



A GLORIOUS EASTER

Season to everyone!

Congratulations

for our hugely victorious

Holy Week Retreat and Grand Easter Feast
at SMX!

On behalf of the entire Feast Bay Area
District, I honor and thank all our faithful
and hardworking servants and leaders,
and most especially all of you who joined us
in our four-day blessed experience
of God's Kingdom Come. Praise God!

We are overjoyed by the promise of hope brought by Easter, yet are deeply saddened by the passing of our most beloved Pope Francis.

The whole world, not only Catholics, mourn his death. But we are comforted and consoled that we have another "Saint Pope" in Heaven who continues to pray for us as he did when he was on Earth. We are assured in faith that he has joined our Lord and Savior Jesus who Himself died and was risen.

We all share that hope too that someday, when it shall be our turn to leave this world, we are ready to *SEE JESUS*, by His grace and mercy.

By the way, today we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, a very important devotion and belief.

In the end, we all hold on to His mercy.

Yet, as we have powerfully learned in our Holy Week Retreat and Grand Easter Feast, God's Kingdom starts here and now. That means we can and should start *SEEING JESUS* here and now.

But we should not just see Him but show Him to others too – spread the news that "He is Alive!"

Like Mary Magdalene did, and like the two disciples on the road to Emmaus did, too.

We may not recognize or see Him at first, but as always, Jesus meets us where we are. His love and forgiveness will let us see Him – and tell the world that *JESUS IS ALIVE!*

And we show that best when we continue to love one another as Jesus does to this day.

Get ready for another hope-filled Special Post-Easter Feast!

Welcome to The Feast where *You are loved!*

Mayroong Magandang Mangyayari sa 'Yo!

Alvin Barcelona

AFTER journeying with Jesus and experiencing a resurrection last Sunday, I believe the question that people are asking is “*So, what now?*”

Yes, there was a resurrection, inspiration, and celebration but was there *transformation*?

We live in a time where spirituality is easily packaged. Instagram-friendly, quote-heavy, vibes-on-display kind of spirituality.

But transformation

isn't always pretty. It's uncomfortable, raw, humbling.

Real transformation doesn't always display an external change and that's okay — ***because the most meaningful changes are invisible to the eye.***

Oftentimes, change will start only on the surface, like a change of clothes, or change in words, or change of habit — but that is only the starting point. Because if you stop there, if it never gets past the skin, then it's not transformation. It's performance.

Change. That's what the Israelites wanted. For generations, they cried out to God, asking Him for freedom, a change in life, to break their chains, to rescue them from slavery in Egypt. And then—God did it.

Miracles. Plagues. Power. A sea splitting in two. It was the ultimate mic drop moment in history. But here's the twist: ***they thought the hard part was getting out of Egypt. The harder part was what came after.***

Because freedom isn't just about walking away from what held you captive—***it's about learning how to walk with God when you're no longer in survival mode.***

The story of Israel fleeing Egypt isn't just a history lesson. It's our story, too. It's about learning to trust God when you're free, but still afraid.

Underneath all the chaos, this story is packed with lessons about fear, freedom, and learning to follow God when everything feels unfamiliar.

So, buckle up—we're diving into one of the wildest, most relatable faith journeys ever.

Today, I want to preach to you: ***God is setting you free.***

In Christ,



Audee Villaraza



What Happens After The Resurrection?



Grand Easter Feast 2025



“Christ the Lord is risen from the dead. The light of Jesus has shown that darkness has not overcome Him. Love is stronger than death-- for love entered death and conquered death.”

His Eminence, Archbishop Jose Advincula, blessed our Grand Easter Feast last Sunday, April 20, 2025, with this uplifting message, *page 24*.

Speaking of deep meaning, have you deciphered why our Grand Easter Feast logo features upside-down buildings? The image demonstrates the key message of Easter:

The Kingdom of God Is Already Among Us. But oops, sometimes we don't get the message, because like those buildings so difficult to fathom, *The Kingdom of God is upside down*. Let's review the talk of Bro. Bro. Bo Sanchez, *page 15*.



To see is to believe. But we should not just see the Kingdom but show the King to others, too. That's the challenging message of Bro. Alvin Barcelona, *page 1*.

Easier said than done? But doable, because after the Resurrection, *God Is Setting You Free!* That's the key message of our new Feast Talk series Bro. Audee Villaraza gives today.



Well, okay, it was easier to see that the Kingdom of God is already with us through the testimonies of Feast servant leaders, *below, from extreme left*: Bro. Bob del Rosario, Bro. Carl Fontanilla, and the Silan Siblings-- Jan, Jalin, and Adrian, *pages 4-9*.



Yes, this is the Kingdom of God: in the sharing of Feasters, as well as in the Grand Easter Feast itself-- the event remarkably



organized by Bro. Didoy Lubaton and our super-efficient Feast servants.

Because, yes, this is our great big celebration we are so grateful for: Jesus our King is Alive, here, among us!

Hallelujah!

All for God's Glory,

Randy Borromeo
Media Ministry
Executive Director



Sharing



BRO. BOB DEL ROSARIO **Servant, Feast Valle Verde**

Good morning, Everyone!

In 2019, I suffered massive bleeding. This happened two days after I was discharged from the Philippine Heart Center, where my left leg was amputated. I had never seen so much blood in my life-- not even when my wife Edith had a miscarriage.

I was so scared, especially when the doctors showed me the results of the tests they conducted on me. They found a suspicious-looking lump in my colon. The doctors immediately ordered an operation to remove the mass and to address the bleeding.

I asked myself, "Is it possible that I have colon cancer?"

I was fearful yet hopeful that a miracle would happen.

On the eve of my operation, while I was fixing the cords that were attached to my hands, I saw two hands on top of my chest.

I said, "Whose hands are these?"

I looked up and my hands were up, but when I looked down again, the two hands were no longer there. I told Edith about it. Edith immediately prayed and thanked God for visiting me on the eve of my operation. I also thanked God in advance for a successful operation that would happen the following day.

On the day of my operation in the operating room, the doctors decided to do a parallel procedure to determine the exact location of the lump. They could no longer find the lump they saw in previous procedures. Because of that, the operation did not push through.

Thank You, God! Indeed, You are my healer and my redeemer.

Three years later, in 2022, my wife and I contracted the dreaded Coronavirus disease (COVID-19). Tests showed that the virus triggered my infection to a very alarming level. Because of that, the small wound on my right leg became gangrenous.

The doctors told me, "Bob, we don't have any other option but to amputate your right leg."

The Gift of Acceptance

I cried, "Lord, what will happen to me? I will no longer be useful. I could no longer do the things that I usually do for my family and the Community. You supported me in my career as a broadcast journalist. You protected me from dangerous and challenging news coverages. You allowed me to survive life-threatening situations in my job. You even allowed me to survive my presidency in IBC-13. Thank You, for a productive career and a blessed marriage. But what do you want me to do with amputated legs?"

I prayed and pleaded with Him not to allow me to wallow in self-pity because it would kill me. Instead, I asked the Lord to help me accept the new reality in my life with courage, strength, and peace of mind.

My Brothers and Sisters, you are seeing here a man with two amputated legs but with much energy and strength, hopeful and thankful to God for embracing me during the darkest moments of my life. God has given me the gift of acceptance. I thank God for always answering my prayers and the prayers of people who join my wife, Edith, in communal prayers.

Friends, our Heavenly Father listens to fervent prayers of people who love and care. Today, despite my disability, I am a prayer warrior myself. I pray for sick people and for those who are confined in the hospital.

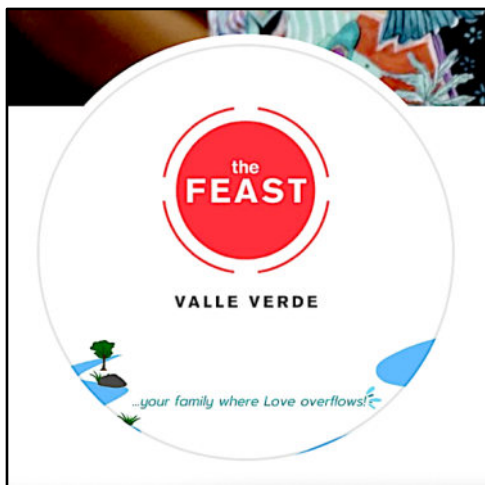
I am part of the Feast Valle Verde Intercessory Ministry. We pray for the elderly people with special intentions and for our brothers and sisters who do missions for the Lord. I also serve The Feast through my Light Group, through the Couple's Mission, and through the Tithers Care Ministry.

I also serve in our parish where I sing during Masses.

Now, I urge every one of you to pray unceasingly for and with one another. It works!

Look at me and believe.

Thank you, and Happy Easter to all.



BRO. CARL FONTANILLA

Servant, Feast Valle Verde

Happy Easter, Everyone!

We're all familiar with the phrase, "When it rains, it pours."

Something similar happened to me in 2024.

The storm began on April 24 when I was diagnosed with Colorectal Cancer. I underwent a major surgery in June, and a detailed biopsy revealed that my cancer has reached Stage 3B. My oncologist advised me to undergo six cycles of chemotherapy. On July 23, I was admitted to the hospital for my first chemotherapy session. I didn't realize it was that painful.

While I was hooked on this machine of IV, I received news that my eldest daughter's cancer has recurred. In 2022, she was diagnosed with cervical cancer. It did not only recur; it has metastasized into her lymph nodes at the left part of her neck.

A few hours later, our youngest daughter called us to inform us that our house was flooded due to Typhoon Carina. Our furniture and our cars were submerged in water.

After my third chemotherapy session on September 6, I noticed a black spot in my right eye. There was a hole in my macula. On October 11, I underwent a Pars Plana Vitrectomy or PPV -- a very delicate surgery that involved punching three holes in my right eye, draining all the fluids, and replacing it with a special gas. I had to be in a facedown posture for 24 hours for two weeks.

Praise the Lord for the surgery was a success! I was cured.

But the side effect of PPV was that I would have cataracts. On December 19, I underwent another major surgery for cataract removal from my right eye. On December 21, the same surgery was done on my left eye.

Praise the Lord! My vision is now 20/20. No more eyeglasses, after 25 years.

When I was preparing for this sharing, I was about to ask, "Lord, what will I tell the people?"

But He got ahead of me.

Instead, He asked me, "What would you tell the people about me because of all your challenges?"

You see, I've been serving the Lord for 30 years. I committed myself to Him.

So, I told Him, "Lord, I will tell the people that I love you because all my challenges are nothing compared to the grace, the blessings, and the mercy that You have given me. Because I love you, *I know all things will work unto good.* (Romans 8:28).



In God's Hands

My last medical test showed that I still have cancer. My daughter still has cancer. But whenever I am anxious and worried, I remember the verse from the Mass First Reading on the day after I learned I had cancer. Would you believe that?

1 Peter 5:7 says: *"Cast all your worries to God for He cares for you."*

Verse 10 says: *"The God of all grace who called you to his eternal glory through Christ Jesus will Himself restore you, confirm you, strengthen you, and establish you after you have suffered a little."*

My life is in the hands of God.

Last Feast Conference, I was so touched by the support of my brothers and sisters from Tuguegarao to Zamboanga. Whenever they would see me, they would greet me and they would embrace me.

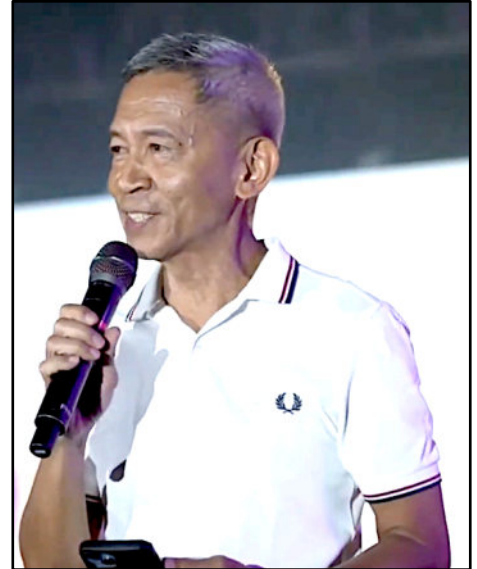
They would whisper to me, "Brother, I'm praying for you every day."



Earlier, Sis. Becky, Sis. Vita (left) and those I meet here, would embrace me and say, "I'm praying for you every day."

This is my home. This is my family.

Light of Jesus is *God's Kingdom Come* to me. Amen!



Beloved Light Group, *from left*: Melanie and Carl Fontanilla, Hermie and Reng David, Bo and Marowe Sanchez, Bebot and Pio Español

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SILAN SIBLINGS

Jan, the eldest Jalin, the second, and Adrian, the youngest Servants, Feast Makati

JAN: Happy Easter, Everyone! We are currently serving at The Feast. I serve as a builder. My brother serves as a technical head. My sister is part of the Intercessory Ministry.

We owe this heart and love for service to our dear parents, Oliver and Belen, who first showed us what it truly means to love and serve the Lord.

ADRIAN: Kuya Jan and I began our journey serving the Lord as altar boys. Ate Jalin served as a lector. Papa was a lay minister. Mama was our cheerleader whenever we would serve at the church. During our teenage years, we joined the Youth Life in the Spirit Seminar or YLSS in Bukas Loob Sa Diyos Community. It was there that we learned to offer our best in serving God-- in our weekly prayer meetings, annual YLSS, youth encounters, and other outreach activities.

It was Kuya Jan who led the way at that time. Ate and I were still a little hesitant but Kuya being our eldest and a ministry leader would give us orders so we had no choice but to follow him. Overtime, we discovered the joy of serving and realized how much we love serving.

When the doors of The Feast opened, Kuya led the way again. He started attending and eventually, he invited us, his family.

When the time came that he was asked to open a Feast, he sought help from the people closest to him, his family. At that time, our Papa would drive the van to bring the technical equipment to the venue. Our Mama was part of the Intercessory Ministry. My sister was the one editing the PowerPoint presentations, checking the grammar and spelling.

I was the one managing the technical side of The Feast. Papa and Mama were always present even when Papa was undergoing dialysis. He wouldn't miss being at The Feast.

Serving the Lord as a family has been our greatest blessing. It is the foundation of our faith. Papa and Mama's love and trust enable us to serve joyfully. But more than that, they taught us that our first ministry should always be our home. Before we can serve others, we must serve one another by fixing our beds, by doing the dishes, by helping Mama, by setting the tables, cleaning our rooms, and driving Papa to and from his dialysis sessions. We believe that our first calling is to be a witness to those closest to us.





JALIN: Last year, Papa suffered a severe infection that led to multiple organ failure. We spent a month in the hospital and a week in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). We were hoping and praying for his healing and recovery.

Even in his hospital bed, Papa kept asking us:
"How is The Feast? Can we watch its live stream?
How's your work?"

Even in his hospital bed, he continued to support our service and our work until he could no longer do it. Eventually, we had to make the painful decision to let him go through palliative care. The three of us prayed together. It wasn't easy but it was a peaceful one. Papa passed away on June 16, 2024, Sunday. It was Father's Day. This special day now holds a different meaning for us. During his wake, we felt the outpouring love from the community. Papa has touched many lives from our parish, from the youth ministry, from The Feast, and even from his classmates from elementary to college. They came to grieve with us and celebrate his life. We realized that when we serve as a family, joy and grace multiply in the most beautiful ways.

Now that Papa is with our Maker, we thought it would be hard to go back to places he once filled and to places where he served most joyfully. But as we continue to serve, we are constantly inspired by the stories others share, stories of other people about Papa's joyful service, his quiet support, and even their own loss.

By serving with our family and as a family, we found a bigger family -- one that holds us in love just as we hold them. Papa's legacy of service lives on not only in us but also in the lives of those he touched.

Now that Kuya has his own children-- and for those who know Kuya, he has a lot of those: Matteo, Javi, Julio, and Josef-- we pray that as a family we can pass on the same passion and love for serving the Lord.

We invite you to serve God wherever your heart leads you-- whether it's at The Feast or in your local churches. Serving God holds no promise of an easier life but it does promise growth, community, and love. People are not perfect by any means, but they will never fail to hold your hand and journey with you through life. As we end, we just want to say thank you to the Sanchez, Borromeo, and Marcelo families and to all the families who have loved, welcomed, and inspired us.

We love you too-- so much. Thank you for giving us a space where we are encouraged, challenged, and supported in growing closer to God.

So, as Joshua 24:15 says: *"But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."*

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Worship!



BRO. NICO NARVAEZ:

Happy Easter!

Today, we get to witness, we get to see what every single generation has been waiting for: The Real King! The Real Savior! The Real Messiah is now here! He is Risen!

Come on give Him a shout of praise!

Let every generation-- from the boomers, to the Gen Zs. to the Alpha, the Beta, come on, let's worship God today!



SIS. ISSA RODRIGUEZ:

It's so nice to be able to see the same Resurrection power that we witnessed 2000 years ago is the same Resurrection power that we stand on today. It's such a gift that we get to see that, get to experience that, we get to celebrate that. But you know,

the call doesn't end with just seeing and witnessing.

As the Angel told the women who were looking for Jesus that day:

"He's not here. He is risen. Come and see the place where he lay. Then, go quickly and tell His disciples what I've told you."

And so, the women though afraid, yet with so much joy hurriedly went and told His disciples. And you know, along with the gift that we have of witnessing and seeing and celebrating the Resurrection power of Christ, is also the gift and the call to not just witness but to be witnesses. To not just to perceive hope but to be hope to those we encounter. And so, this is our prayer today. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.



BRO. BO SANCHEZ:

HEAVENLY FATHER, Thank You so much that you are here, and we stand with confidence because you rose from the dead.

If You rose from the dead, we too will rise from our darkness. We, too, will rise from our addictions. We, too, will rise from our despair. We, too, will rise from the rejection of the people around us and our self-rejection. We, too, will rise from the condemnation of the enemy. We, too, will rise from the condemnation that we give ourselves. We will rise from the shackles that surround us. Because You, emptying that tomb, we declare today that we stand with joy and victory.

Everyone, say this with me: "I will rise with Jesus!"



NOVENA TO GOD'S LOVE DECLARATION OF ABUNDANCE

What better day to pray our favorite prayer than on Easter Sunday:

Today, I receive all of God's love for me.
Today, I open myself to the unbounded, limitless,
overflowing abundance of God's universe.
Today, I open myself to God's blessings, healing and miracles.
Today, I open myself to God's Word,
So that I become more like Jesus everyday.
Today, I proclaim that I am God's beloved.
I am God's servant. I am God's powerful champion.
And because I am blessed, I am blessing the world, in Jesus' Name, Amen.



I want to talk about
*Everyday Kingdom
Revolutionaries.*
You are an EKR.
You are a revolutionary.
You are doing it for
the Kingdom.

We live in the world, that's true. But we report to another King.

This world has different kings, but we don't report to them.

We are revolutionary. We have declared a revolt. We report to the one and only true King who rose from the dead.

Extend your hand towards the Word in reverence. And believe that God is going to speak to you:

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





The Coming of the Kingdom

Luke 17:20-21NLT says:

20 One day, the Pharisees asked Jesus, "When will the Kingdom of God come?" Jesus replied, "The Kingdom of God can't be detected by visible signs. 21 You won't be able to say, 'Here it is!' or 'It's over there!' For the Kingdom of God is already among you.

THE KINGDOM
IS ALREADY
AMONG YOU.

There were many religious groups during that time.
But I want to focus on these two: the Sadducees and the Pharisees.



The Sadducees were the wealthy priests who
connived with the conquerors of that time-- the Romans.

The Pharisees did not like the Romans. They hated them.
They wanted a Messiah who would come as a warrior.
They wanted a kingdom that would come and kick out
the Romans. They wanted Jesus.

They were asking Jesus: "Will you be the one who will be
able to remove the Romans from above us? Will you lead
an army? When will the Kingdom come?"

Jesus said: "The Kingdom will not come
in a visible sign. Don't wait for the Kingdom.
The Kingdom is already among you."

When Bob was sharing, two legs not there, that he serves
in a ministry, he still praises God, thanking God for healing him...

Bob, you are a sign that the Kingdom is here.

We are a bunch of people who are just like the Pharisees.
I'm one of them. I want the Kingdom of God to come and solve
all my problems. I want the Kingdom of God to come and pay
all my debts. I want the Kingdom of God to come and heal
all my diseases. I want the Kingdom of God to solve
all my problems, and the relationship difficulties.

There are people right now listening to me. Your heart is broken, and you want
God to come and remove the pain from your heart right now-- and give you
the right partner. We want that, right?

But Jesus is saying: "Don't wait for that. Don't wait for all your problems
to be solved. Don't wait for all your debts to be paid."

Because right now, even in your situation, even in Bob's situation-- missing
legs, and sitting on that wheelchair-- Jesus is saying to Bob, "Bob, you're standing
tall. That even in that situation, the Kingdom of God is with you."





Burdens...Blessings

Carl Fontanilla has cancer. And then his daughter has cancer. And here he is, serving God despite all those.

You know what that is? The Kingdom of God is among you.

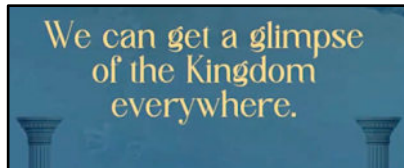
If I were in Carl's shoes, would I still love God and serve Him? I don't know. I really don't.

But I'm telling you, among us is already the Kingdom of God.



Jesus is saying: "Don't wait for the Romans to be kicked out of your life. Don't wait for that."

This morning, I just met a mom and a dad. They have two children, both with autism. Yet, they're here. They attend The Feast near their city. Imagine, going to The Feast with those two children who need to be taken care of 24/7. It's a miracle that they're at The Feast.



Today, not everything is perfect in your life. Many prayers are not yet answered. Not all of your dreams, not yet fulfilled.

But the Kingdom of God is among you.



I want everybody to know that not everything is perfect with Marowe and me as a couple.

We gave a couple's retreat last month. This is a confession: Between Talk 1 and Talk 2, we had a disagreement.

The irony of helping couples to have better marriage-- and we fought.

Well, *fought* is too intense a word. We *argued* and Marowe cried.

But 10 minutes later, we made up. She forgave me and we continued giving that marriage retreat.

The Romans are still with us. They've not been kicked out of the land.

But in our marriage is a glimpse of the Kingdom because we forgive each other -- in our imperfections.

All the couples who have imperfect marriages, please stand.

Tell each other: "I see a glimpse of the Kingdom in you."

Embrace each other. Love each other.

Talk



Values of the World



We're all like the Pharisees. We think like the world. The Pharisees had it all wrong.

The world values *power*.

The Romans had power over Israel.

So, the Pharisees also wanted power. They wanted military power to drive out the Romans.

They were thinking this was the Kingdom of God. But no, this is the world. They thought that the Kingdom of God had the same value structure as the world.

Another value of the world is *pleasure*.



Another value of the world

is *beauty*. If you are physically attractive, according to the customs and standards of that culture, or of that place, you get more sales, you have better jobs, people listen to you more, people pay attention to you more, and you've got more Instagram likes.

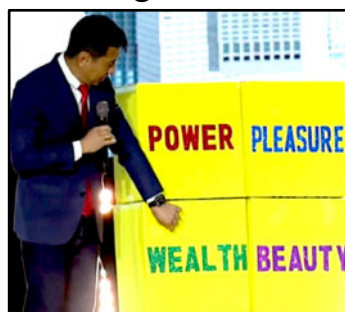


And, of course, value of the world is *wealth*. This is what the Sadducees had. The priests of that time connived with the Romans and they got wealthy because of that.

The world is all about power and so, the Pharisees were asking Jesus: "When will the Kingdom of God come?"

But they were thinking in terms of power, wealth, beauty, and pleasure. They wanted the Kingdom of God to come in power.

But Jesus says: "No. The Kingdom of God is among you, and you don't discern it, you don't see it."





The list of Beatitudes is the inauguration of the Kingdom. But not only that.

It is also the Kingdom's VIP

The Beatitudes are the Kingdom's VIP Guest List:

- 1 Poor
- 2 Hungry
- 3 Weeping
- 4 Hated

The Kingdom of God Is Upside Down.

Is there a lot of evil in this world? Are there wars? Is there drug addiction? Is there corruption? Those evils come from *power, pleasure, wealth, and beauty* -- over *people*. There's nothing wrong with power, pleasure, wealth, or beauty.

What is wrong is if you put *people* below all of these.

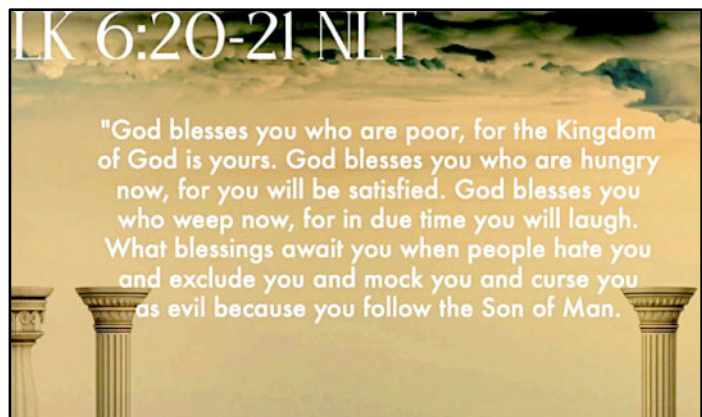
The Kingdom of God uses power, pleasure, beauty, and wealth-- but what it does is it puts people *above* them.

This is the upside-down Kingdom of God. All of the "values" below are tools to serve.

Jesus is saying: "You don't see the Kingdom of God among you because you don't think this way."

It's people -- every human being made in the image and likeness of God, the Shepherd leaving 99 sheep to look for the one lost sheep.

Jesus is proclaiming this in Luke 6:20- 21:



guest list in the Kingdom party.

In the Kingdom of Jesus, the people come first-- no matter who they are.

They come as *Number 1*.

It's All About People

So, what should you do if you have the power, pleasure, wealth, and beauty now? While they are there, use them for the glory of God.

Two years ago, I started doing push-ups. But a day will come when I get weak. I will no longer be able to do my 1,000 push-ups. Exaggeration. ☺ But while I still can, I'll enjoy the exercise. I'll serve the Lord with it but I will not be attached to it because the Kingdom of God is not about power, pleasure, wealth, or beauty.

The Kingdom of God is about people:

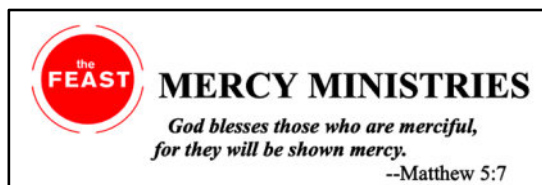


The fetus in the womb of a mother-- already valuable in the eyes of God. You cannot kill that.

The prisoner whom the world throws away in a dark dungeon-- God loves and values.

The elders who are weak and have no money are being thrown by the society. But God is God who says about each one of them: "That's my child. He has a value."

The poor. The world shuns them because they are dirty and they smell bad. But God says, "That's my child."



The Feast Is for People

That is why here, at The Feast, the front and center of all that we do are our Mercy Ministries.

In 1993, we put up the Light of Jesus Pastoral Care Center for the burdened, the broken, and the wounded of society.

We are available six days a week, 14 hours a day. Anybody can call us up. We've been doing this for 32 years now.

In 1995, we started Anawim. There are 70 old persons right now in our home. This has been going on for 30 years now.

We have the Light of Jesus Prison Ministry. We are reaching out to so many prisons right now, reaching out to and loving Persons Deprived of Liberty.

Pag-asa ng Pamilya is our ministry granting scholarships for poor students.

Grace To Be Born is our halfway house for pregnant women in crisis (so they won't resort to abortion).

We started Little Acts of Love during the devastating Yolanda storm that hit Leyte. We were there caring for the victims.

Jeremiah Foundation is our shelter for sexually-abused young girls.

Our latest one is Jesus Christ Cares for Cancer, our ministry providing financial assistance and spiritual support for poor cancer patients.

My friends, the Kingdom of God is among you in every Ministry that we start because the people are above the value structure of the Kingdom.

1993	LOJ Pastoral Care	Burdened
1995	Anawim	Abandoned Elderly
1996	LOJ Prison Ministry	Prisoners
2009	Pagasa ng Pamilya	Poor Scholars
2009	Grace to be Born	Pregnant Women
2013	Little Acts of Love	Calamities
2013	Jeremiah	Abused Children
2016	JCCFC	Poor Cancer Patients

The Feast Is for the Unchurched

The Feast cares for the unchurched-- people who are not comfortable in church. They are people who feel far away from God. We bring them in. That's our focus. They are the people we serve.

I was asked by one of the leaders: "Brother Bo, our Feast is running a couple's retreat and they're asking if we should accept couples who are not married in church..."



I said, "You better ask your leaders and your Feast Builders."

But my answer is *Yes* --because this is who we are as a Feast. We reach out to people who have not been going to church for the longest time. We bring them in and we love them. We may have to have two separate renewals because there's nothing to renew because they



were not married in church but maybe we can have a special blessing for them after the renewal of marriage vows. But the point is that they're part of our family because that's what the Kingdom of God is.

Two days ago, I received this message from someone, through the Instagram:

I cried earlier while praying when I remember how empty my love tank was when I was still an atheist. I'd like to express my appreciation to you once again because The Feast introduced me back to the Lord.

Thank you for leading this community and changing our lives for the better. Stay safe and hope to see you soon 😊



This guy went into The Feast because a girl invited him there. He kind of liked the girl-- but he was an atheist.

He went to The Feast and in his mind, he was saying: "I don't believe in all of these. I don't believe in God."

But he kept on attending and attending. Maybe, for the wrong reasons but then God came to him.

That's the Feast.

We welcome everyone who is loved by God.

Question

I'm going to ask you the question of the Pharisees:

"When is the Kingdom supposed to come?

Where is the Kingdom?

If Jesus says the Kingdom of God is among you, where is the Kingdom?"

My answer is wherever imperfect people love God and their neighbor.

That's the Kingdom in our midst.

Yesterday, we caught someone in the act of doing something wonderful. His name is Arnold Gomez. He's our driver of our Feast Media Ministry. He's 55 years old. He has four children. He has been our driver for 18 years. His boss, Ruby Albino, caught Arnold in the act of going to our Feast Mercy Ministries booth where you're supposed to donate. Ruby saw Arnold pulling out his wallet and giving something. His heart is in the right place.

Another person who gives me a glimpse of the Kingdom is Judge Marlina (Millan Manuel, Presiding Judge Regional Trial Court Manila.)

In 2006, she became a Judge in RTC.

In 2012, she walked into The Feast and she loved it.

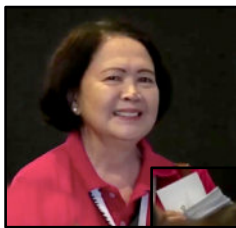
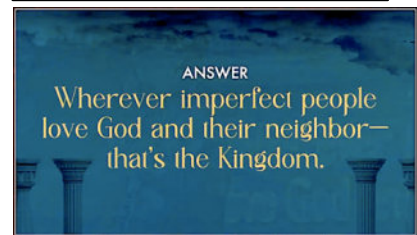
She wanted to do something for the Lord.

Since she is a judge, I was thinking that she would say: "May I be part of the Board? May I lead the Ministry?"

But no. She wanted to be an usher. From Monday to Friday, when Judge Marlina (*left*) enters her chambers, everybody stands to honor the position that she holds. But on Sundays, Judge Marlina (*as Feast usher, here, distributing envelopes*) will stand for every one of you who walks by-- whether you're a billionaire or a beggar, whether you are a manager or a messenger. She will smile at you. She will welcome you. She will love you.

Judge Marlina has been serving in the Warmth Ministry as an usher at The Feast for 13 long years now.

What is that? That is the Kingdom of God among you-- where people, no matter who they are, even if they don't have power or wealth, or beauty, they're God's children.



Remembering Bro. Bimbo



I have one last story to tell you.
This story is a bit difficult to share.

We remember Bro. Bimbo Leonardo, the builder of Feast Timog. The Lord was using him. The Feast was growing. But then, he found out that he had cancer -- an aggressive one.



Blessing: Bro. Bimbo with wife Elsa happy serving Feast Timog.



Recently, we had a Feast Builders Retreat. He was supposed to be there but he was in the hospital. While in the Retreat, we had a video call with Bimbo. I still remember that video call. It was so difficult.

We were crying because we knew he had very little time left. But I'm telling you, there was so much love in the room.

Above, our team praying over Bro. Bimbo during our video call.

Let's face it. As leaders, we fight once in a while. We're not perfect. We would have comments against this and that person, but at that moment, every transgression disappeared. Every hurt vanished. All of a sudden, we were one family because we knew one man was suffering. A man who served with us and a man who loved us and whom we loved.

Two days later, after that video call, God took him home. Do you know when Bimbo passed away? On the birthday of his wife, Elsa. I didn't know what to tell Elsa. I was driving to his wake, and in my mind, I was debating over what to say when I would see Elsa. Will I greet her "Happy Birthday" even if her husband died on her birthday?

I really didn't know what to say. I walked in. Elsa was there. When she saw me, Elsa walked towards me.

Elsa hugged me for a long time, then she said, "Brother Bo, God wanted that Bimbo and I would have the same birthday. It's my birthday on Earth, and it's Bimbo's birthday in Heaven."

Only people of faith can say something like that. We're all going to be like Bimbo one day. It's just a question of *when*. But are we going to leave planet Earth serving the Lord and loving God? And will we be like Elsa?

This is not the end of the story. Elsa told me something more.

When Elsa knew that her husband was about to go home, Elsa whispered to Bimbo: "If you see Jesus in front of you, follow Him already. Just be sure it's Jesus. You go home. You be with Him."

**"If you see Jesus, follow Him.
Just be sure it's Jesus."**



Before the Bubbles Burst

My friends, I don't know when God will call me home. I don't know when God will call you home. But He will.

In the meantime, we can look at the bubbles of life, before they pop-- because they *will* pop. Your health will be gone, your strength will weaken... Take care of your body. Exercise. Your wealth, when you die, what will happen

to P1 billion? Those are all just bubbles. Nothing. Enjoy living. Be like a child. Just play.

Use everything for the glory of God. Use it to serve people. Use your health, your wealth, your fame, and your beauty. Use them for God and for the people of God. Then when the bubbles burst, you follow Jesus.

My friends, maybe we have been following the powers and the values of this world. Maybe we have been reporting to other kings. They have become more important than people. But now, He wants you to be an EKR or Everyday Kingdom Revolutionary.

Jesus is risen from the dead and He is announcing to everyone: "You too will rise. Follow me."

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
Lift your hands and say this prayer with me:

Jesus, on this day, I believe that I too will rise. But while I am here on planet Earth, I choose to follow You, to love You, and to love my neighbor, and to not be attached to temporary things but to be attached only to You.

In Your Name. Amen.



Surrender

May I lead you to a prayer.

Maybe for some of you, you're going to say for the first time that you're going to surrender, to follow Jesus, asking Him to come into your heart. I'm so excited for you.

For the rest of you, let's renew our baptismal promise on Easter Sunday.

One more time, lift your hands and say this prayer:

*Father, I surrender my life to You. I open my heart. Jesus, be the Lord, be the King. I will obey You forever. I give You my entire life. Until my last breath, I will serve You. I will follow You. Help me.
In Jesus' Mighty Name. Amen.*



Holy Mass



Homily
His Eminence,
The Most Reverend
JOSE ADVINCULA
Archbishop
of the Diocese of Manila



Archbishop Jose Advincula
with Concelebrants, *from left:*
Rev. Fr. Bob McConaghy
Rev. Fr. Marion Maquiraya
Rev. Fr. Richard Lim
Rev. Fr. Paul Henry Bocboc
Rev. Fr. Albert Garong

Excerpts:

My dear concelebrating priests and assisting deacons; Bro Bo Sanchez, servant leader of the Light of Jesus Family; his fellow lay preachers, Feast Builders, servants, volunteers, and members of The Feast Community; beloved brothers and sisters in Christ.

On behalf of the entire people of God in the Archdiocese of Manila, I bring you joyful greetings of a blessed and Happy Easter!

Maligayang Pasko ng Pagkabuhay sa inyong lahat!

On this day, the Sunday of Sundays, we celebrate the very reason we are Christians. The very reason we gather for The Feast every Sunday, the very reason we believe in Christ.

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Jubilee Year

Christ the Lord is risen from the dead.
The light of Jesus has shown that darkness has not overcome Him. Love is stronger than death-- for love entered death and conquered death.

This year, we celebrate Easter on this Jubilee Year of Hope.

Allow me to share with you two messages:
hope and jubilation.

Hope

Hope is the grace and mission of Easter.
Because of Easter, we have hope.

Dahil sa Pagkabuhay, nagkaroon tayo ng pag-asa sa buhay. (Because of the Resurrection, we have hope.)

The Lord does not want us to merely survive but to live to the fullest.

Hindi lang buhay kung di buhay na buhay. Iyong taong buhay ngunit hindi buhay na buhay, ang tawag doon ay papatay-patay. Iyong taong may pag-asa sa buhay ang siyang buhay na buhay. Pero iyong taong walang pag-asa sa buhay ay papatay-patay. (Not just alive, but truly living-- vibrant, lively dynamic, thriving. The person who's alive but not living, we call lackadaisical-- laid back, no enthusiasm, half-hearted.)

The person who has hope is the person truly living. But the one with no hope is half-dead.



First Reading: Acts 10:34, 37-43

34 Peter proceeded to speak and said: 37 "You know what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. 39 We are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree. 40 This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible, 41 not to all the people, but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42 He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead. 43 To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."



Easter Gives us Hope

We, Filipinos, have a popular saying:
 "Habang may buhay, may pag-asa."
 (While there is life, there is hope.)

Our Easter faith teaches us a better lesson than that. It should be "Habang may pag-asa, may buhay." (While there is hope, there is life.)

Hindi natin kayang mabuhay kung wala tayong pag-asa sa buhay. (We cannot bear living if we don't have hope in life.)

If we live without hope, we are not fully alive. We would be like zombies or vampires walking lifelessly on Earth. Look at those persons who are full of hope. Even when they passed away, we still feel that they are alive because of hope. This is the meaning of Easter. This is the grace of hope.

Easter gives us hope.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

**R: This is the day the Lord has made;
 let us rejoice and be glad.**

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. 2 Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever." (R)

16 The right hand of the Lord has struck with power; the right hand of the Lord is exalted. 17 I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord. (R)

22 The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. 23 By the Lord has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes. (R)

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Jubilation

Joy is the grace of the Jubilee and the sign of Easter.

In the Responsorial Psalm, we said: *"This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad."*

As the Jubilee song goes: *"It's a time of joy, a time of peace, a time to lift our hands to God, a time to recall our graces."*

Easter is the greatest season for our jubilation. Our Easter hope gives us the right to celebrate and rejoice.

We rejoice not because all our problems are solved, and not because our stress is dissolved. We rejoice because God is faithful and merciful. Although we are hard-pressed and distressed, we are also immensely blessed and lavishly loved by our ever-living God.



Nagsasaya tayo dahil tapat ang Panginoon sa kanyang pangako. We rejoice because God is faithful and He fulfills His promises.)

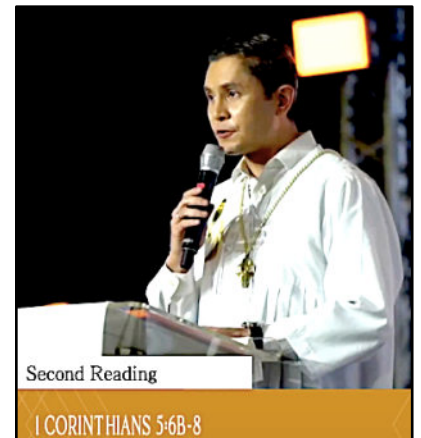
Jesus has risen from the dead in fulfillment of the Scripture. And so, we can be an Easter people and *Hallelujah* is our jubilation song. Let us allow Easter Joy to flow within us, through us, and beyond us. The hope of Easter leads us to joy.



Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4 (or 1 Corinthians 5:6-8)

1 Brothers and sisters: If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. 2 Think of what is above, not of what is on earth. 3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory.

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The Feast: Moments of Easter Joy

My dear brothers and sisters
at The Feast and the Light of Jesus Family,
I would like to personally thank you
for bringing joy to our people.

Indeed, as your name suggests,
you welcome people to The Feast through
your lively Worship services, your support
in Light Group meetings, your charity
and outreach activities, and your solidarity
with the life and mission of the Church.

All these are moments of jubilation
and moments of Easter joy.

Hope and jubilation are the graces
of Easter that we ask God to shower upon
us in this Jubilee Year of Hope.

In this holy year, be joyful servants
of hope. Share the light of faith
with the people around you.

Spread the joy and peace of The Risen
Lord to your families and communities. Be witnesses to the flame of hope
that the Resurrection has sparked in us.

Let us continue to be pilgrims of hope in a mission of mercy and love. Amen.





Thank You!

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

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

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

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

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

FOR EXISTING DONORS:

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

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

Email Address: jocelyn@kerygmfamily.com

Website: <https://kerygmfamily.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.

CHOOSE HOW YOU WANT TO GIVE

1. Donate ONLINE (through credit card) Go to www.kerygmfamily.com and click 'DONATE' box Paypal I US Donations.
2. Pick Up from Your House or Office (Metro Manila Only) Cash or Checks
Address Checks to Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation Inc. and call Joy at (+632) 725 -9999 loc 112 or text (+63) 922-828-9890 and we'll pick them up from your home or office.
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FAMILY ONLINE NEWSMAGAZINE

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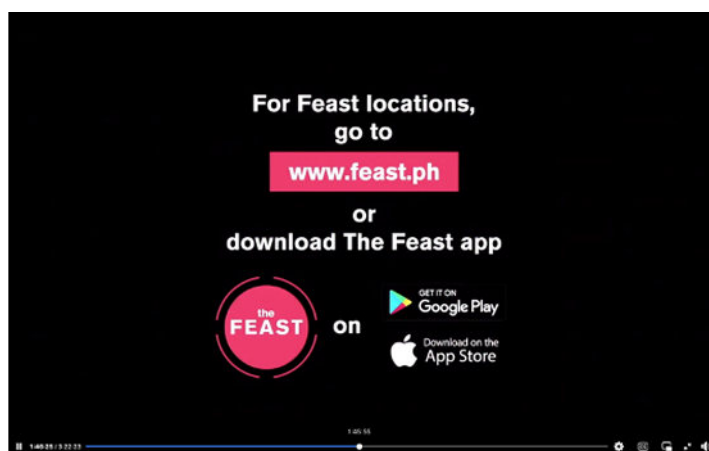
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Go and make disciples of all men.
— Matthew 28:19

