

Balitang Nagbibigay Buhay

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Archdiocese of Vancouver

SALAMAT-2
A VIRTUAL CELEBRATION: VANCOUVER
SECOND QUARTER EVENT

JOIN US ON
JULY 09, 2021

RECEIVING THE GIFT
Friday, 6:00-7:00pm PST
Scan for more info & donate

ANTON & GENIFER BROSAS
Hosts

REV. DENNIS FLORES
Resource Person

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Archdiocese of Vancouver

gifted to give
THE YEAR OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE PHILIPPINES

500YOC CELEBRATION CONTINUES

Filipino parishioners keeping parishes alive through their gifts. And more.

by: Marie Pacheco

Surely you must have enjoyed the first virtual event the Filipino Ministry of the Archdiocese of Vancouver hosted last April 16th. Being first of the four ways of celebrating our giftedness, Salamat 1 focused on THE GIVER - recognizing the love, mercy, and generosity of our Father in heaven reaching out and giving Himself to us. As we look forward to Salamat 2 scheduled for July 9th, we celebrate the many ways Filipinos support the local church of Vancouver, be it as altar servers, lectors, PREP teachers, RCIA Coordinators, and others.

One does not need to look further than their own parish to find Filipinos actively volunteering in their church community. While some parishes may be filled with more Pinoys than others, there is an abundance of Filipino churchgoers all over the Archdiocese to fill the needs of every parish! We continue to take a look at some kababayans who have been living this year's theme of "Gifted to Give" way before celebrations began for the commemoration of 500 Years of Christianity in the Philippines.

Christian Balmeo of All Saints Parish in Coquitlam has been an altar server since Grade 2. He has also started reading in masses since the Covid pandemic. He shares volunteering is for his own spiritual and mental maturity.

"If I let other people know they're loved thru my services, it's also helping me grow into the person God wants me to be someday. What God wants me to be, also involves me learning how to love people the best I can, and this is a way of God letting me grow to be that person."

Daisy Descallar of St. Mary's Parish has been a lector since 2005. She is also a Eucharistic Minister, involved with the RCIA, a catechist and the coordinator for the Sunday Tagalog mass at 3pm. She also teaches Assistant Pastor Fr. Gabriel de Chadarevian, OP how to celebrate mass in Tagalog. When asked what motivates her to serve, she said it was the community that gives her motivation.

"I set an example for the younger generation, gather young ones to become lectors and join the RCIA, the choir...To me, witnessing is seeing them being in church, even with Covid, seeing them at the back of the church by the door and praying.."

Husband and wife tandem **Albert and Alma Nisperos** of St. Paul's Richmond have been volunteering in their church for almost 30 years now. They've helped with almost all of the ministries, from Project Advance, marriage preparation, tidying and maintenance work, Eucharistic Ministers and more. They say it's their way of giving back to the Lord.

"It's our faith. If we live in our faith, our work and service becomes a chance for us to share the joy of being a Christian."

"Faith is inseparable from self-giving—big or small, it's all the same in the eyes of the Lord. All we have, all we do, we offer them to the Lord," adds Albert.

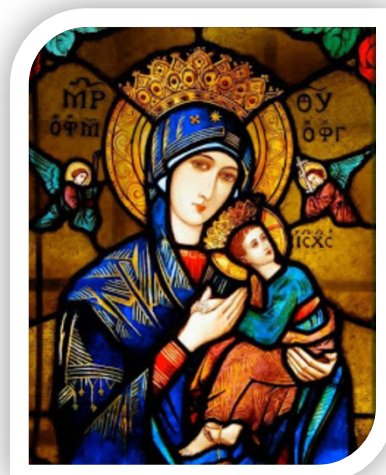
Veechee Lopez-Olson is a member of the St. Luke's Parish Council in Maple Ridge and has been the Lector's Coordinator for the past 15 years. She finds true satisfaction in sharing God's given talents in serving the church community.

"It makes me feel much closer to the Lord and it's my little way of showing gratitude for all the blessings received for me and my family. Volunteering is also a source of being a part of the community and expanding friendships/relationships outside our own culture."

Five names, but it can easily be five hundred. Whatever their reasons, many Filipinos find joy in sharing their time and talent to serve God and share their faith through action.

We, as a people and individually are ever grateful especially for the gift of faith that make us strong, resilient, loving and yet remaining to be humble, obedient, and faithful. We continue to receive and give.

So, have you thought about what you are **gifted to give**?



Misang Pilipino & Novena Day 9
Livestream from Gardens of Gethsemani
<https://youtu.be/eLvC6eIVppA>

 **YouTube** <https://youtu.be/bi2mxG3Kuzs> 


Matthew 7.7 Prayer Brigade

Monthly Intensive Prayer Session
of the Filipino Ministry
Sunday, 27th June, 2:00-5:00 pm

*Ask and it shall be given.
Seek and ye shall find.
Knock and it shall be opened.*
Matthew 7:7





JUNE 27TH
Join our 3-hour prayer session
Livestream from JP11 Pastoral Centre
<https://youtu.be/bi2mxG3Kuzs>

 **gifted to give**

SALAMAT **JOIN US ON**
Receiving the **GIFT OF FAITH** **JULY 09, 2021**

RECEIVING THE GIFT
Friday, 6:00-7:30pm PST
Online meeting details to follow, stay tuned for further announcements.

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