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SPECIAL REPORT...

Christian Formation celebrates the Sanctity of Life

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Inspired by the 50th Anniversary of *Humanae Vitae*, an encyclical written by Pope Paul VI in 1968 to reaffirm the orthodox teachings of the Catholic Church about married love, responsible parenthood, and the rejection of artificial contraception, the Christian Formation Days were celebrated on October 15-17, 2018.

Day 1. The first day was highlighted by the recitation of the Holy Rosary, which was immediately followed by the Opening Mass held in the Chapel of the Crucified Christ. Fr. Ranny Geraldino, focused his homily on five Mystical Stages of Christian Knowledge, namely Informative, Innovative, Formative, Transformative, and Mystical, which pertain to development of mind through the Catholic Social Teachings, catechesis and others; development of heart and hands for tangible, output-based actions; and building of personal encounter or relationship with Christ. He also gave honor to St. Teresa of Avila, one of the great mystics and religious women of the Roman Catholic Church, whose Feast Day



Fr. Ranny Geraldino celebrating the Mass



coincided with the Opening Mass. Sr. Jesusa Taccad, SPC, VP for Christian Formation, formally opened the celebration right after the Mass.

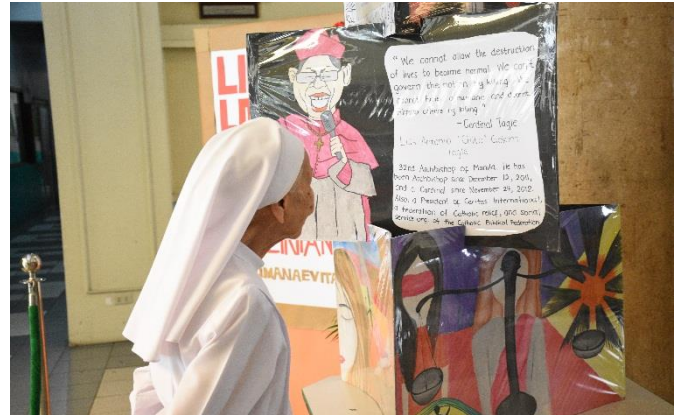
Other activities which were respectively held on the same day included the on-the-spot poster-making contest that was participated in by 10 Senior High School students, opening of the *Humanae Vitae* exhibit, and the Senior High School outreach.

Winners and Participants of the Poster Making Contest with Sr. Jesusa Taccad and Dr. Guiuan.

In the poster-making contest, Ms. Estefanie Grace Leongson, Grade 12-STEM 3 got the 3rd place; Mr. Josh Stanley Mateo, Grade 12-AADT 2 bagged the 2nd place while Ms. Kristia Kae Dato-on, Grade 12-STEM 2 brought home the 1st place. During the opening of the exhibit, markers for the Levesville and Founder's Hall were also unveiled and blessed. Meanwhile, the SHS class presidents led their outreach for 120 mothers and children from the Philippine General Hospital-Cancer Institute Outpatient Department through games, gift-giving and share-a-meal.

Day 2. The second day featured different events such as Viewing of the Exhibit, Blood-Letting Drive, Rummage Sale, Recitation of the Rosary, and Holy Mass.

The exhibit was given a whole day for viewing. The students under the Religious Education Program were encouraged to visit and reflect on the message which the exhibit tried to impart. Simultaneous with this was the blood-letting drive spearheaded by the Red Cross SPU Manila Chapter in coordination with the Advocacy on Pro Life and Christian Formation. A total of 35 bags were collected from employees and students.



Sr. Lucina Madlansacay at one of the spots in the *Humanae Vitae* exhibit

The Community Development Center, through its half-day Rummage Sale, was able to raise a total of Php12,655.00. Proceeds were divided between the CDC and the College of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences (as the major donor) to support their respective outreach projects. Selected mothers from the PGH Cancer Institute, on the other hand, were given free space to also sell their beadwork products and hand-painted canvas bags and pouches done by the cancer patients themselves.

The recitation of the Rosary and celebration of the Holy Mass sponsored by the Finance and Administrative Services and selected SHS students were also held, respectively.



A SHS student donates blood

Day 3. During the third day, there were continued viewing of the Exhibit, recitation of the Rosary, Holy Mass, and visit to the Jose Fabella Memorial Hospital.

The Closing Mass, which coincided with the Feast of the Our Lady of Chartres and was presided by Fr. Ruben Alejo, SSP, was held in the Fleur-de-lis Auditorium. In his homily, Fr. Ruben asked everyone if they are children of the law or children of the spirit. He mentioned that St. Paul was a child of law before his conversion, and for those who are not yet

converted, there are so many laws, rules and regulations that need to be followed depending on what applies to one's everyday life. But those who are children of the spirit are already infused with a heart of discernment, which can determine what is good and bad.

St. Paul University Manila also took the chance of renewing its commitment to support the "Huwag Kang Magnakaw" campaign of the Archdiocese of Manila.



The celebration was capped by a visitation to Jose Fabella Memorial Hospital, a mother and child facility that is funded by the government.

A team composed of SPC Sisters, lay administrators, staff and student-volunteers went to the said facility to conduct socialization-visit and distribute gifts to 80 new-born babies.

SHS Outreach with PGH Cancer Institute

Acknowledgment goes to the following for their support of this three-day event:

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Rummage Sale



Visit & Gift-giving to Jose Fabella Memorial Hospital



Closing Mass presided by Fr. Ruben Alejo, SSP