboyon, sabab ontok diri mimang do aiso pomusarahan ku do sumiliu songulun paado. Nga baino, hiti oku nodi om poinsuang oku nodi do seminari.

Seminari nopo nga kinoyonon dahai do minsingilo om momuriai lohou do Kinorohingan. Id kinoyonon nopo diti nga, kaanu yahai do momurimon di taralom kopio do otopot nangku i pamalahawan do Kinoringan kumaa doid dahai ko amu. Mantad no diti, ketidakpastian om keraguan kad malayu, asaru do koimbulai om korikot id suang ginawoku. Jadi, sabab do topurimanan ku diti, tongkiad oku nodi mantad seminari solinaid do duo toun. Solinaid ku poinlabus do seminari, nulud ku koposionku miampai sogonop korohianku, nga gisom oku nopo tuminongkiad diti seminari, asaru korikot topurimanan ku miagal do tumongob om kumanggau. Mantad nodi diri, suang oku nodi kagu id seminari. Sundung pia do hiti oku nodi kagu seminari nga, aiso kotumbayaan toi ko keraguan maso po opurimanan ku. Asaru oku no monugat do ginawoku sondiri do ' otopot nangku iti no kopio pamalahawan do Kinoringan kumaa doho?". Jadi, alansan oku do koinsanai dikoyu do toririmo daa manambayang dahai do mooi no daa agaras yahai do monimbar pamalahawan do Kinoringan diti.

Pounsikou.

Awanadan tokou no daa kasasari do Kinorohingan.

By, Evisdateh Paul 1st Year Philosophy - Archdiocese of Kota Kinabalu

SOLOMON's Reflection

தேவ அழைத்தல்

சிறுவயதில் ஆலயத்திற்கு செல்லும் ஒவ்வொரு திருபலிபீடத்தை ரசிப்பது எனக்கு மிகவும் பிடிக்கும். பீடத்தின் அருகில் செல்லவேண்டும் என்பது எனது கனவாய் இருந்தது. நாட்கள் கடந்து செல்ல ஒவ்வொரு குருவானவரையும் பார்க்கும் போளுது அவர்களை போல ஆக வேண்டும் என்ற கனவு என்னுள் உதித்தது. இளைய ஆலயத்தின்பால் இருந்த ஈர்ப்பு குறைந்து ஆலயத்திற்கு வரும் நண்பர்கள் பக்கம் மனம் சாய்ந்தது. இடைநிலை பள்ளி பருவம் கடந்து வாழ்கையில் சில வெறுப்புகளும், நட்புகள் இடையில் விரிசளும் உண்டானது.

தனிமை வாட்டிய போது, வாழ்கையில் ஏற்படும் விரிசல்களுக்குப் பதில் கிடைக்குமா என்று இறைவனிடம் பதில் கேட்டு ஆலயதிற்கு மீண்டும் சென்றேன். கருகிய பயிர்மேல் விழுந்த பருவ மழைபோல், அருமையான ஒரு குருவானவரின் நட்புறவு கிடைத்தது. மனதில் எழும் கேள்விகள், உதடு தாண்டி வெளி வரும் முன், அந்த குருவானவரிடம் இருந்து பதில் வரும். இப்படியாக குருத்துவம் மீது எனக்கு ஆர்வம் வந்தது. வாழ்கையில் ஒரு சில வசதிகள் கூடிய பொழுது காதல் மொட்டுகளும் மலர ஆரம்பித்தன. ஆனால் காதல் தோட்டத்தில், கடவுளுடன் இருந்த மகிழ்வும் மன அமைதியும் இல்லை. மறுமுறையும் துன்ப அலைகள் தாக்கிட, வாழ்கை படகு தத்தளித்து முழ்கியது. நிம்மதியை தேடி இறைவனடி சரணடைதேன். என்ன ஒரு ஆச்சரியம்? நான் விலகினாலும் இறைவன் விலகவில்லை அவரது அன்பும் குறையவில்லை. அதன் பிறகு இறைவனோடு சேர்ந்து பயணம் செய்ய குருத்துவம் என்னும் பாதையில் செல்ல முடிவெடுத்தேன்.



By, Solomon John A/L Alias Archdiocese of Kuala Lumpur





2022 Easter Celebration, alleluia for we are back at the parishes again

Indeed, just like all other celebrations, this year Easter also have been extra special because finally all of us able to participate holy week and Easter celebrations in the parishes with the people of God. Since our group is quite big, 30 of us, we were divided into 4 groups and assigned to four different parishes within the Penang Island as follows; Church of Immaculate Conception, St Francis Xavier, St John Britto and Our Lady of Sorrows. We were very lucky because all the parish priests and parishioners have been so helpful and friendly throughout the celebrations and we have tried our best to create value by assisting in whichever manner we could such as cleaning the church, arranging candles & flowers for sale, liturgical preparations, serving in the Holy Mass and singing with church choir to name a few. Overall, all the seminarians enjoyed the celebrations and felt rejuvenated both mentally and spiritually after serving Our lord's passion, death and resurrection together with the people of God.





Pre-Synod Assembly

The National Pre-Synod Assembly took place on the 11th of July 2022, at the Church of Immaculate Conception Penang, gathered the Synod coordinators and the delegates from the nine Arch/dioceses of Malaysia in person as well as via Zoom.

Bishop Sebastian Francis (Diocese of Penang), Archbishop Julian Leow (Archdiocese of Kuala Lumpur), Archbishop John Wong (Archdiocese of Kota Kinabalu), Archbishop Simon Poh (Archdiocese of Kuching), Bishop Bernard Paul (Diocese of Melacca-Johore) were among the prelates who present at the one-day assembly. Besides that, delegates from Singapore and Brunei, and ecumenical representatives were also present.

From College General, our Rector, Fr. Simon Labrooy was there to coordinate the Spiritual Conversation, Ashvin Andrew served as one of the Masters of Ceremony, where by Melvin Dawson and Ronfernandez participated as observers. The other seminarians, even though they were not present in the assembly, they too have actively contributed their feedbacks and ideas during multiple forums and surveys done since the beginning of the year. Fr Jude Miranda visited College General several times to conduct workshops and engagement sessions to assist the seminarians to understand the key elements involved in this synodal process. The seminarians were divided into few groups to discuss in detail on each aspect of the synodal elements and all the findings were gathered and presented by the Caput Brother Matthew Lo during the Pre Synod Assembly.

During the assembly, each Arch/diocese took turns to present a synthesis report. Based on the presented reports, the National Synod Team then summarised a draft Malaysia Pre-Synod report. One of the highlights of the assembly was Spiritual Conversation, where all the participants were divided into groups to share their thoughts on the reports and listen to one another. Representatives of each Arch/diocese also made an act of gesture of commitment. The event was concluded with the Eucharist Celebration in the evening.

Charles Bertille, the Executive Secretary of the Catholic Bishops Conference of Malaysia-Singapore-Brunei, summarised the mentioned draft report with a concluding remark, "In summary, for Participation to grow, we need to review our practice of leadership and institutional structures. Communion invites us to empower local communities to take the lead for mission and service, and inculturate our way of being Church locally. Mission requires us to build up missionary-disciples with a compassionate heart for those in the peripheries".





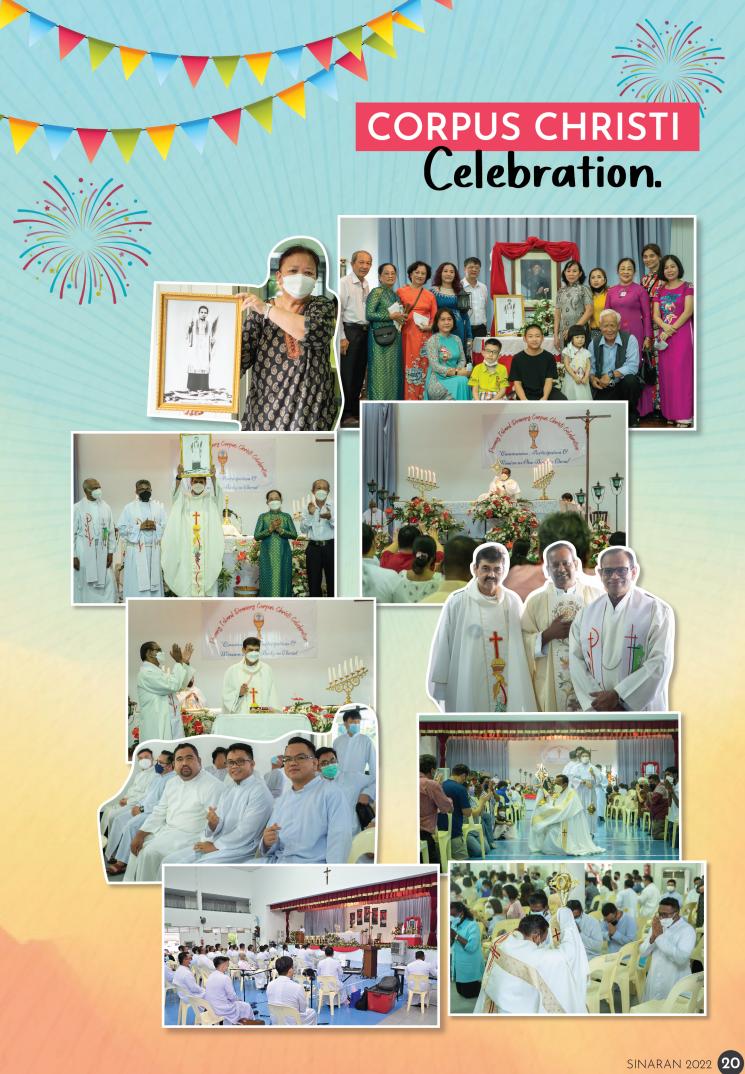
CG Opening Its Doors

After a two-year hiatus, College General finally open its doors to the public. Over the 19th June weekend, we had two major consecutive events: The Feast of Sts Philip Minh and Companions and, The Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ.

The Feast of Sts Philip Minh and Companions is celebrated annually on 19th June. However, this year, it coincided with Corpus Christi, so we celebrated our feastday on the 17th of June. After a month-long preparation, we were able to celebrate this joyous feast together with the Penang Diocese Priests, our external lecturers, religious Sisters, CG staff and even guests from Pelita International School. Our celebration began with Solemn Vespers led by Fr Eugene Fernandez CSSR, our spiritual father. Mass followed then by our main celebrant the newly ordained Assistant Parish Priest of the Church of the Divine Mercy, Shah Alam, Rev Fr Michel Dass who shared on the joys of suffering that the martyrs endured and advised the seminarians to endure their formation with God. The celebration continued with dinner and fellowship.

On Sunday, a turnout of more than 700 people from the island came together to celebrate Corpus Christi at the diocese level. This joint-celebration with all the Penang Island Parishes under the guidance of all the Penang diocese priests took months of preparation where all parishes came together to form the committee and to ensure a successful event. This celebration began at 3.00pm with the Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament followed by Mass and Procession. The main celebrant was Rev Fr Lionel Thomas from St Peter's Church, Melaka and concelebrated by more than 15 Priests from the diocese of Penang. In his sermon, he shared that in recent statistics, most Catholics do not believe in the Real Presence of Christ, however the Eucharist proves to be real with countless miracles and conversions. He also emphasized the need for greater reverence towards the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. After Communion, the Procession of the Holy Eucharist with solemn reverence was brought closer to each and everyone. Among the congregants, we had special guests from Vietnam, who were the descendants of St Peter Qui, our College alumni, Saint and Martyr. It was a real honour and blessing to receive an icon of St Peter Qui which was presented to College General. In addition, there was a surprise for our College Rector, Fr Simon Labrooy who celebrated his birthday this day. He was presented with a cake. Finally, the celebration concluded with fellowship for all present.





Gawai Kaamatan — FESTIVAL —

Shalom

First of all, I would like to thank Sinaran for allowing me to share my experience celebrating Gawai and Kaamatan in College General. As we know, Hari Gawai falls on the 1st of June and is celebrated to give thanks to God (in Christian context) for a successful harvest. Gawai Dayak is an annual festival celebrated by the Dayak people in Sarawak, Malaysia. The meaning of the word "Gawai" is "celebration". On Hari Gawai, the day is packed with fun-filled activities that aim to foster unity and strengthen the bond between

As a "Tuai Gawai" (the leader for the celebration) chosen by the committee this year, I worked together with my fellow brother seminarians from Sabah and Sarawak to celebrate this event. I would like to thank God for allowing us to celebrate this festival in College General this year. After 2 years, of being affected by COVID, we were finally able to have the celebration this year. Praise God, this year we can celebrate it together with the community. These two festivals, Hari Gawai and Kaamatan, bring a lot of joy and happiness to the community. I believe the celebration of any community brings the spirit of joy and happiness to the community in College General, where the seminarians from Sabah and Sarawak can share their culture with the community to celebrate this occasion.

The process of recognising and understanding the customs and traditions of other races is very important for us because we live in a large community of people from various backgrounds. Therefore, our committee members chose "Traditions Reveal Identity" as our theme for this year. The objective of this theme is to introduce the significance of the Dayak's tradition of Gawai and Kaamatan to our community. Secondly, to celebrate together with our community since we cannot go back to our hometowns. Lastly, to share the joy and blessing of these festivals. We introduced a few programmes to make this celebration wonderful, such as, "Ngalu Pengabang" (welcome the visitor), "Anggalang Magunatip" (bamboo dance), lucky draw, "Ngetas Ranyai" (harvest symbolic), and "ngirup ai pengayu" (drink rice wine) as our closing program.

Last but not least, I would like to thank our rector, Fr. Simon, for approving our proposal to celebrate this Gawai and Kaamatan, and also to Fr. Ryan for dealing with the catered food (local sabahan food) that we ate during the celebration. Not to forget Fr. Stephen and the INC leader for their help in making this event a successful one. Thank you very much! Especially to all the committee members, we did it!





Mid Autumn





We began with writing down our prayers and wishes on a wishing card followed by a simple Chinese cuisine accompanied with Chinese traditional music. After the dinner, we continued with the lantern parade with everyone holding their lanterns tied together with the wish cards and walked slowly from the foyer to St. Chastan & Imbert Square. The square was decorated with lanterns along the side of the walkway. Under the dark night, the ambiance of the surrounding was lightened up with small lanterns. This time around, we were blessed abundantly with the varieties of mooncakes paired well with jasmine tea and pomelo. While everyone was enjoying the food and the ambiance, the committee members presented video clips to explain the significant of Moon cake festival in Chinese culture. Games and lucky draws were part of the event and everyone delighted with a simple goodies bag as a gift. The event concluded with the exchange of lanterns and the wish cards. Even though it was a simple evening, but it meant a lot for us in the community.





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SNIPPETS GET TO KNOW YOUR SEMINARIANS

- 1. How do you experience God's presence during the Covid Pandemic/MCO. What was your experience of God during the pandemic?
- 2. Who is your favourite saint & what is the most powerful quote from your favourite saint?
- 3. What or who inspired you to priesthood?
- 4. What is your favourite devotions?
- 5. What is your favourite Marian title? Why?

Initiation Year



Daniel

- Q1: Protection. God protects His people.
- Q2: St Anthony of padua. "Actions speak louder than words"
- Q3: Fr Paul Wong & the late Fr Joseph Pang. They inspired me through their joy and peace and most of all humility.
- **Q4**: Blessed Sacrament Adoration
- Q5: Our Lady of Graces- the miraculous medal of which I got it when I was studying during my university.



Henry

- **Q1:** Being in this pandemic, I have experienced God with me. Even though I am worried about life, the difficulties of the pandemic and the financial challenges, my heart is full of peace and I have no fear.
- **Q2:** My favorite saint is St. Therese of Lisieux because of her love for the Lord . This is something I must learn, Little Teresa said that If there is a day where you do not suffer then it is a day in vain and it has no value in life. Her humility and love pleased Jesus.
- Q3: REV. Father John Yu, and he was the one who inspired and supported me to be a priest. And he made many contributions to the church, and I will not forget his hard work and diligence in managing the development of the church.
- **Q4:** My favorite devotion is reciting the Rosary, because it is the most beloved request of the Virgin Mary that asks us to pray more for world peace.
- Q5: My favourite Marian title is our lady of Perpetual Help because she intercedes for us, for all our needs.







- Q1: Pandemic helped me come to realization and identify, what is the actual needs and necessity (what really matters) in my life. Hence, allowed me to release and relief baggage in my life.
- Q2: St Jason of Thessalonica (Corfu) Converted Thousands
 Acts 17: 6-7 = They broken Caesar's edicts by claiming that "there is another king, Jesus"
- Q3: God's voice called me when I was 15 years old "Be my priest", and again when I was 36 "what are you waiting for"
- Q4: Devotion to St Jason & St Benedict.
- Q5: Mother of Assumption. I'm the parish's son, also she had given me, her motherly love.



Solomon

- Q1: I experienced many struggles during pandemic especially the moments when myself got infected with COVID 19 and my lungs affected by COVID virus and experienced six-month long pain in my chest. On that same times I experienced God's saving hand in my critical moments as doctors mentioned it was a miracle that I survived although had scars in my lungs.
- **Q2:** St Joseph "silence" always is his favourite quotes
- Q3: Life Of Priests
- **Q4:** Divine Mercy, Sacred Heart, Rosary, Novena to St Joseph.
- Q5: Our Lady Of Guadalupe, her word to St Juan when he tries to escape from our lady to help his uncle "am I not your mother?"



Philosophy Year

66

Alexander



- Q1: Covid 19 experience will remain in my memory, it will last forever because of this incident that opens my heart and soul to trust the Lord, and surrender my life to follow him.
- Q2: St Francis of Assisi, simple way of life. "Remember when you leave this earth, you can take with you Nothing that you have received only what you have gained: A heart enriched by honest service, Love Sacrifice and Courage" St Francis of Assisi.
- Q3: The Disciples (St. Peter) are brave of heart and dare to die for the good news for the salvation human soul and most of all, Jesus Christ, because of His death and resurrection for my soul.
- Q4: I love Divine Mercy, in the process to learn about it.
- Q5: Blessed Virgin Mary. She appeared in my dream, asking me do I believe Jesus her son because at the age of 12 I wondered why I should believe in her and pray for her studying during my university.



Allan

- Q1: GATHER! During the Covid Pandemic, I experienced God's presence when I see many families who seldom eat together at home, finally have the chance to have meals together every day.
- Q2: St Joseph of Cupertino "I will attempt, day by day, to break my will into pieces. I want to do God's will, not my own!".
- Q3: What inspired me to the Catholic priesthood is the "Holy Eucharist" because that is our source and summit of our faith.
- Q4: Holy Rosary.
- **Q5:** The Mother of Seminarians. As a seminarian I am far from my family physically but Mother Mary is close with me all the time, I believe she always help me in prayer.





Alvin



- **Q1:** Consolation in desolation. God consoled me when I was experiencing dryness searching for the meaning of life during the pandemic.
- Q2: St Teresa of Calcuta "What we do is for Jesus, with Jesus, and to Jesus"
- Q3: Rev Fr Christopher W. Soosaipillai. I was touched by his pastoral care for the people. He is always there when needed.
- Q4: Rosary
- Q5: Our Lady of Perpetual Help. I have a special connection to this icon of hers since young as it was displayed during the novenas that I used to attend as a child.



Bonny

- Q1: I was a positive covid patient. I had mild symptoms which very uneasy feeling. However, God is merciful, He has given me chances to fight and survive from this disease.
- Q2: St. Francis of Asisi Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible.
- Q3: The Holy Eucharist. I believe that always appreciate the precious Holy Eucharist build stronger faith and relationship with God. Therefore, it has inspired me and hopefully by the grace of God becomes a priest in future.
- Q4: Rosary
- Q5: Holy Mother of God. She responded 'Yes' to God's call to be the Mother of Our Saviour.





Charles



- Q1: God is a healer. I tested positive for a COVID test earlier this year, just before returning to seminary. There's nothing much I can do except pray. I surrendered to him. By his grace, I am cured and free from this virus.
- Q2: St. Francis of Assisi "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love."
- Q3: I was inspired by the Mill Hill missionaries (priests) when I saw their zeal to bring the Good News to the people in the longhouse. They really work hard for the people, especially in the rural areas. Through them, many people in the longhouses converted to Catholicism.
- **Q4:** Rosary and Divine Mercy.
- Q5: Our Lady of Fatima. I was called to respond to her message by praying the Rosary every day to bring peace to the world.



Dennis

- Q1: During that period of time, many people were suffering with daily necessity like groceries but many good-hearted people came forward to help them around the clock to ease the burden of the needy. When I reflected, I understand and experienced God's presence through the good-hearted people and God still in control of everything.
- Q2: St. Dennis of Paris- "virtues, courage and sacrifice"
- Q3: Rev Fr. Robert Daniel and Rev Fr. Vincent Paul. I was inspired by their vast knowledge about God and their passion and zeal in serving the people of God.
- Q4: Divine mercy
- Q5: Our Lady of Good Health. I am attracted to our lady because in time of hopelessness, she becomes a beacon of hope and guides to the salvation.

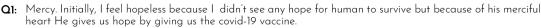


Devson



- When covid hit, I didn't question my faith in God, I believe that there must be a reason in every circumstances. However, my biggest question was my vocation. But thanks to God that until now I still in His care. Q1:
- Q2: St Francis of Assisi "Start by doing what is necessary, then what is possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible."
- Q3: The words of God in the Bible inspired me.
- Q4: Rosarv
- Q5: Mary, the comforter of the afflicted. This is because, Mother Mary, witnessed her Son tortured & sacrificed before her on the Cross, knows what is the true sorrow, heartbreak and sadness and as a result able to comfort and advocate those who needs her help.





- Q2: Blessed Mother Mary. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." (Lk 1:38)
- Q3: I was inspired by Catholic priests' personality and attitude.
- Q5: Mary Mother of Seminarians. I consider her as the mother of all seminarians who keeps supporting us in answering God's calling.



- Love. Through the love of God, I experience that God never abandon His people during the pandemic.
- Q2: St. Therese of Lisieux "Holiness consists simply in doing God's will, and being just what God wants us to be."
- Q3: Priests in my parish I was inspired by their leadership, service and humbleness to their community.
- Q4: Rosary.
- Our Lady of Fatima- I am interested in the message of Our Lady of Fatima who requested us to say the rosary every day for the peace of the world.



Hilary

- Q1: Love. No matter how strong Covid-19 is God's love is much stronger.
- Q2: St Ignatius Loyola "Laugh and Grow Strong" Laughter works wonders.
- Q3: My parish Priest- He is living his priestly life with Joy.
- Q4: Centering Prayer- Meditation towards Blessed Sacrament.
- Q5: Mary Mother of God- Mary accepted God's will to be the Mother of Jesus.





Hogan

- Q1: "Be still and know that I am God." MCO's moment has taught me to fully believed and to trust in Him.
- Q2: St. Bonaventure. "If you learn everything except Christ, you learn nothing. If you learn nothing except Christ, you learn everything.
- Q3: Rev Fr Anthony Mikat. I was inspired by his firmness and simplicity.
- Q4: Rosary.
- Immaculate conception. I was attracted by Mary's solid faith to God. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me according to your word.



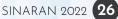
Kenny

- Q1: Hope. I experience God's presence in my life through prayer and meditation, trusting in Him, knowing that He will take care of everything
- Q2: St Ignatius of Loyola "A sinner but yet called"
- Q3: The Eucharist without Priest, no Eucharist, without Eucharist, there's no People of God.
- Q4: Rosary
- Q5: Our Lady of Mount Carmel. I am attracted to the Carmelites spirituality.



- Q1: During the global pandemic, I have experienced God's presence in my life through empathy. I have seen many individuals who have lost family members because of this pandemic, myself and others who have had covidly themselves. God has given me the patience and empathy to connect and converse with individuals to help them cope with what they may be going through during the pandemic.
- Saint Padre Pio "Pray, hope, and don't worry. Worry is useless. God is merciful and will hear your prayer."
- First and foremost, Christ Himself. Second, the community that I served back in my church, St. James Tenghilan, Tuaran, Sabah.
- Q4: Rosary and Holy Hour.
- Q5: Mary the mother of God, and refuge of sinners.







Robert

Vincent

- As per Jesus' greatest commandment; Love your neighbour as you love yourself. Many people came forward to help the needy during this time of trials. Brought Jesus to them. Q1:
- Q2: St. Teresa of Calcutta "Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love"
- Q3: Rev Fr Naden. I was inspired by his simplicity and love for the people.
- **Q4:** Rosary and Visit to the Blessed Sacrament alone.
- Q5: Our lady of Mount Carmel. I am attracted to the Carmelites' spirituality and the brown scapular promises.



Victor

- Never give up in pray. Always give the best in pray and actions. Believe that there is a huge hope in God instead of hopelessness.
- Q2: St. Augustine of Hippo "There is no love without hope, no hope without love, and neither love nor hope without faith
- Q3: Experience of life and participation in the Church.
- Q4: Rosary, Chaplet of The Divine Mercy and The Novena Never Known to Fail.
- Q5: Our Lady of Fatimah "she promises to assist at the hour of death with the graces necessary or salvation"





- God has become an important person to express my pain and struggles. I saw God's presence when people helped each other during the pandemic.
- Q2: St. Jude "Patron saint of impossible causes"
- Q3: I was inspired by priests who were humble, and who responded to the needs of people.
- Q4: Rosary.
- Q5: Mary in the Joyful Mysteries. She was Joyful in spite of her difficult circumstances.

Philosophy Year 2



Ashvin

- Q1: My experience of God was one of HOPE. I was hopeful that He would eventually lead us out of the pandemic.
- Q2: St. Oscar Romero: The ones who have a voice must speak for those who are voiceless.
- Q3: Witnessing how the sacraments are made available for the people, especially the sacraments of confession, anointing of the sick, and the Eucharist.
- **Q4:** Spending time with the Lord in silence in front of the Blessed Sacrament.
- **Q5:** Our lady of the Visitation. Because I belong to the Church of Visitation, Seremban!



Larry

- Q1: Hope and Love. God is always with me, and He guarantees that everything will be fine in His time.
- Q2: St. Maria Goretti. "Yes, I too, for the love of Jesus, forgive him..."
- Q3: The Eucharist.
- Q4: Rosary.
- Q5: Our Lady of the Rosary. Love for the Rosary.







Leon

- Q1: By experiencing God's mercy through tears, loss, and pain; by feeling God's love through loved ones and seeing Jesus in everyone
- Q2: St Thérèse of Liseux "It's true, I suffer a great deal-but do I suffer well? That is the question."
- Q3: Firstly, the Holy Eucharist. Secondly, Frs Francis Andrew and Stanley Antoni.
- Q4: St Joseph, spouse of the B.V.M.
- Q5: Our lady of Silence, an invitation to remain still by listening to God's voice and contemplate on it.



Lincoln

- I experience God's consolations and affirmations during the pandemic. As well as, i learn to depend on God's providence and care in facing struggles in my life.
- Q2: St.Bernadette. "The Blessed Virgin used me like a broom and then put me back in my place."
- Q3: The late Fr. Miranda he so humble and always available to help.
- Q4: Rosary.
- Q5: Our Lady of Fatima





Mark



- Q1: Assurance. The conviction that he will be there in time of despair and hopelessness. Obstacles are always there but His LOVE will always prevail.
- Q2: Joan of Arc "Go forward bravely. Fear nothing. Trust in God; all will be well."
- Q3: It happens when I was in primary 5, when a priest lifted the Bread and Wine that'd been consecrated. And my mother, her devotion to the Rosary inspired me.
- Q4: Rosary
- Q5: Our Lady of Fatima. Our Lady emphasizes the important of the Rosary; to save lives.

Matthew

- QI: The longing to receive the Eucharist, and the love and care shown by others toward me despite unable to meet physically was God's presence for me; God could be experienced through relationships.
- Q2: St Joseph No word of his was recorded, he served the Lord with actions.
- Q3: My own need to the sacraments, as well as the beauty of the Church Teaching.
- **Q4:** Divine mercy.
- Q5: Our lady of Fatima. I consecrated myself to Jesus through Mother Mary on the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima in 2015



5

Melvin

- Q1: The Assurance. I felt God drawing me closer to nature and experiencing his stillness.
- Q2: St Francis of Assisi. Make me an instrument of your peace.
- Q3: The joy to serve God in his vineyard. Inspired by Fr David Reegon.
- Q4: Rosary
- Q5: Cause of our Joy. Mother Mary wants us to filled with joy, a joy promised by her son Jesus.



Ron

- Q1: Hope & trust in God's goodness and mercy. In my total helplessness during the pandemic, I experienced God's assurance that things will get better. God always in control!
- Q2: St Catherine of Siena "Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire"
- Q3: My former parish priest, Rev Fr Michael Dass. I was inspired by his simplicity, humility, love for the people of God and pastoral zeal.
- Q4: Divine mercy & Our Lady of Mt Carmel novena.
- Q5: Our lady of Seven Sorrows. It shows that our blessed Mother too suffered immensely yet she continues to trust in God's goodness. Also, I am attracted to the seven graces promised by our lady especially the 2nd grace, the enlightenment of the divine mysteries.





Stephen

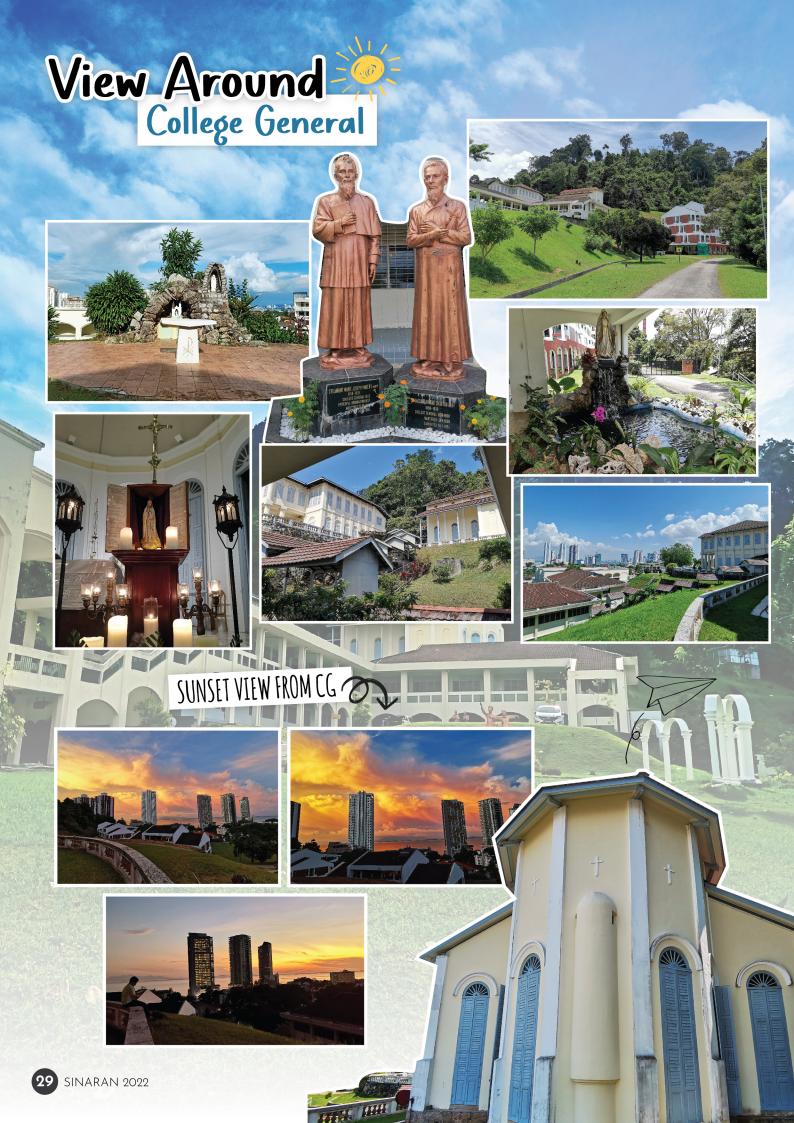
- Q1: Grace: In the midst of struggles in life the Grace of God always reveal new things for growth.
- **Q2:** St. Francis Xavier. "Many, many people hereabouts are not becoming Christians for one reason only: there is nobody to make them Christians."
- Q3: Rev Fr Simon Lau Seng Wud. His openness in friendship opens the door of vocation especially during my early journey towards entering seminary.
- Q4: Rosarv
- Q5: Our Lady of Fatima. Mother always present in every hardship of my life.



Xavier

- Q1: During pandemic, the spiritual exercises brought God close to myself and gave me the consolation experience of transcend which makes me able to perceive the sacred moments that affects my self-perception.
- Q2: Ignatius of Loyola– "It is dangerous to make everybody go forward by the same road: and worse to measure others by oneself."
- Q3: Rev Fr Devadasan. He inspired me through his proactiveness and humbleness being one in everyone's family without any hierarchical consciousness.
- Q4: Rosary
- **Q5:** Mother Mary of the Humility, Mary being the first and most perfect disciple of Jesus Christ in the practice of all virtues, was the first also in that of humility, and by it merited to be exalted above all creatures.





OUR COMMUNITY

Formators

SPIRITUAL FATHER OF THE HOUSE



PROCURATOR _



RECTOR



DEAN OF STUDIES



Our Staff





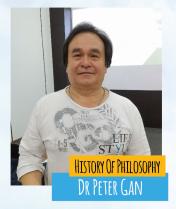






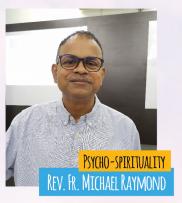


External Lecturers



















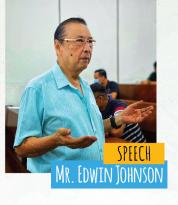






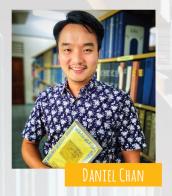


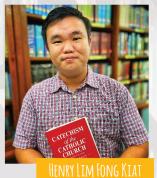


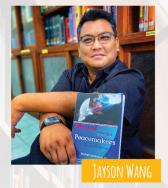


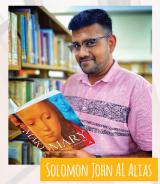


Initiation Year

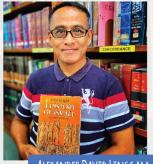








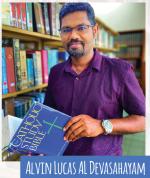
1st Year Philosophy



ALEXANDER DAVID LINGGAM



ALLAN KOSIDI @ ANDREW





BONIFACE CHANG



CHARLES BOROMEO ANAK MARKOS



DENNIS RAJ AL RASU



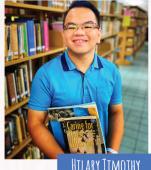
DEVSON KONSUNG



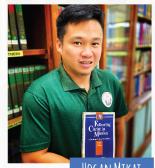
EVISDATEH PAUL



FRENDDY JOHN @AMSAR



HILARY TIMOTHY



HOGAN MIKAT

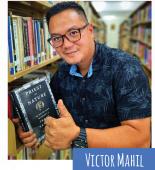


JOHN ROBERTSON AL JOSEPH



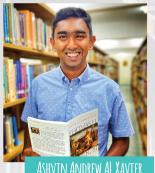
KENNY GEDDY ANAK SANTI



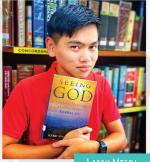


VINCENT AL SUSEH

2nd Year Philosophy



ASHVIN ANDREW AL XAVIER





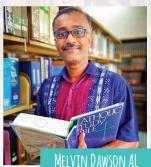


LINCOLN LEWIS DE SILVA



MARKATHUR STEVE BAILON

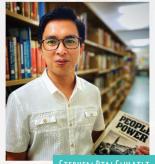




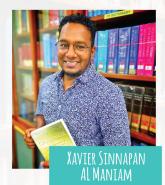
MELVIN DAWSON AL Michael Dass



RONFERNANDEZ AL SANDANASAMY



STEPHEN BIN SUHAILI



College General Sinaran 2022 Sinaran 2022

External Students









CG Ministries



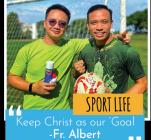


The human family has received from the Creator a common gift: Nature," -Laudato Si.



There cannot be forgotten the great possibilities of mass media in promoting dialogue, becoming vehicles for reciprocal knowledge, of solidarity and of peace. -St. John Paul II















WE PRAY A LOT, WE WORK HARD & PLAY HARDER...









NEWLY ORDAINED



Jeremiah 1:7. But Yahweh replied, "Do not say, "I am only a child," for you must go to all to whom I send you and say whatever I command you.



REV FR. BEDE MORTI LAMUTAN

Yoh 15:13. Kasih Seorang Sahabat.



Luke 1:38 'Here am I the servant of the Lord'



REV. FR HENDRY JIMBEY

Luke 1:38 'Here am I the servant of the Lord'



Psalm 51:12 "A pure heart, create for me, oh God"

REV.FR LASIUS GANTIS



John 15:16. I chose you.



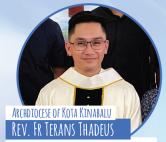
Jn 15:12 "Love one another as I have loved you"



Isaiah 41:10 "Do not be afraid, for I am with you; do not be alarmed, for I am your God. I give you strength, truly I help you, truly I hold you firm with my saving right hand."



John 15:9. "Remain in My Love"



John 14:8 "God is love"



Hallowed Be Thy Name

SILVER JUBILARIANS "25 YEARS SACERDOTAL ANNIVERSARY"

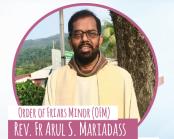


"Lord, through Your Cross; Help me to see the beauty in ugliness, joy in sorrow, love in hurts. To see Your face in every person that I meet.



REV. FR ANDREW MANICKAM

(Ordination) Feed my lambs (Silver Jubilee) Accomplish or do not begin



Walking With The Lord



In him we live and move and have our being



REV. FR DR CLARENCE DEVADASS

My grace is Sufficient for You.

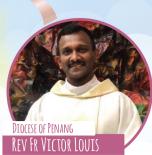


REV. FR MICHAEL RAYMOND

Listen to him.



Lord, in my weakness help me to witness.



In him we live and move and have our being

College of the martyrs & saints. "REMOVE THE SANDALS FROM YOUR FEET FOR YOU ARE STANDING IN THE HOLY GROUND"...

College General is blessed with the 1st Class relics of the Apostles, Korean & Vietnamese martyrs and other major saints of Christendom. "Those precious and rare relics are being safeguarded and venerated in our chapel. May all the Holy Saints and Martyrs pray for us.

Relics

















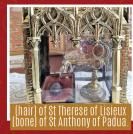












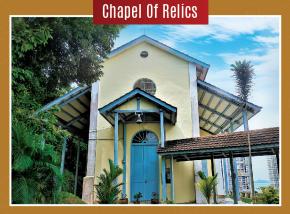




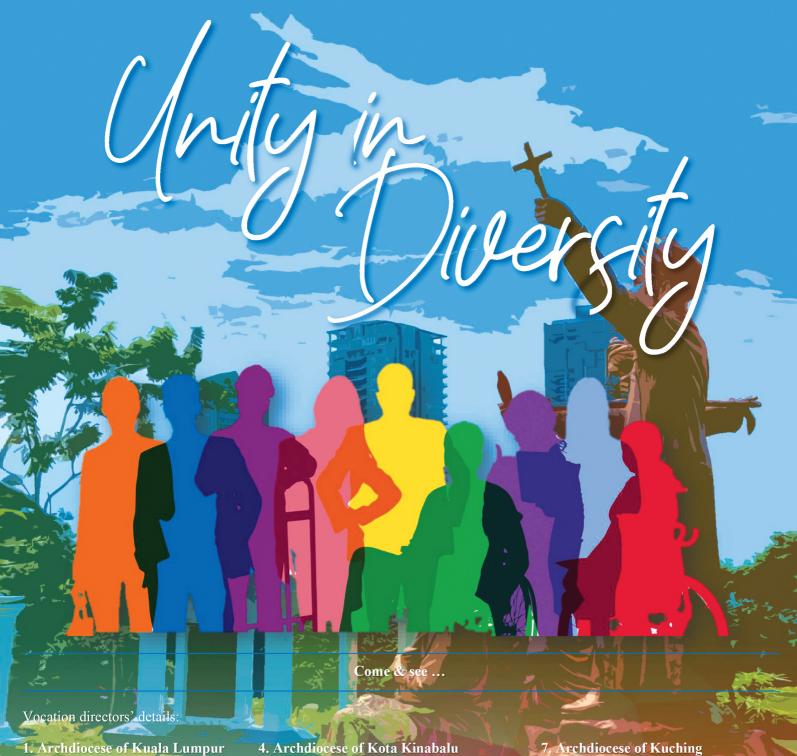












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