



THERE is so much noise around us as unsettling events happen in our country. We need to pray more. We need to listen to God more. And the only way to hear God more is through a posture of humility – not arrogance or anger, not pride or entitlement.

You would know the difference between a person of humility and a person of pride. The first one declares, “I serve.” The second one insists, “I deserve.”

Today, in Talk 5: *God Hears the Humble*, of our amazing series, *WHO CAN LEAD US? A People in Search of a King (A Bible Study on Joshua, Judges, and Samuel)*, we will learn the story of Samuel.

After going through the disturbing stories of the Judges, finally, we have someone who has a humble heart – who listens to God, and who God listens to--starting with his mom, Hannah.

Again, we need to hear this story – of how we, too, as individuals, as a nation, as God’s people, need to listen more to God with a humble heart. That’s the only way to go through life’s unexpected and unexplained twists and turns. We hold on to His word: “*God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth*” (Matthew 5:5 NLT)

Today, we welcome you to Rizal Park Hotel, the new venue of our Feast (as the previous venue, the Philippine International Convention Center, is under repair). We thank the Lord and the hardworking people – our leaders and ministry heads – who helped bring us here. Thank you to all of you, too, for your patience and understanding and for following us here. The sudden change caught everyone by surprise. Yet, in these situations, we learn to do what we can and then offer everything to God in humility and surrender. We believe God has a purpose for bringing us here. We are ready for His surprises!

Get ready to be blessed as we welcome you to The Feast, where *You are loved!*

Mayroong Magandang Mangyayari sa ‘Yo!

Alvin Barcelona



‘Banga’ Blessings

LONG TIME AGO, during the Spanish colonization of the Philippines, Spanish soldiers happened to pass by a place and wondered what was its name. They saw a woman carrying a clay stove -- in Tagalog, *kalan* -- and an earthen water jar-- *banga*. Speaking in Spanish, the soldiers asked her the name of the place. Not understanding Spanish, the woman thought they were asking what she was carrying.

So, she answered, “*kalan-banga*.”

Unable to pronounce *kalan-banga*, the soldiers started calling the place *Calamba*.

Yes, before today’s induction stove and automatic water dispenser, the humble *banga*, particularly, had many uses-- for cooking, food and water storage, fermentation of rice, vinegar, and alcoholic beverages, even burial of the deceased.

So, as a traditional household item, the *banga* represents Filipino values and traditions--upheld by our national hero, Jose Rizal, illustrious native of Calamba, born in Calamba on June 19, 1861.

As we gauge from his writings, patriotic Rizal didn’t think much of the foreigner friars during his time. But as we know today, our Catholic faith stemmed from the Church introduced by Spanish friars in our country.

And in Calamba, now cooking, fermenting, storing spiritual food for the people is The Feast.



Feast Calamba joins *The FEAST FAMILY* Jubilee Year 2025 Special. Happening only every 25 years, the Jubilee Year is a time of grace and forgiveness in our Catholic Church.

And part of the blessings of this Special is our feature on the ongoing Feast Talk series, *WHO CAN LEAD US?* Bro. Alvin introduces Talk 5, *God Hears the Humble*, on page 1.

Yes, just like the humble *banga* speaks volumes about who we are, we need *humility* to know who God is and what He wants from us.

All for God’s Glory,

Randy Borromeo
Media Ministry
Executive Director





NAME: FEAST CALAMBA

VENUE: 2F Maria and Clara Halls, Paseo Uno de Calamba, Mayapa-Canlubang Cadre Rd, Calamba, 20140 Laguna

SCHEDULE: Every Sunday, 9:00 A.M.

NUMBER OF ATTENDEES: 150

The FEAST BUILDER:

NAME: Leonard 'Toto' C. Tome

ADDRESS: 5 Villa Maris Drive, Maahas, Los Baños, Laguna

EMAIL: leonard.c.tome@gmail.com

BIRTHDAY: February 5, 1983 **AGE:** 42

Bro. Toto Tome shares that he comes from a clan with strong Catholic faith and culture:

“As early as 12 years old, I was already serving in a youth ministry. A few years after, I became

a mission volunteer and was tasked to handle areas and programs.

Then time came when I had to work in Manila and had less time for ministry.

Nevertheless, he received blessings to continue serving God.



Finding The Feast

In 2012, Bro. Toto married Tin who happened to be also a youth missionary and together, they went on with their faith journey:

“My wife Tin and I felt the need for a faith community that would help us in our new journey. That’s when we started attending The Feast in Biñan in 2014.

“My parents used to live near The Feast venue there and every time we visited them on weekends, we would include The Feast in our schedule.

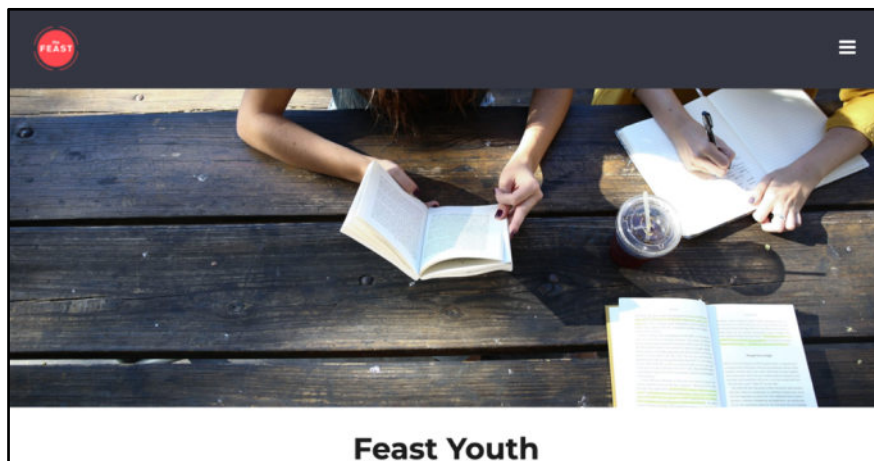
“It was very challenging for us because we had no car then and we would commute from our home in Los Baños --around two hours one way-- to The Feast venue in Biñan. But we were hooked. My wife started serving right away by writing articles for *The Feast* bulletin, while I just remained as a regular attendee.”



But by Divine Design, they would continue their missionary life.

Bro. Toto explains: “Feast Biñan is part of the Feast Laguna District led by Bro. Jon Escoto (*at left, with me*).

“He would talk with us now and then-- particularly about our previous mission work in the youth ministry.”





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Building Feast Calamba

In 2018, Bro. Jon planned to build a new Feast in Calamba.

And he invited Bro. Toto to be one of the servants.

Bro. Toto recalls: “I promptly said *Yes!* That’s because compared to Biñan, Calamba is just one town near Los Baños where we live-- so that shortened our travel time every Sunday.”

And again, promptly, Bro. Toto became a servant leader. He became Events head and regular Announcements host of the young Feast which held sessions at SM Calamba Cinema once a month, from February to April 2018.

“We had a good attendance. The venue was always jampacked,” Bro. Toto happily adds.

Then: “After a couple of months, Bro. Jon told me to attend the LOJ School of Leadership as training for Feast Builder.”

And starting on May 5, 2018, Feast Calamba started its regular *live* gathering.

Challenges

Like infant Feasts, Feast Calamba was not without birth pains.

First, at the onslaught of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID) Pandemic in 2020, which prohibited mass gatherings, Feast Calamba had to go online like our Feasts at Home.

“So, we had a significant decline in the number of attendees,” Bro. Toto laments.

Then, when the Pandemic subsided, and they resumed the *live* gatherings, the fee for their venue increased.

The solution, Bro. Toto says: “Trusting God’s guidance, we decided to transfer to a smaller venue and focused on strengthening our small groups.”



2024 Programs

By 2024, Feast Calamba was strong enough to implement significant programs.

Shelter Groups. Feast Calamba strengthened its small groups, called *shelters*. Selected new set of small group leaders were trained on building and managing shelters.

Then, each small group went through The Feast formation programs that led to the Baptism of the Holy Spirit of the members.



Light Dining. Feast Laguna District started the Light Dining program in 2022. It's a weekly family date where members are encouraged to share a meal and talk about God's Word using a guide.

The families are encouraged to conduct this weekly habit of faith to strengthen their bonds with their loved ones.

Feast Light Marinduque. Marinduque has been assigned to Bro. Toto as additional mission territory and he has started conducting online sessions with people from the province.



Sixth Anniversary



Givers Retreat





**Servants'
Party**





MERCY MINISTRIES

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

--Matthew 5:7



Feast Calamba's major Mercy Ministry is its Prison Mission at the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) of Region IV-A or CALABARZON made up of five provinces--Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, and Quezon.

The Region's BJMP maintains a prison house in Brgy. Turbina, Calamba City, and here, Feast Calamba holds regular "mini Feast sessions" with the Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs).

Bro. Toto adds: "We offer them not only food and essential items like slippers, and toiletries, but also spiritual guidance and building relationships with them. During the Holy Week, we conduct the *Seven Last Words* session with them. During Christmas time, we organize a Christmas Party with them."



Hello, 2025!

Feast Calamba is conducting several workshops to improve and strengthen its ministries:



Singles Ministry.

The Singles Ministry just finished the *Acoustic Night* in the week of Valentine's Day and it was successful in helping add more attendees in their small group gatherings.



Couples Shelters. These are Light Groups of married couples. In 2025, Feast Calamba is holding weekly leadership training programs to prepare the couples for future missions.

Visuals and Tech Team. The Team members recently attended a workshop to improve their skills.

Blessings

Broken, Lonely... Then Blessed

By REINALYN JOY CUMPIO



I SERVE as Feast Calamba's Finance head and Singles Shelter leader--missions stemming from way back my youth.

I've been serving in Church since I was young-- as a youth leader and choir member.

When the COVID Pandemic came, I lost my spiritual life and entered into a relationship with a non-believer. I thought it was okay and that I could handle it. But that's when I started to stray away from God.

After a year, we broke up. It was a painful breakup because I lost not just a relationship but also many friendships.

In the midst of my brokenness and loneliness, I wanted to go to places where I could find peace and healing. I knew that only God could give me that, but I was afraid and ashamed to go back to Church.

So, I ended up soul-searching through travels and mountain climbing. During one of my trips, I met a stranger who talked about God. After that encounter, I went home realizing that no matter how far I run away from God, He is still chasing after me.

Eventually, I got tired of running away. So, I surrendered to God.

I started attending The Feast. It was amazing to see people I didn't know welcome and embrace me. I found not just friends but a family who prayed for me, and supported me along my journey.

Despite my past sins and shame, God called me to serve again. I joined the iGive Club, Media Ministry, Warmth Ministry, Music Ministry, and the small groups.

I learned how to smile, laugh, and enjoy life once again.

After many travels and therapy sessions, I found healing only in Jesus. He made me new and complete again. He was the missing piece I had been searching for, fulfilling the desires of my heart.

The Lord granted me my dream job, which not only pays twice but more than three times my previous income.

Though I'm still praying for "The One," I am now joyful and grateful, enjoying a comfortable and peaceful life with my family, friends, and Feast Family.

God is faithful to His promises. He will give not only what you want but the best according to His time and purpose.





Thank You!

The Feast Family, now organized as the Feast Mercy Ministries, is a spin-off ministry of the Light of Jesus Family founded by Bro. Bo Sanchez.

Earlier named as Kerygma Family, The Feast Family is a unique online, non-physical, borderless, international community of friends who support each other's personal growth.

Partner beneficiaries of the Feast Mercy Ministries flourish because of your generous support.

Thank you for being with us. We pray that you find your daily source of inspiration from the resources that we send to you. We pray too that you may consider giving to The Feast Mercy Ministries. No gift is too small.

Thank you very much in advance for your gift. Our prayer is that God will continue to reward you as you give.

FOR EXISTING DONORS:

Thank you for the Love. Your monthly donation helps us to continue extending support to our Light of Jesus spin-off organizations, including our partner beneficiaries. Your gift will sustain our operations and, we hope, help us reach out to the persons our Lord has called us to make disciples and give them renewed hope.

Be a Feast Family member. Write or call us. Now.

Email Address: jocelyn@kerygmafamily.com

Website: <https://kerygmafamily.com>

Our Partner Beneficiaries

Jeremiah 33 Foundation

is a shelter for minor girls particularly victims of sexual abuse.



Grace To Be Born

is a halfway home for pregnant women in crisis.



He Cares Mission

provides shelter and pastoral care for street children.



Pag-asa ng Pamilya Foundation

grants scholarships to indigent students.



Jesus Christ Cares for Cancer

provides financial assistance and pastoral care for indigent cancer patients.



The Light of Jesus Pastoral Care Center

ministers to those who are emotionally and spiritually wounded.



H.A.I.L. MARY is acronym for Healthcare Assistance for Indigents and Lepers of Mary, adopting the Blessed Mother as the patroness of its mission to eradicate leprosy in Abra within 8–10 years.



The Light of Jesus Disaster Recovery Ministry

provides evacuation assistance, relief goods, financial aid, and other needs of calamity victims.

The Light of Jesus Prison Ministry

brings Jesus to the Correctional Institution for Women to give them hope for a new life of dignity.



Anawim Lay Missions Foundation provides a home for poor elderly who have been abandoned by their family and have nowhere else to go.

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FAMILY ONLINE NEWSMAGAZINE

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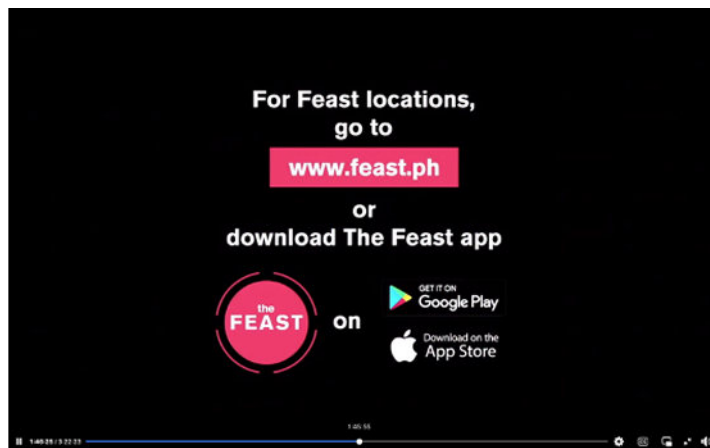
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Go and make disciples of all men.
— Matthew 28:19

