



# PARISH BULLETIN

We Care Because We Pray  
Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time  
June 17, 2018



## GOSPEL REFLECTION

# What is New Evangelization?

By Kevin Cotter



The term “The New Evangelization” is thrown around in many Catholics circles today, but what exactly does it mean?

It is believed that Blessed John Paul II first used the term in 1983 in an address to Latin American Bishops. He would later bring this term to the attention of the entire Church. Perhaps, the most clear explanation of the New Evangelization is in his 1990 Papal Encyclical, *Redemptoris Missio* (Latin for “The Mission of the Redeemer”). In Section 33 of this Encyclical, Blessed John Paul II describes three different situations for evangelization: mission ad gentes, Christian communities, and the new evangelization.

**Mission ad gentes:** Latin for “to the nations.” This is a situation where “Christ and His Gospel are not known.”

**Christian communities:** “In these communities the Church carries out her activity and pastoral care of those already “fervent in their Christian Faith.”

**New Evangelization:** So, what is the new evangelization? Blessed John Paul II describes a situation between the first two options “where entire groups of the baptized have lost a living sense of the faith, or even no longer consider themselves members of the Church, and live a life far removed from Christ and his Gospel. In this case what is needed is a ‘new evangelization’ or a ‘re-evangelization.’”

The new evangelization pertains to a very specific group of people: fallen-away Christians. For most Catholics in the Western world, we see the need for this type of evangelization all around us. Everyone knows someone who was once baptized but who no longer practices the faith. Blessed John Paul II wanted the faithful to clearly recognize this problem and then try to solve it.

Pope Emeritus (the present title of Pope Benedict XVI) has continued the mission of the new evangelization in his pontificate. In 2010, Pope Emeritus established The Pontifical Council for the New Evangelization. In 2012, there was Bishops’ Synod to discuss the New Evangelization.

We should be hearing much more about this topic in the years to come. Below are some key quotes on the New Evangelization by Blessed John Paul II and Pope Emeritus.

“I sense that the moment has come to commit all of the Church’s energies to a new evangelization and to the mission ad gentes. No believer in Christ, no institution of the Church can avoid this supreme duty: to proclaim Christ to all peoples”(Bl. John Paul II, *Redemptoris Missio*, no. 3).

“Our own time, then, must be increasingly marked by new hearing of God’s Word and a new evangelization. Recovering the centrality of the Divine Word in the Christian life leads us to appreciate anew the deepest meaning of the forceful appeal of Pope John Paul II: to pursue the mission ad gentes and vigorously to embark upon the new evangelization, especially in those nations where the Gospel has been forgotten or meets with indifference as a result of widespread secularism” (Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini* no. 122).



## Thank You, SYA!

By: Dav Dionisio

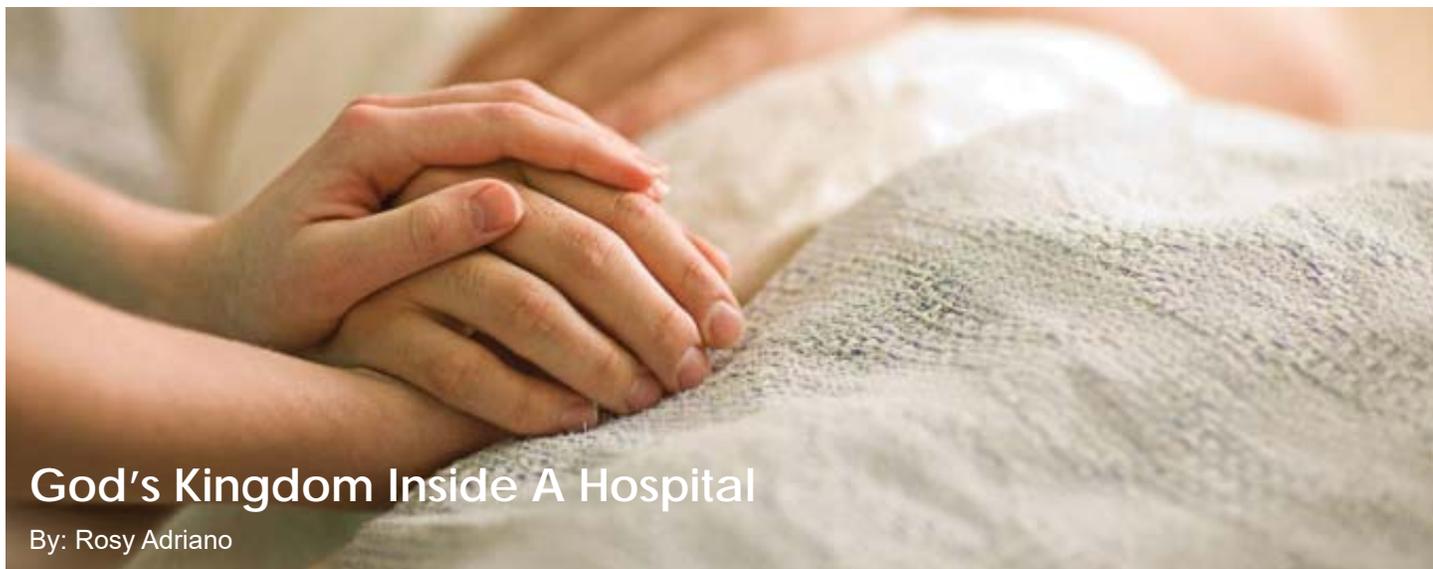
I'm grateful to have joined the Single Young Adults group of Santuario de San Antonio. In the few months that I've been part of the group, SYA has helped me get a little closer to God, and has helped me face some challenges of being a young adult. The group has been very warm and welcoming to persons such as myself who are not regular parishioners. It's helped me find like-minded people who want to grow in faith in the Lord. It's helped me as well to find a new set of God-fearing friends who are serious about their spirituality. I've been very happy to connect with other single young adults and connect with God at a deeper level through the group.

I actually joined the retreat because my sister invited me to attend as she had just joined a couple of months prior. It was not part of my objective to have

what people in the group refer to as a "faith family," but I am very happy to be part of one, now that I'm part of the SYA community.

So far, I've been able to lead a prayer meeting and share my story with other SYA members, telling very personal stories I don't usually share with others (an amazing effect SYA has on people). I've attended the out of town recollection; I attended a Friday Pay Day prayer session, and I attended and played the guitar in the June birthday Mass.

I look forward to the meetings that, time permitting, I'll be able to attend. I look forward to encountering the Lord more deeply through the SYA activities. Thank you Santuario de San Antonio, for having such a great program in your Parish and for welcoming us SYA-ers who are not regular parishioners. Thank you, SYA!



## God's Kingdom Inside A Hospital

By: Rosy Adriano



It is not an easy task to create a warm, fuzzy, loving atmosphere when one volunteers for the hospital ministry. Due to the patient's physical capability, our activity should be as relaxing as possible. It should not add any more stress to their current state. We also have to consider that the hospital has very limited space. We make sure we do our activity where we will minimize interrupting any normal operations there. The most challenging part though, is to make the patient (and their guardians) feel loved when they feel very hopeless at that time.

As a child of God, it is my responsibility to make sure that everyone feels welcome in His Kingdom. That everyone feels love, because loving others is the best way to show your love for God.

*"For I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed Me, I was naked and you clothed Me, **I was sick and you visited Me**, I was in prison and you came to Me."* (Matthew 25:35-36)

So no matter how challenging it is, I still grab every chance I can to volunteer for the hospital ministry. My fondest memory yet was when we visited to give out rosaries to the patient and their guardians. The smiles on their faces were priceless, as some shared that they felt that with their new rosaries they can pray more and get closer to God again. During this time as well, we were fortunate enough to have a volunteer with us, a professional singer who serenaded the crowd. A lot of guardians came up to us, saying that having a "mini concert" really made them feel happy, a feeling they haven't had in a while. This showed me that somehow, by just visiting the sick and doing simple deeds, one can already make them feel welcome in God's Kingdom inside the four walls of a hospital.

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# STUDY NOW, EARN LATER!

By: Mariza Del Rosario

THEN



Picnic



Christmas Party

UNTIL NOW



Picnic



Christmas Party



Scholarship Committee

Who among us do not wish to belong? To find our niche and place in society? It is quite natural for human beings to want to have the best: to have the “right” faith, the “right” name and the “right” social status. To go to the best schools, live in prime locations and to look our best. In life, there is the natural instinct to want to be and have the best that life can afford!

But sometimes, life’s circumstances are not perfect or kind enough. There is the day-to-day struggle to survive, to place three meals a day on the table, have roof and shelter, access to education and health facilities,

the dignity to live a good life. It is just too difficult sometimes, and many feel hopeless and dejected, defeated and challenged to live... let alone live life to the fullest.

For the last twenty years the SSAP SCHOLARSHIP MINISTRY has endeavored to reach out and provide this needed helping hand for our scholars to have hope and arrive at the light at the end of the tunnel, where respect, affirmation, acceptance, encouragement can shine through, to a life of dignity. Given this SSAP support and their hard work, discipline and perseverance, they have the chance to improve their status. It is this opportunity to think and feel -- that here... I am accepted as I am... I am inspired to lift myself up to the next level. No limits to excellence, no borders as to the dreams I can achieve, and I am able to challenge all obstacles. We place God at the center of our lives, with Jesus as our Model.

In 1996, SSAP started with twelve scholars, all males. This coming school year, the SCHOLarship Ministry has accepted fifty scholars - approximately half are females. We have a rich mix of backgrounds -- children of fishermen, fruit tree-pickers, laundry women, market vendors, pedicab drivers, office workers who have gotten sick, single parent households due to death, abandonment, or work abroad, even orphans raised by their grandparents.

There is a mix of Vocational-Technical students, college scholars in their 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year, all unable to finish were it not for this opportunity. Some have just above borderline grades; the other have better averages. We do not judge --- just offer an understanding and appreciation of their motivation to want a better life for themselves and their families. God is indeed great and good as He guides us year after year!

# REACHING OUT

By: Barbie Lu-Young



Outreach is defined as reaching out to others, or becoming involved in a community or effort. When an organization reaches out to members of a community to help them find food, shelter, and medicine, this is an example of outreach. This is precisely what members of the Health Care Ministry engage in - every Friday, from 9 am to 12 noon -- reaching out to patients confined in the Rizal Medical Center.



Aside from buying and providing medicine for the very poor, members also devote some time to pastoral care, spiritual support and advice. For example, when a baby is in danger of death, advice is given to the parents to have their baby baptized as soon as possible. Instruction on the natural family planning method or "Billings Method," complete with handouts, is being conducted to willing listeners. Proper hygienic practices are also taught, like how to correctly bathe a baby. The weekly visits to the hospital have become not only routine to members of the Health Care Ministry but also very fulfilling, so much so that the week seems incomplete without these visits.



As our Parish celebrates the Feast of St. Anthony of Padua this month of June, the Church wants us to reach out and get out of our comfort zones; to learn from St. Anthony what it means to become like Jesus, Who reached out and served others without hesitation.



## MANY ARE CALLED; ALL ARE WELCOME!

By: Luis Rivilla



At first glance it would be hard to imagine Secular Franciscans being in Forbes Park. Or so I thought.

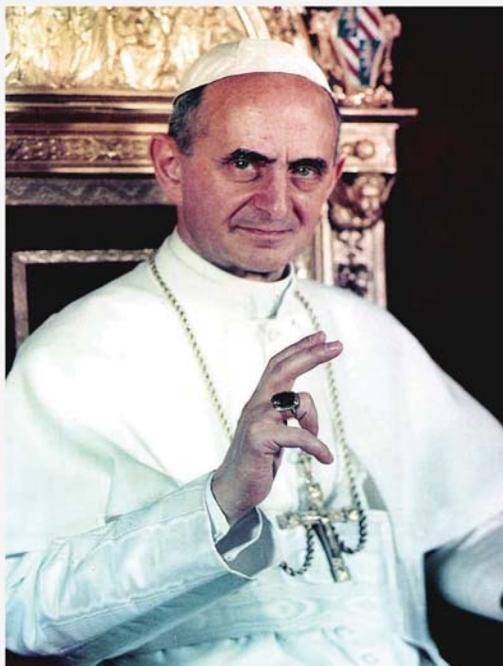
A few years ago, upon my return from the United States, I missed having the support of my deacon community and support group. So I set out looking for a community that I could journey with during my stay here. Fr Efren Jimenez pointed me to the Secular Franciscans or OFS. In truth I had my doubts as to whether they were a functional group and if they would fulfill my needs. Meeting the people that were to be my fellow sojourners for the next 3 years changed my impressions.

Of the seven that composed our group, I was the only one from the Parish. The others came from Taguig, Paranaque and Manila. We were a diverse group: retirees to managers and others starting out. When asked to share why we were there, a few said they were asked to come and join. As for the remainder including myself, we were there in response to an inner search or a call, if you will.

For the next three years this diverse group journeyed together eventually emerging as the OFS professed class of 2017. We lost a few along the way not because they did not want to continue, but rather because circumstances did not allow it. We continue to be in touch with each other. Looking back I am reminded that we are no different than the current membership of SSAP. We, as a group represent a cross section of the community.

The Santuario de San Antonio is no longer the church I left in the 1980s. It has grown to be a Parish that serves a much larger and diverse community, welcoming all who come. To be Catholic is to be inclusive and universal. We are called to celebrate unity within the diversity that makes up the Church. We, as OFS, continue to do so as we welcome a young member to candidacy on the Feast Day of Saint Anthony.

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