

## PHILIPPINE PROVINCE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

# BALITAAN

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Issue No. 1 - July 23, 2014

### NEWS SHARING FROM OUR SISTERS

**Sister Fe de Paz, CGS** who is in **Kenya** shared the following news:

You have heard the challenges Kenya is facing at this time: the issues of political leaders/government, Kenya-Somalia and Christians-Muslims conflicts: bombings, killings, etc. Prayers, please.

Ae Sun (one of the contemplative sisters) is back after ten months break after the robbery experience. Manel is back from home visit. The sisters decided to continue the call in mission. Odette, a pre-novice is having a home visit in Congo and she is preparing for the novitiate. Cassia Maria has been busy during the past months making candles and hand painted altar clothes – this is our small income generating project. Jacqueline (SW India) has been with us since March. She is our first missionary in the community. Anabel is supposed to join us but she has another priority – her ailing mother. We heard that several sisters would like to experience Africa . . . we are waiting!!!

As for me, I am the oldest in the community. And I am doing something I have never done before --- Bookkeeping! That is what the Mission is doing to me. God is good – all the time!

If you have the call to Mission in Africa – you are most welcome/Karibu! There are many rooms waiting for you. It

is very cold now – June to August – and cool all the year round. So, bring jackets or sweaters. If you have cholesterol problem, Kenya is very good for you – you have to walk and climb hills to go to market or to attend mass in a nearby parish. Life is alive and full of challenges: culture, language, formation, mindset, etc. I can say everything is grace.

We had an advance reunification celebration because the OLC had their Chapter and we (RGS) had a General Assembly with them (OLC). It was very touching – the giving of the Constitution and Symbol. It brought tears to my eyes! I think there were more or less 30 OLC sisters. God bless us all!

I seldom write. You are in my prayers and I love you all.

#### **From Sister Carmelita Arenas:**

Sister Carme is on home leave in USA and she shares the following news:

Why do people ask when is my retirement? There is no retirement for sisters; only a disability shift and one goes into fuller contemplative stance.

I connected with Fr. Carlos, Eudist in San Fernando Valley. I stayed overnight, met the community, including the 3 seminarians. Father Carlos toured me around the parish grounds and school. I observed the school's VBS (Vacation

Bible School), very colorful and multi-activity, with adult and youth volunteers. They are so rich and creative in their materials as well as people volunteers.

We have a Filipino seminarian in our parish who studies at St. John's seminary. I ask God to help with vocation contact, and yes, I meet priests and seminarians. I will also meet Fr. Rey Culaba, CSSR in San Francisco by August 3.

### **On Sister Rita Danganan – missionary to Korea**

As we know, Sister Rita was here in the Philippines to celebrate her Golden Jubilee of profession and went back to Korea only last July 3, 2014. On July 9, 2014, her fourth brother, Conrado Danganan, who lives in New Jersey, USA passed away. He was 84 years old. Conrado Danganan has been cremated and the family plans to bring his ashes to the Philippines for burial. Sister was given permission to attend the family funeral rites. She will be arriving on July 30, 2014, at 11:05 a.m. and will leave on August 13, 2014 at 12:15 p.m. Her brother's ashes will be brought to the Philippines on August 1<sup>st</sup> and will be enshrined in the family tomb at Loyola Cemetery Marikina. We have no exact date when the burial will take place.

### **From Sister Myraluna of Bukid Kabataan Community, General Trias, Cavite:**

This was sent after typhoon Glenda exited from the Philippines:

We are safe here in Bukid except for 41 uprooted trees and brown-out. We do not have water too. I have been going around looking for a generator to be able

to pump water. The price is overwhelming . . . can't afford. Two days without electricity means a day without water. According to Meralco, brown-out in our area is indefinite . . . but believing in God's goodness, I know He will solve our problem.

### **Guest in the Philippine Province**

Sister Regina Munemoto, Japan's former Sector Leader, arrived in the Philippines last July 17<sup>th</sup> for her sabbatical. She will take modular classes in English at the Assumption Language Center. She will also go to our communities for exposure. She will be in the Philippines until December with a break in October to go to Rome.

### **From Sister Celeste Yuzon – Nagano, Japan**

God is so good! Nagano City was spared from the super typhoon – typhoon No. 8 in Japan. Unfortunately, Nagiso, an area in Nagano Prefecture where there Filipinas living with their families was heavily damaged with mudslides. Please help us pray for all those affected by this very strong typhoon.

God willing, I will be there in our dear country on August 8 to 22, 2014. I already have my round trip airplane tickets. August 9 to 13 will be my annual retreat. On Aug. 14 to 17, I will be in Tagbilaran City to visit the home of the family of one of the Filipino leaders of a Filipino community here. She will have her church wedding in Tagbilaran City on August 16. Then I will stay with my brother in Cubao before returning to Japan. My warmest greetings to all the Sisters.