

The Official Newsletter of CHS ALUMNAE FOUNDATION, INC. 163 E. Mendiola St., Manila

January 2022

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CHSAF Official

Pasko ng Pag-ibig: Operation Typhoon Odette

By Victoria Torres-del Rosario (HS-77)



On December 16, 2021, Typhoon Odette ripped off the roof and blew out walls and windows of the Cebu SSpS Provincial House.

On December 16, 2021, with sustained winds of 190 km/hr and gusts of up to 270 km/hr, Super Typhoon Odette (international name: Rai) devastated many areas in the Philippines—from Siargao Island in Surigao in the Caraga region to Eastern and Central Visayas and Palawan. It did not spare areas where our SSpS Sisters had established their missions: Cebu, Bohol, Surigao and Tacloban.

Through its adviser, Sr. Eden Panganiban, CHSAF inquired about the Sisters' situation and their primary needs after the devastation. Communication lines were down so it was initially a challenge to call or exchange messages with Sr. Estela Parmisano, Provincial Head for the Trinity Province (SSpS South).

We eventually learned that the Sisters in Cebu were alright but their structures suffered considerable damage – roofs blown away, windows broken, walls in pieces and rooms flooded. Internet and electricity connections were cut. With food and water supplies at a critical level, Sisters were concerned not only for themselves, but also for the communities around them. After a couple of days, they received a similar update from Sr. Remedios Socorro "Soking" Aunzo, SSpS, in Tagbilaran, Bohol.

Meantime, alumni started asking how they can help the Sisters. This prompted CHSAF and CHSNAF to start Operation Typhoon Odette to receive and gather donations for affected areas. Donations from different classes, as well as individuals, from here and abroad poured in, immediately and generously. HS-71 was able to secure a donation of two thousand (2000) liters of drinking water from Purifice Ice Plant in Bacolod City.

The bigger challenge was the logistics of how to source and deliver the goods to the Sisters' location. CHSAF was able to partner with the SM Foundation Inc. (SMFI) and Cold Link Asia Logistics (CLAL) to source and deliver much-needed water and food items. CHSAF, in coordination with the Sisters, prepared the list and ordered food items which its partners, SMFI and CLAL, helped purchase and transport to both the Provincial houses in Cebu (December 22, 2021) and Tagbilaran (December 31, 2021).



Pictures courtesy of Sr. Estela SSpS Cebu



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(Continued from p.1 Operation ...)



On December 22, 2021, Sr. Estela Parmisano wrote: "Nakarating na ang pinadala ni Dolly Gabriel through SM. Mga 18 cartons mineral water, 2 sacks rice, 1 carton each of noodles and sardines. I started distributing to our sisters who are affected and to our neighbors."

Sr. Eden Panganiban added: "She (Sr. Estela) also received the P1K Smart load I sent this noon. Things are moving. **THANK YOU, dear ALUMNAE!**"

The Sisters shared these provisions with the badly hit communities around them. The Sisters in Tagbilaran, Bohol, opted to bring relief goods to Ubay, one of the worst hit sitios about three hours away from the convent. Sr. Estela and Sr. Soking promptly sent pictures to update CHSAF about the delivery and distribution of relief goods.

The work is far from over. As of this writing, blankets and mattresses are being sourced to send to the nuns. CHSAF and CHSNAF will continue to assist the Sisters and their communities in the coming days, weeks and months.

The Spirit-guided efforts confirm that the Spirit lives on in our hearts.



On December 27, 2021, Sr. Estela gave this update: "... My sister told me that the drinking water, rice and all the other things arrived today... Thanks so much for all the help extended to us and our people here in Cebu."



Sisters thank alumnae for their donations of 40 sacks of rice, 1,342 liters of water, 250 cans of Century Tuna, 10 500gm boxes of Ricoa Curly Tops, 10 500gm bags of Pag-asa rock salt, ginger, garlic, patis, vinegar, Silver Swan soy sauce and 5 halfgallon bottles of Baguio Oil.



Sr. Joy Quizan of SSpS Cebu sent this message:

Pictures in Cebu courtesy of Sr. Joy SSpS



"Please know that your generosity, thoughtfulness and all efforts are greatly appreciated. Your gestures are concrete expressions of God-with-us during this time of difficulty. Bless you all! Laking pasasalamat!"





On December 31, 2021, Sr. Soking Aunzo reported from **Tagbilaran**, Bohol: "We decided to share these blessings to Ubay, one of the most devastated places in Bohol.

From the blessings you sent, we combined the goods with the donations sent from our co-sisters in the Rosary Province." Pictures courtesy of Sr. Soking SSpS Tagbilaran



On January 2, 2022, relief goods were distributed in **Ubay, Bohol**. From Sr. Soking:

"These are our brothers and sisters who haven't received anything yet since the typhoon... the sitio is *so liblib* ... they are very grateful."



The SSpS Sisters travel three hours from Tagbilaran to bring relief goods to grateful families of Ubay.

WE IN ALUMNAE

(Continued from p.2 Operation ...)



e sisters prepare the relief goods



The sisters chat with the residents

On January 8, 2022, the SSpS community in Tagbilaran bought more supplies to add to the available rice and water to share with families in Barangay Biabas and Barangay Tapal in Ubay, Bohol.

The following day, the Sisters took the 3 hour trip to Biabas, Ubay to distribute relief goods to the people who had not yet received any help since the Dec. 16 devastation by super typhoon Odette.

Info and all photos on this page are courtesy of Sr. Soking of SSpS Taqbilaran



of typhoon Odette in Biabas, Ubay



Two men carry home a sack of goods amidst destruction and debris



Sisters travel by land and sea to reach Barangay Talisay, Cabilao, Loon, Bohol



Cemented roads no more

On January 13, 2022, the Sisters in Tagbilaran visited another community heavily affected by Typhoon Odette -Barangay Talisay, Cabilao, Loon, Bohol. It took them 60 minutes by car plus 20 minutes by boat to reach Barangay Talisay, Cabilao, Loon, Bohol.



Relief goods for distribution

Sr. Soking SSpS relates,

"We were joined by one of our co-teachers, who went to bring and share some relief goods. He and siblings together with some friends also raised funds to give to 30 families while we packed and prepared for 20 families.

The recipients were so happy with the water when they saw them among the relief goods.

"Thank you so much dear CHS Foundation Alumnae for vour sharing blessings to our brothers and sisters. God bless you." ---- Sr. Soking SSpS Tagbilaran



A Message from the CHSAF President

GUILLERMINA "GING' M. ONG (HS-68/BSC-72)

My Dearest Alumnae,

It is with great joy that I send you all warm greetings this New Year!

Indeed, it is only by God's grace and faithfulness that we are able to celebrate and spend time with our families and loved ones, even amidst trying times.

Our beloved community has faced many challenges over the years and it is easy to feel defeated and discouraged. I am blessed and thankful to have witnessed the coming together of our members during these tough moments. When COVID-19 struck, I saw strength and generosity in the midst of tragedy. With the recent devastation wrought by typhoon Odette in Cebu and nearby S.Sp.S. communities, I am in awe of the charity and compassion that you continuously extend to uplift one another.

So, it is only through our community's spirit that I earnestly urge one and all to see beyond the heartache and be inspired by the Holy Spirit to persevere in faith and hope. May we never forget the courage and determination that we possess as daughters of the College of the Holy Spirit and as one community bound by love for Christ and for each other.

Let us continue being our Almighty's instruments of healing and love to each other, and let us spread holiday cheer to everyone we encounter.

A blessed New Year to all!

HONORING THE INCREDIBLE YEAR THAT WAS By Cora Guidote (HS-78)

The year 2021 truly tested CHSAF's mettle.

We remember the announcement of CHS Manila's closure as the marker of a journey that seemed insurmountable. Emotions ran high and CHSAF was there to calm the tide. And then came former CHSAF president Marissa Camacho's untimely demise, a shocker to the Board that was still addressing closure-related issues.

This was followed by the almost daily passing of alumni in April and May. We were still recovering from the series of emotional traumas, when we learned of our Board adviser's bout with cancer. A few weeks later, some of the board members and SSpS sisters were stricken with Covid-19. Then came the lockdown in Poinsettia.

As the year ended, typhoon Odette battered the Visayas and Northern Mindanao, including our own Holy Spirit communities in Cebu and Tagbilaran.

Amidst all that, CHSAF and CHSNAF rose to the challenge, faithfully carrying out their duties. CHSAF even took on larger tasks such as reviewing its mission and vision to address current realities, holding a strategic planning workshop, and embarking on the painstaking of amending CHSAF's process **bylaws** and articles of incorporation. It also raised funds during the second half of the year for the Poinsettia community, the Punta Sta. Ana Christmas event and Operation Typhoon now, for Odette.

Forget not, too that in 2021, CHSAF launched its official website, held special events to honor Marissa

Camacho, arranged CHSAF's 40th Anniversary event, coordinated webinars, conducted a Lenten retreat, mounted the wellattended Visita Iglesia, organized the very entertaining Raffle Draw event, the Rockin' Christmas Party for the Nuns, and the Simbang CHSAF Gabi. also bravely distributed gifts in Punta Sta. Ana, and launched the maiden episode of CHSAF Chats.

The year 2021 truly tested our fortitude and, I daresay that collectively, CHSAF passed the test with flying colors.

The Holy Spirit works in mysterious ways. Amidst those great challenges, the Spirit amazingly moved CHSAF, CHSNAF and the alumni to come together and serve its purpose and mission.

We will remember 2021 as a milestone year that proved how a Holy Spirit-led community can do wonderful things, even if many would rather forget the disasters of the past year.

Looking back gives us more reason to be hopeful and resolute in doing greater things in 2022.

The SPIRIT LIVES ON because we surrender, we allow its fire to burn in our hearts while we continue to blaze more trails as we journey on.

Cheers and congratulations to all for time well spent in 2021!

2022, here we come!





On left, Ma. Socorro "Marissa" N. Camacho (HS-71) became CHSAF President in 2020. She passed away on March 26, 2021. On right, Guillermina "Ging" Ong, then First Vice President took <u>over as CH</u>SAF President in April, 2021.

The official CHSAF Website www.chsafofficial.org was launched in February, 2021



CHSAF Board Undertakes Amendments to Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws By Cora Guidote (HS-78)

True to its desire to improve its standard of governance, the Board of Trustees has undertaken the tedious process of amending CHSAF's Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation.

Started early last year, board members, led and guided by former SEC Chairperson and CHSAF Trustee Atty. Teresita Herbosa, have been looking into the bylaws and articles of incorporation that need attention. A campaign program has likewise been rolled out to class representatives and the general membership through a series of meetings with PowerPoint presentations, email exchanges, postings media social through Viber, Facebook and CHSAF's official website. A maiden episode also kickstarted the intended monthly CHSAF Chats which featured Atty. Herbosa addressing on the proposed issues amendments. The Board of Trustees intends to institutionalize measures that embody CHASF's vision of becoming a more socially responsible and sustainable corporate citizen.

The amended documents aim to uphold accountability, transparency and sound management to ensure the Foundation's growth and sustainability through the spirit of understanding, unity, mutual concern and support within the Board, its members and the public at large.

Compliance

One of the most compelling

for undergoing this reasons thorough review process is the alignment of the provisions of CHSAF's Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation with those of the Revised Corporation Code (RCC) of Philippine Securities the and Exchange Commission (SEC) which incidentally, was co-authored by Atty. Herbosa. The alignment will ensure better legal and regulatory compliance and avoid unnecessary complications or penalties that could arise from non-compliance.

Among the provisions reviewed for compliance include resetting the date for CHSAF's Annual General Membership Meeting (AGMM) to the first Saturday of March instead of the first Sunday of February. This will give the Board more time prepare and finalize its yearend financial report for disclosure to the members.

The office address of CHSAF will likewise be revised, in anticipation of its transfer to Poinsettia St., Quezon City due to the impending closure of CHS Manila on Mendiola St., Manila by June 2022.

CHSAF will also amend "Alumnae" to "Alumni" for inclusion of male students who were later allowed to enroll in the school.

It will also set out guidelines for holding a Special Members meeting for major corporate acts or transactions, notices and modes of attendance and voting during meetings of the Board and its members.

The rest of the provisions are: the

inclusion of an arbitration agreement to become the mode of resolving intra-corporate disputes; the creation of an executive committee; and the creation of special committees.

Grow and Empower

Certain amendments are meant to grow and empower CHSAF to enable it to support a larger community of Holy Spirit alumni. It proposed has been that membership be opened to those who benefitted from the SSpS brand of quality Catholic education, particularly the alumni of other Holy Spirit schools (HSS), in the Philippines or abroad. For greater flexibility without the need to go through another amendment to the By-Laws, it has been proposed that the Board may review and determine the rules and standards for membership by way of new or categories, revised additional qualifications, conversion from one category to another and other requirements.

The amendments proposed likewise, will include features that further define and strengthen the role of class representatives for increased coordination and collaboration with their respective batches. Among the responsibilities class representatives of are: collecting membership dues. coordinating homecoming activities with CHSAF and planning their own class activities. Class reps are also responsible for keeping and updating pertinent information on their respective members, which

(Continued from p.6 CHSAF Board ...)

are then submitted to the CHSAF Secretariat no later than the closing of the Membership Book which is 20 days before the AGMM to be held every first Saturday of March.

In recognition for their service to CHSAF, outstanding class their representatives and be constituencies shall given awards or citations by the Board of Trustees. The awards will be based on certain criteria and will take into consideration extraordinary efforts in recruiting new members, collecting membership dues, raising funds through donations, and initiating and/or carrying out socially responsible and sustainable programs for CHSAF.

Keeping with the Times

CHSAF needs to keep up with the times. Hence, there is a need to update some of the provisions in the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation; remove outdated items; and include certain features that will make the Board more flexible, transparent and accountable.

For greater flexibility without the need to go through another amendment to the Bylaws, it has been proposed that the Board may review and determine the rules and standards for membership by way of new or revised categories, additional qualifications, conversion from one category to another and other requirements. This provision gives the Board discretion to decide on matters such as whether or not nongraduates of Holy Spirit Schools may be admitted as associate non-graduates members; at college level of CHSM may be admitted as associate members; individual members of and

affiliated member associations may automatically become regular members.

The amendments also set out a clear definition of "active members." They are those who continue to pay their annual membership dues and shall enjoy the following privileges:

Become trustees, officers or class representatives Nominate trustees to the Board

Attend the annual general membership meeting (AGMM) The right to vote

Attend sessions or activities that require active membership registration

Other privileges attached to active membership as and when they are available.

The right of active members to vote covers the following corporate acts: Amendment of the AOI or the bylaws Sale or other dispositions of all or substantially all assets Incurring indebtedness Donating to a project or activity not within the primary purpose of the CHSAF Investing CHSAF funds that are not necessary or incidental to its primary purpose Ratification of related party transactions Merger

Removal of a disqualified trustee Dissolution

The proposed amendments also include the term and election of trustees such that each trustee may be elected into office for only two terms of three years each, or a total of six years. Thereafter, a three-year cooling period is required before a former trustee may be nominated and reelected. In the event of a vacancy in the Board (due to death, resignation, incapacity, or AWOL) the replacement trustee may be elected by the remaining trustees, that is, if they still constitute a quorum. Otherwise, the replacement may be elected by the active members in a special members meeting. If the vacancy was caused by removal, the replacement trustee should be elected at a members meeting. A replacement trustee only serves the unexpired portion of the predecessor's term. However, upon expiration, the replacement trustee is qualified to be elected for a three-year term, and will be considered as the trustee's second term.

Members Approval

The amendments will take effect upon the approval of two-thirds of the active members of CHSAF during the Annual General Membership Meeting (AGMM). In case of a failure to obtain the required number of votes, a Special Membership Meeting may be held at a later date to address issues raised by dissenting voters and secure the required two-thirds majority vote.

Once approved by the members, the Amended Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws will then be submitted for filing to the Philippine Securities and Exchange Commission.

This painstaking process is being faithfully undertaken by the CHSAF Board of Trustees with the cooperation of its members, in order to fulfill its vision of becoming a socially responsible and sustainable foundation—with good governance being one of CHSAF's core values.

CHSAF Chats with Atty. Tess Herbosa



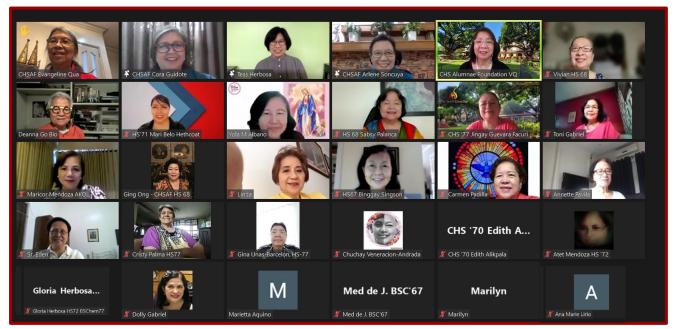
Arlene Abad Soncuya, Atty. Teresita Herbosa and Cora Guidote at the maiden episode of CHSAF Chats on November 26, 2021

On Friday, November 26, 2021 at 9 a.m. Manila time, CHSAF Chats was launched with Board members Arlene Abad Soncuya (HS-71) and Cora Guidote (HS-78) interviewing Atty. Teresita "Tess" Herbosa (HS-68), former Chairperson of the Philippine Securities and Exchange Commission and likewise a current CHSAF Board member, about personal, professional and CHSAF related concerns.

Hosts Arlene Soncuya and Cora Guidote's casual chat led Atty. Tess (HS-68) down memory lane, and the latter gamely shared her experiences as a student and as a career professional.

The Chat gave a glimpse of how Atty. Tess was driven to become a prominent lawyer and a highly effective public servant.

The Chat hosts also proceeded to ask Atty. Tess for the rationale behind the proposed amendments to CHSAF's By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation. It was stressed that these amendments require an approval from the majority, and two/thirds of all active members of CHSAF in the upcoming Annual General Membership Meeting on February 6, 2022.



CHSAF Chats premiered on November 26, 2021 and curious alumnae enjoyed learning more about former SEC Chairperson Atty. Teresita Herbosa.



Even before CHSAF and its alumni completed the nine-day Simbang Gabi in 2020, they had already received requests to make Simbang Gabi Masses a regular CHSAF event.

What makes Simbang Gabi an enduring Christmas tradition? What is Simbang Gabi to you?

More than tradition, it is part of our country's history. It is a way of teaching people how to meaningfully prepare their hearts for Christmas. The family and community would gather for nine consecutive dawn Masses, waiting and hoping in prayerful expectation for the coming of the Messiah.

The CHSAF Family—alumni, family and friends started the virtual Simbang Gabi Masses in 2020. With feedback from some alumni, your CHSAF Board decided to make this part of its Spiritual Enriching Activities. Celebrating the Simbang Gabi Masses highlights our personal preparation for the birth of our Lord.

In the Philippines, our Christmas celebration starts during the "ber" months. As early as September, families and shop owners would bring out their Christmas trees and string up fairy lights in anticipation of the season. Why then should we not spend time and effort preparing our hearts to welcome Jesus? Are we going to say there is no room for Him at the inn and in our hearts? Or do we exert all efforts and reserve time to prepare to welcome Him?

For 2021, CHSAF was blessed to have Fr. Anselm Manalastas, OSB as our Mass Presider for the nineday novena of Masses, sharing with us God's grace through Mass and homily, leading us to welcome Baby Jesus in our hearts.

There was a heartening development last year. We increased our sponsors for our Simbang Gabi Masses from 27 classes in 2020 to 33 in 2021. Aside from CHSAF and our high school classes (Years '54, '57, '60, '62, and '64 to '82), our additional sponsors included CHSNAF, College Integrated (2), ABC-58/59, ABC/BSC-82, BSC Finance-83, BS Chemistry-67, Bachelor of Fine Arts, and Baby Lim and Family.

The nine days gathered us as a family to pray together and offer our intentions. Though virtual, we managed to greet classmates and schoolmates, many of whom, we had not seen for years.

After the Mass, the sponsors for each day were given time to share their messages. One thing was evident: In spite of the pandemic, many batches became closer and gathered to pray for each other and for family members who have passed on. Some even started regular Bible studies and prayed the Rosary. Clearly, this is the Holy Spirit working in us.

Many expressed sadness that our beloved CHSM would close its doors by end of school year 2022. A true CHSian cannot help but be saddened by this. On the bright side, CHS alumni have strengthened their bonds of friendship with fellow alumni. This is what will keep CHSAF strong and help fulfill its mission.

May we live and be guided by our motto, "TRUTH IN LOVE." "VERITAS IN CARITATE."

The Spirit lives on in each CHSian.

(Continued from p.9 Simbang ...)



Alumni and family from different parts of the world attend the Simbang Gabi



On, December 23, 2021, Fr. Anselm Manalastas received a Certificate of Appreciation from CHSAF for presiding over Simbang Gabi 2021 that run from December 15-23, 2021



Alumni were happy to complete to 9-day Novena Masses.



CHSAF 2021 Simbang Gabi Sponsors

DECEMBER 15, 2021, Wednesday CHSAF Board High School Class 1960 High School Class 1957

DECEMBER 16, 2021, Thursday High School Class 1962 High School Class 1971 High School Class 1973 College Integrated

DECEMBER 17, 2021, Friday High School 1972 High School 1976 ABC/BSC 1982 BSC - BF 1983

DECEMBER 18, 2021, Saturday High School Class 1977 High School Class 1978 High School Class 1979 High School Class 1980

DECEMBER 19, 2021, Sunday High School Class 1975 High School Class 1966 BFA High School Class 1982

DECEMBER 20, 2021, Monday High School Class 1974 High School Class 1954 CHSNAF AB-58/BSC 1959

DECEMBER 21, 2021, Tuesday High School Class 1970 High School Class 1965 High School Class 1964 College Integrated

DECEMBER 22, 2021, Wednesday High School Class 1967 BSCHEM - 67 High School Class 1981

DECEMBER 23, 2021, Thursday High School Class 1969 High School Class 1968 Baby Miranda Lim and family



A Rockin' Christmas Party

By Sr. Angelita Roferos, SSpS

For many years, it has been a part of the annual agenda of CHSM alumnae to host a Christmas Party for the SSpS sisters at the Motherhouse in Quezon City. They would prepare a program and donate gifts for the old and sick sisters in the infirmary, now called the Paraclete Home Community. Later, they included the rest of the sisters at the Motherhouse!



Sr. Carmencita Gatmaitan sings "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing."

This year's party, held on December 11, was quite different from previous years. First of all, it had an intriguing name – "Rockin' Christmas Party." Secondly, instead of alumnae entertaining the sisters, it was the other way around. The alumnae planned and prepared the numbers of the program, but the sisters performed them.

Everybody loves games and contests—the sisters included. The first-prize winner of the Singing Contest was 97-year old Sr. Carmencita Gatmaitan who sang "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" with calm and poise. Sr. Guadalupe de Leon, 92, won in the "Walang Kurapsyon." Octogenarians Sr. Anesilde Antonio and Sr. Elena Rosa bagged the top prizes in the Christmas Ball and Drawing Contest. The highlight of the program was a cha-cha dance by seven sisters, all but two were senior citizens. Among the dancers were Sr. Carmelita Victoria, outgoing Provincial leader and Sr. Rosario Tayson, newly elected Provincial leader. The dance instructress (DI) was Sr. Bernadette Oppus – our community nurse and the servant-leader of the Paraclete Home Community.

As usual, the alumnae prepared a healthy lunch for all the sisters and workers in the convent and presented everyone with a goodie bag.

A Blessed Christmas to all and a Spirit-filled 2022!



Sr. Guadalupe de Leon, 92, wins the *"Walang Kurapsyon"* contest



Octogenarians Sr. Anesilde Antonio and Sr. Elena Rosa are firstprize winners in the Christmas Ball and Drawing Contest.



Cha-cha dance by seven sisters—all but two are senior citizens.



The CHSAF organized a fundraising event, "Pasko ng Pag-Ibig at Pag-Asa," last November 20, 2021 which gave 200 needy families special Christmas packages. Our beneficiaries come from а barangay in Punta, Sta. Ana. Manila, selected by our lead coordinator Ms. Anne Limgenco (BFA-93), one of our Board Members.

Our energetic team host and emcee was Ms. Cora Guidote (HS-78) of the Communications Committee. Ms. Arlene Soncuya (HS-71) handled the raffle draw and Mr. Dhong Salem of DLPRO Photography provided technical support.

The opening prayer was led by Ms. Brigitte Ignacio (HS-77) while Ms. Anne Limgenco gave the opening remarks, expounding and showing the sad condition of our beneficiaries.

The fun began when focus turned to our guests who wore creativelydesigned face shields. Judges observed and evaluated each contestant. Winners of the Face Shield Contest were: Carmencita Lopez/Baby Miranda-Lim (HS-74), Lillibeth Vazquez (HS-71) and Aida Stela Cruz (BS Chem-70).

The second season of CHSAF Idol saw six challengers perform their chosen Christmas songs. The judges requested for more time to make their decision. Winning first place was Jean Fadul Arce (HS-74) while second place went to Rosalinda Luis MacDougal (HS-74). Evangeline Meanwhile, Perez Ignacio and Susan Ada Veneracion (both HS-74) tied for third place.

Ms. Rafaella "Raffy" Roque, graduating BFA-2022 student, performed a special Christmas song and CHSM students rendered an inspiring song of unity.

Our solicitous and hardworking president Ms. Guillermina "Ging" Ong delivered closing remarks. She thanked the class representatives and their batchmates for their donations, and acknowledged the generosity of the following alumni: Ms. Menchu Martinez-Que (HS-75) for donating Mercury Drug gift certificates, Ms. Baby Lim for Cape Coat and CHSAF Board Members for the Face Shield contest and consolation prizes.

Special thanks to the judges of the Face Shield Design Contest: Mss. Jean Guerrero-Bautista (HS-71), Suzette Malig-Ayson (HS-81) and Celine Borromeo (HS-72/BFA-76). A special shout-out to the judges of CHSAF Idol: Tere Pugeda-Filipinia (HS-72), Evelyn Dolina (HS-76) and Marinette Garrido (HS-71). Congratulations to all the winners of our *"Pasko ng Pag-Ibig at Pag-Asa"* Fundraising 2021!

GRAND PRIZE Php. 50,000.00 Felices Balangue (HS-75)

1st PRIZE Php. 20,000.00 Deanna Go Bio (AB-58/BSC-59)

2ND PRIZE Php. 10,000.00 Cel Marcelo-Gozum (HS-77)

3RD PRIZE Php. 5,000.00 (4) Theresa Schnabel (HS-69) Yoli Reyes Lim (HS-68) Tess Santos (HS-71) Dada Cua Rita Pueyo (HS-77)



Top right, CHSAF Board Member and emcee Cora Guidote introduces the contestants while CHSAF Idol judges watch on. Top left Tere Pugeda-Filipinia (HS-72), above left Evelyn Dolina and Marinette Garrido (HS-71)

WE 🔊 Alumnae

(Continued from p.12 Celebrating ...)

CONSOLATION PRIZES Mercury Drug GC Jeps Mendoza (HS-68) Ging Ong (HS-68) HS-73 free ticket Lilian Santillan Gelvezon (HS-65) Florence Christman (BS Physics-73) Ugu Bigyan Chimes Anonymous EQ 10 Irest Massager Ging Ong (HS-68) Sweet Aroma Diffuser Luisa Dadia (HS-70) Sleepcare Duvet Carol Tancuan Sy (HS-75) Mary, Spouse of the Holy Spirit Tiks Carillo Gillego (HS-65) Geepers Pascual (HS-72) Air Fryer Stella Schapero Terrie San Agustin (HS-77) Crystal Bowl Mia San Pedro (HS-71) Google Home Mini Cel Marcelo Gozum (HS-77) Cape Coat Criselda Buan Alejo (HS-78)

Top left, CHSAF Board Member Evangeline Qua introduces the Face Shield judges: clockwise, Jean Guerrero Bautista (HS-71), Celine Gamalinda Borromeo (HS-72), Suzette Malig Ayson (HS-81)



Jean Fadul Arce (HS-74) is CHSAF Idol winner

Carmencita Lopez /Baby Miranda Lim (HS-74) wins Face Shield design contest

CHSAF President. Guillermina "Ging" Ong delivered closing remarks

appreciation for the continued support of alumni, celebrate our Homecoming. financial or otherwise, especially for their presence in events organized by CHSAF.

Any success would be meaningless without the support of I hope 2022 will give us the opportunity to physically see kind-hearted members of CHSAF. Our heartfelt and visit our CHSM school grounds one last time and





By Anne Limgenco (BFA-94)

Pasko ng Pag-ibig is a program conceptualized to bring a bag of joy to the poor families of Punta, Sta. Ana, Manila, the adopted community of our alma mater, College of the Holy Spirit Manila (CHSM).

WE N ALUMNAE

In previous years, CHSM would gather donations and distribute school supplies to the children of this community. However, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the CHS Alumnae Foundation (CHSAF) decided to prepare Christmas happy bags containing rice, pasta, spaghetti sauce, fruit cocktail, cream, canned goods, juice, biscuits and candies, and distribute them to 200 indigent families in Punta, Sta. Ana.

At first, it was very hard to identify recipients of the program since Punta has 12 communities (Barangays 894-905) and a population of more than 200,000. In the end, we decided to distribute the happy bags to the poorest barangay whose impoverished families are struggling to meet their daily needs.

While going around the community, we saw family members who were bedridden, sick, deaf, blind and paralyzed. One couple was so destitute, they struggled to make do with just one bottle (1.5L) of donated water per day.

Upon seeing the plight of our brothers and sisters, CHSAF prepared not just happy bags for the families, but also 60 loot bags for the children. When all this was brought to the Punta families, they expressed great joy and gratitude.

One recipient said, "Maraming salamat dito sa bigay n'yo, Ma'am. Half-paralyzed ang asawa ko at ako naman ay street sweeper lang. Ngayon ay mayroon na akong ihahanda sa Pasko para sa amin ng mga anak ko. Pipilitin ko na huwag magalaw ito para umabot sa Pasko. Maraming salamat talaga, Ma'am."

Sometimes, it is in the little things that we are able to touch the lives of our brothers and sisters in Christ. We live up to the teachings we learned. In our small way, we have given them Pasko ng Pagibig.



Grocery Items for the happy bags

Anne Limgenco, who led the Pasko ng Pag-ibig activity, silkscreens happy bags with the CHSAF logo



Loot bags for the kids



Grocery items are packed into bags . . .



... and loaded into the van.

(Continued from p.14 Pasko ...)



Stubs for the happy bags are prepared and distributed to lucky Punta residents.



Kids of Punta play community games.



Food packs are given out.



Maricar Santiago (BFA-94) distributes the happy bags



Grateful recipients of the happy bags pose for a souvenir photo with Anne and staff.



Children line-up to receive the loots bags.

Distribution day at Punta, Sta. Ana

In the Spirit of Thanks+Giving

A Tribute to CHSM Teachers and Educators

By Veronica Fenix Villavicencio (HS-72)

The new normal of celebrating through virtual events spurred this year's Golden Jubilarian class HS-72 to create three online events dubbed "Live Strong! Live Long!" prior to the Alumni Homecoming on February 13, 2022.

In the Spirit of Thanks+ Giving. This last event in the series was held on November 27, 2021, as a tribute to CHSM educators — teachers in the school and educators among the jubilarians. The event was graced by alumni, former teachers and educators who were also trained in HGC/CHS.

The event highlight was a video of online conversations with teachers of HS-72, which focused on aspects of the educators' lives. Here are paraphrased excerpts:

What were your challenges as a teacher? Sr. Angelita Roferos, SSpS (Social Ethics and Literature): When you (my students) start to look out the window, I know that the lesson is no longer interesting. I prefer to teach English, so I inject values and religion in the English lesson."

Rebecca Soqueño (Chemistry): Students' common reaction ... Huh? Chemistry? So I try everything to make it interesting. Kung puede lang sumirko-sirko ako sa harap ninyo. (If I could, I would have done cartwheels in front of you.)

Despite the challenges, what made teaching worth it?

Lourdes Abella Aragon (History): When I hear of my students who are successful in their own fields and helping others... that is the satisfaction I get.

Ma. Corazon Parco (Social Studies): I always enjoyed teaching... I would stay in school up to Saturday! The best part is relating with students. That's the reason I never got married.



What were your realizations as an educator?

Becky Soqueño: I thought I knew a lot, but I realized that there are many people who are gifted. When I started teaching, I just learned from books, but as time passed, I learned more from my own students.

Sr. Mary Stephanie, SSpS (Religion and Social Ethics): A good educator knows how to adjust to the times; but what remains constant are the same ethics and morals as Christ taught us... follow His example. Sarah Hamid Nanawa (Mathematics): "The teacher is the messenger... a teacher nurtures being a messenger of God."

Two alumnae jubilarians, who have dedicated their life work to education, also shared their life lessons. Eleonor "Ellie" Powell Esteban (HS-52), founder of the Esteban International School Manila: I came up with this simple set of values: integrity and wisdom in action. Integrity is the truth of yourself. Wisdom is putting what you learned into action to benefit others. Otherwise, it remains just knowledge.

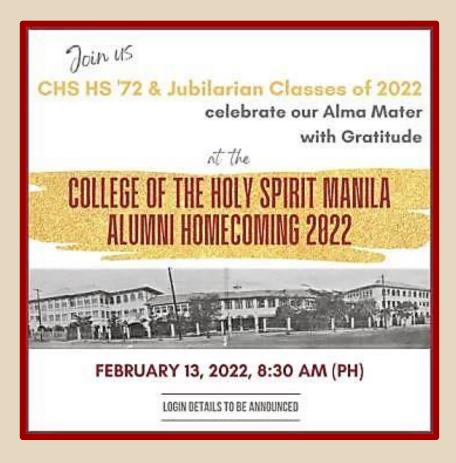
"Minnie" Lualhati Herminia Alcasid (HS-47) summed it up for all grateful alumni, thus: I thank my family and praise the Lord for sending me to HGC in Mendiola for my high school education. The fundamental Christian values I cherish remain with me. They are: trust and faith in God; love and respect for parents and elders; compassion for the less fortunate; humility and simplicity... peace and joy in a life of prayer.

(Continued from p.16 In the ...)

To cap the Thanks+Giving encounter, an extraordinary speaker, Fr. Jerry Orbos, SVD, expounded on this theme in his trademark lighthearted talk. "Gratitude is the best attitude and the key to happiness." To nurture a thankful attitude in these times when depression can easily set in, Fr. Jerry reminds us to "BTS" or "Believe! Trust! Surrender!" to the Lord, the greatest Teacher of all.

The Golden Jubilarian class of HS-72 thanked its own Jenny Fernan and Jingay Guevara Facuri (HS-77) for their nostalgia-laden and lively event Most of all, the hosting. Jubilarians gave credit to the Homecoming 2022 **Events** Team led by Marie Jopson Plopinio and Ana Ravago Oliveros for producing a most uplifting, Spirit-inspired Thanks+Giving to timeless CHSM teachers and educators.





2022 Jubilarian Batches

HS 1942	Graphene
HS 1947	Chromium
HS 1952	Titanium
HS 1957	Platinum
HS 1962	Diamond
HS 1967	Emerald
HS 1972	GOLD
HS 1977	Sapphire
HS 1982	Ruby
Commerce	
Dept 1982	Ruby
College Integrated	

Gallery



Class Reps attended the meeting concerning CHSAF and the proposed Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation and By Laws on December 18, 2021.



During the Simbang Gabi held from December 15-23, 2021, alumnae shared their musical talents during the Mass. Above, CHSNAF on December 20th; right, HS 1981 on December 22nd and below, HS 1980 on December 18th.



Congratulations!



Ida Genevieve Beltran-Lucila (HS-81)

for being awarded one of Canada's top 25 Immigrants last November 16, 2021.

Ida "Genie" Beltran-Lucila struggled when her family first immigrated to Canada, doing odd jobs. She eventually became the artistic director for Chameleon Dance Edmonton and Edmonton Festival Ballet, and guest ballet teacher with Ukrainian Shumka Dance. She has conducted workshops on classical and modern ballet, and Philippine dance.

Genie also founded and is executive director of the Philippine Arts Council Alberta "to establish a network of Filipino artists, strengthen relationships between artists in Edmonton and globally to work collaboratively and more strategically with the goal of sustaining the Filipino arts scene."

She chairs the Edmonton Philippine International Centre and is a board member with the Edmonton Arts Council. She has become a driving force in the promotion of Philippine art and culture in Edmonton, spearheading projects like the Philippine Arts Festival, Edmonton Filipino Fiesta, Kalinangan and the Learning Table.





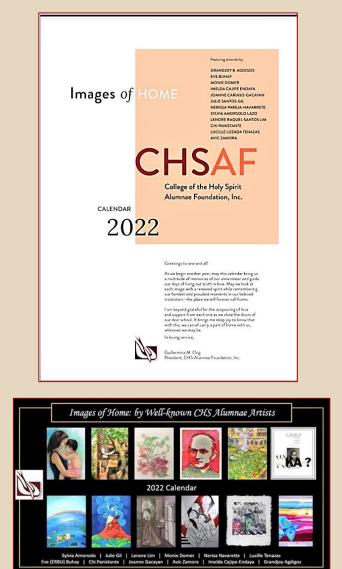
NOW AVAILABLE!

The CHSAF *"Images of Home"* 2022 calendar is now available. It features the beautiful artworks of our renowned alumnae artists.

You may place your orders at the CHSAF website's CHSM Souvenirs. Visit:

https://chsafofficial.org/chsm-souvenirs

Do check out the other available souvenirs.



We thank our alumnae artists who shared their art for the calendar:

SYLVIA AMORSOLO-LAZO I JULIE GIL I LENORE LIM I MONIE DOMER I NERIZA NAVARETTE I LUCILLE TENAZAS I EVE (ERBU) BUHAY I CHI PANISTANTE I JOANNE GACAYAN I AVIC ZAMORA I IMELDA CAJIPE ENDAYA I GRANDJOY AGDIGOS

Calling all Elementary, High School, College and Postgraduate Alumni!

Please join us or renew your membership to the CHS Alumnae Foundation.

CHSAF Membership/Renewal Form
I would like to activate/ renew my membership to the CHS Alumnae Foundation.
P500.00/US\$12.00 (One-year membership)
P1,000.00/US\$24.00 (Two-year membership)
Sent by:
Address:
Contact No:
Please send your payments to your Class Reps or kindly deposit your payments to: RCBC account no: 7590573589 Account Name: CHS Alumnae Foundation, Inc.
Please send a copy of your deposit/transfer advise to the CHSAF Secretariat c/o Ms. Dolly Gabriel by email to: <u>chsafsecretariat2@yahoo.com</u> or viber: 09175034608
If you have already renewed your membership for the current year, please ignore this message.
W/E the Alumnae



Victoria Torres-del Rosario (HS-77) Ma. Guillermina M. Ong (HS-68) Ma. Corazon P. Guidote (HS-78) Arlene Abad-Soncuya (HS-71) Ma. Luz E. Gabriel (HS-72) Sr. Eden Panganiban, SSpS



Prayer Corner

Through our "Alumni Prayer Community," let all of us pause for a minute and storm heaven with prayers: Lord, we pray

For the health and well-being of Shirley and Rene Santa Maria.

For Vahid Farahani to have the heart to forgive. *Frances Santa Maria*

Blessings and love for my family and friends! Betty Uy Dykes (Class '54)

For the healing of our family and friends who are sick of CoVid-19 and its variants; and for the protection of all people against the virus;

For the healing and full recovery from sickness of SSpS Sisters, HGC/CHS alumni and family and community;

For those suffering from excessive stress, mental anguish, and loneliness, may they find comfort, calm and peace of mind in God's care;

For the mending of strained relationships;

For the Philippine electorate, may they be able to discern which candidates will have the interest of the people at heart and not their self-interests;

For the enlightenment of all who spread fake news, may they choose to report and share only the truth;

For the poor souls in purgatory, that they may be cleansed of their sins and find their way home to the Father.

Into Eternal Life

Father of all, we pray to you for our family, classmates and friends, For all those whom we love but no longer see. Grant them eternal rest and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

2021

- Sept 27 Marivi Garchitorena-Cordova (HS-65)
- Oct 15 Betty Piccio-Romualdez (HS-57/BSC-61)
- Nov 4 Susan Joyce Artiaga-Bautista (GS-73), sister of Merceditas Artiaga (HS-73), Leslie Artiaga (HS-79), and Ma. Alicia Artiaga (BFA-82)
- Nov 7 Jose Ma. Ciocon, husband of Catherine Banta-Ciocon (HS-65)
- Dec 5 Amy Abiera-Salud, (BSC-82)
- Dec 12 Angelica Andaya-Palpal-latoc (BSBIO-83)
- Dec 17 Winifred Buhay-Samson (HS-69)
- Dec 17 Vivinia Santiago-Reyes (HS-58)
- Dec 18 Julieta Tagle-Martinez (HS-57)
- Dec 22 Dancy Young-Lim (HS-68/BSMT-72), sister of Vicky Young (HS-72/BSBio-76)
- Dec 26 Mario Antonio Coronel, brother of Sheila Coronel (HS-75), Miriam Coronel (GS-73), Carmen Judith Rosario Coronel Dominguez (GS-81/AB Psych-89)
- Dec 29 Rose Poblete (BSFN-66), sister of Teresita Poblete-Sevilla (BSC-63) and Yvonne Poblete-Mesia (HS-72)
- Dec 29 Vivina Santiago-Reyes (HS-58)

2022

- Jan 4 Cesar Lorenzo, brother of Cynthia Lorenzo-Picazo (HS-61/BSC-65)
- Jan 13 Cielito Lindo, brother of Cecilia Lindo-Mendoza (HS-77)