



CATHOLIC WORLD CELEBRATES EASTER

Pope delivers Easter message of hope after grim week of terror



Pope Francis preached an Easter message of hope after a grim week in Europe, calling on Christians not to let fear and pessimism "imprison" them.

Speaking amid tight security at the Vatican, the Pope said: "Let us not allow darkness and fear to distract us and control our hearts."

His message followed a condemnation on Friday of the Brussels terror attacks.

Islamist violence is expected to be a prominent theme of his traditional "Urbi et Orbi" Easter message.

Many pilgrims cancelled their planned trips to Rome in the wake of the violence in Brussels, but St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican was packed when Pope Francis celebrated mass on Saturday evening.

The Pontiff entered a darkened basilica with just a single candle guiding him. As he reached the altar, the basilica's floodlights came on to symbolise the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Delivering his homily, Francis said: "Today is the celebration of our hope. It is so necessary today."

A vigil service included a papal baptism for 12 adults hailing from China, South Korea and other countries around the world.

On Sunday morning, Francis presided over Easter Mass and offered his annual Easter blessing.

On Friday, he denounced the "terrorist acts committed by followers of some religions which profane the name of God and which use the holy name to justify their unprecedented violence".

Meanwhile, Vatican officials distributed sleeping bags to 100 homeless people.

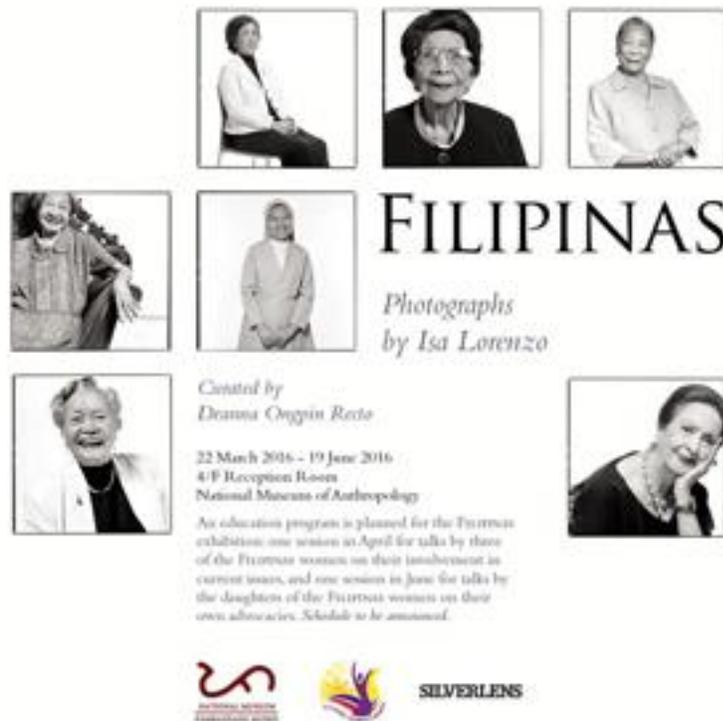
The police presence in the streets around the Vatican has been stepped up this year, as more pilgrims than usual are expected after Francis declared a jubilee year for the Catholic Church, calling it a "Holy Year of Mercy."

SPC SISTER IN NATIONAL MUSEUM EXHIBIT

The National Museum polishes off Women's Month with a special exhibition.

"Filipinas," a project conceived and realized more than 10 years ago by artist-photographer Isa Lorenzo and curator Deanna Ongpin Recto, has been revived to acquaint the younger generations with outstanding women that are featured in these exceptional black and white photographs. They are achievers in their fields whose contributions must be remembered and honored even beyond Women's Month. As exemplary role models, their well-lived lives are made visible in the selections made by Ms. Ongpin Recto and the photography of Ms. Lorenzo.

"Filipinas" exhibition at the National Museum was made possible by the NM Gender and Development Committee and the Silverlens Gallery.



The poster for the "FILIPINAS" exhibition features a grid of black and white portraits of women. The title "FILIPINAS" is prominently displayed in a serif font, with "Photographs by Isa Lorenzo" written below it. The curator's name, "Curated by Deanna Ongpin Recto", is also included. The exhibition dates are listed as "22 March 2016 - 19 June 2016" at the "4/F Reception Room, National Museum of Anthropology". A paragraph at the bottom describes an education program planned for the exhibition, including sessions in April for talks by three of the featured women and a session in June for talks by their daughters. Logos for the National Museum of Anthropology and Silverlens are at the bottom.

FILIPINAS
*Photographs
by Isa Lorenzo*

*Curated by
Deanna Ongpin Recto*

22 March 2016 - 19 June 2016
4/F Reception Room
National Museum of Anthropology

An education program is planned for the Filipinas exhibition: one session in April for talks by three of the Filipinas women on their involvement in current issues, and one session in June for talks by the daughters of the Filipinas women on their own advocacies. Schedule to be announced.

  **SILVERLENS**

One of the featured Filipinas in the exhibit is a St. Paul Sister—Sr. Eva Maamo, SPC.

Sr. Eva is a Ramon Magsaysay Awardee. Following is an account of her life and achievements, which merited her the award.



Like many boons of Asia's growing prosperity, decent health care is very unevenly distributed. Excellence for the few, yes. But for most, the region's ill-equipped, understaffed public clinics and hospitals must somehow suffice. For the poorest, there is often nothing at all. Such a state of affairs, says SISTER EVA FIDELA MAAMO of the Philippines, belies the inherent right of the poor to be healthy. This is why SISTER EVA, a surgeon, works for the poor.

Born in 1940 in the small island town of Liloan, Southern Leyte, Eva MAAMO matriculated at the Velez College of Medicine in Cebu and, for a year or two, practiced at her family's clinic in Liloan. But she soon moved on to Manila where she honored a childhood vow to enter the Sisters of St. Paul of Chartres.

As SISTER EVA, she volunteered in 1974 to help establish a medical mission on the shores of Lake Sebu in Mindanao. There she built a crude bamboo infirmary and treated T'bolis, Manobos, and other hill folk from the surrounding mountains. Far from ready supplies and with only the simplest instruments to work with, SISTER EVA performed miracles of improvisation—operating by flashlight and substituting coconut water for dextrose. To expand health services beyond her tiny clinic, she trained local men and women to serve as "barefoot doctors" in isolated villages scattered across the hills.

Returning to Manila in 1980, SISTER EVA honed her skills at Philippine General Hospital and, at her Order's direction, set out to revitalize a small neighborhood clinic. In Singalong she witnessed firsthand the squalid life of Manila's teeming poor. Working through Our Lady of Peace Mission, which she founded in 1986, she was soon extending a helping hand to needy communities throughout the city.

Today, SISTER EVA maintains no-fee health clinics in ten Manila squatter areas and provides nutritious meals daily to malnourished children in six of them. In the same communities, there are livelihood and micro-credit programs to lift indigent adults from mendicancy to work. In her Mission's shelters, street children and abused women find safe haven; through its scholarship program, hundreds of poor youths can afford to attend school. SISTER EVA is now devoted to completing her latest project, a charity hospital for the poor of Manila.

But SISTER EVA has spread her healing wings far beyond Manila. Following a calamitous earthquake and floods in the early 1990s, she led medical teams to the devastated regions. When Mount Pinatubo erupted in 1991, she developed a comprehensive resettlement project to help hundreds of displaced Aetas start a new life.

Four times every year, moreover, SISTER EVA leads weeklong medical missions to far-flung sites across the country. To date, over forty thousand indigent patients have been treated by her volunteer doctors, nurses, and dentists. In similar missions, she and other Filipino surgeons have removed tumors, repaired cleft palates, extracted cataracts, and cured myriad other ills in thousands of free operations, usually working from dawn till dusk in makeshift operating rooms.

Diminutive SISTER EVA is a dynamo of quiet determination who leads by example. Late into an exhausting day of surgery, her volunteer doctors drive themselves to continue, they say, "because SISTER EVA is continuing." She herself is inspired by Jesus' teaching to care for "the least of My brethren." This SISTER EVA does tirelessly, with no thought for herself. Addressing the needs of the poor, she says, is her country's "most crying need." Besides, she adds, "Working with the poor is a joy.

In electing SISTER EVA FIDELA MAAMO to receive the 1997 Ramon Magsaysay Award for Community Leadership, the board of trustees recognizes her compelling example in bringing humane assistance and the healing arts to the poorest Filipinos.

Paulinians bag awards in MMAC

Contributed by Renz Arnie S. Rogayan

The Paulinian

In the recently concluded Metro Manila Athletic Conference (MMAC) Season 3, St. Paul University Manila representatives took home three gold medals, one silver, one bronze in various sports events and an overall championship in the Table Tennis event.

Gold medalists are: Carl De Ocampo (Men's Badminton), David Cedrick Incel Castro (Men's Table Tennis), and Angela Ross Chavez and Samantha Dinglasan (Women's Table Tennis).

The SPU Manila Chess Team, composed of Jon Rino Obra, Amansinaya Añonuevo, Christian Geo Molina, Rafael Muñoz, and Annlinh Alcid, earned the first runner-up title

The Men's Volleyball Team bagged the second runner-up title. The team was composed of Francis George Calilan, Martin Klein Calderon, Alexander Delima, Vivencio Mahinay II, Jerome Chester Sarinas, Edgardo Sebus Jr., and Dominique Cordero.

In the Table Tennis event, SPU Manila emerged as the overall champion.

The MMAC Season 3 had six competing schools—SPU Manila, SPU Quezon City, World Citi Colleges, St. Joseph's College Quezon City, Asian College, and Sienna College.

CONDOLENCES

The Paulinian Family condoles with

Jocelyn Mayor (HS 1964) on the death of her brother
the family of Pilar Encarnacion-Punzalan (BSC 1968).

