



SPU Manila INTER-OFFICE BULLETIN

Vol. XII No. 28

7 January 2019

... AND HAPPY THREE KINGS!

THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

The Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated on January 6. This feast commemorates the visit of the wise men to worship the baby Jesus. Tradition tells us that their names were Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. The men were astrologers who were looking for the star that would lead them to the promised Messiah. This was prophesied in the Book of Micah. According to the Gospel narratives, the wise men brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh with them. These gifts were very meaningful. Gold was a precious and expensive gift, and showed how important Jesus was. Frankincense is a sweet perfume which was often burned in the temple to worship God. It was a sign that Jesus should be worshipped. Myrrh was used to keep things fresh, and it was used by the women to anoint Jesus' body when he died. By bringing it as a gift to Jesus, the wise men foretold his suffering and death. As this feast is a holy day of obligation, all Catholics should participate in Mass. *(From The Catholic Bishops...)*



The SPC Sisters in the St. Paul Manila Community celebrated the Feast of the Epiphany on 6 January 2019.



MORE REASONS FOR REJOICING...



**Birthday of Sr. Celine Phan
7 January 2019**

Good News from PAASCU



The letter from the Philippine Accrediting Association of Schools, Colleges, and Universities was a well-deserved Christmas gift for all the sectors of the University that worked so hard for the re-survey visit conducted by the PAASCU team.

PAULNIAN IS ELECTED VICE-MAYOR IN CALIFORNIA

Rowena Caluya-Turner, High School 1965 graduate of St. Paul Manila has recently been elected Vice-Mayor of Monte Sereno, California. She was sworn into office on 18 December 2018.

A write-up on the new government official follows:



Vice Mayor Turner immigrated from the Philippines in the 70s. She has lived in Monte Sereno since 1986.



She holds a BA Degree in Mathematics from San Francisco State University. She received her Master's Degree in Education and her California Teaching Credentials from San Jose State University.

She worked for several Silicon Valley companies including Intel Corporation, Sun Microsystems, Tandem Computers and Hewlett-Packard managing corporate marketing and creating worldwide certification programs. She left the computer industry and taught high school Computer Science and Math at a facility for incarcerated youths.

Vice Mayor Turner is married; they have one son who is an Engineering Director for a start-up company in San Francisco.

Vice Mayor Turner is excited about making an impact on the City Council. She strives to conduct business with uncompromising integrity and professionalism. She believes that it is absolutely crucial that the council listens and responds to its citizens and stakeholders. Maintaining respect and trust is critical to providing a community that is safe and comfortable for the residents of Monte Sereno.

AND THE SAGA CONTINUES...

As the readers may have noticed, from time to time, we feature children of alumnae who have made a name for themselves in their chosen careers.



In this issue, we feature Candice Gan-Gotianuy, (right) daughter of Elizabeth Gan, High School 1966 (left).

Candice made headlines recently because she did something entirely new in the field of education.



The news story speaks for itself.

University of Cebu exec grants hundreds of students' Christmas wishes

Ryan Macasero (philstar.com) - December 26, 2018 - 3:35pm

MANILA, Philippines (Updated 8:07 p.m.)

University of Cebu Chancellor Candice Gotianuy gave away hundreds of Christmas gifts that students asked for before they went off for the holiday break.

The chancellor opened up the call for wishes on her Facebook page on December 9. She called it #UCMakeAWish.

"I wanted to do something special for the UC community especially as it was Christmas," Gotianuy told *Philstar.com* in a text message. "A lot of our students are from the lower socio-economic segment and I knew it would mean something to them, the faculty and staff. It was also an enjoyable way of getting to know the needs and concerns of our community," Gotianuy added.

By December 11, she had received 1,500 wishes.

Gotianuy posted videos of some of the recipients on her Facebook page since she opened up the call for students' wishes.

"It was spontaneous," Gotianuy told *Philstar.com*. She said that she was hesitant at first because of the logistical and time constraints but knew she could put a team together. "So that's when I decided to do it," she said.

Wishes granted: Motorcycle, medical expenses

David Obcial, a Criminology student, received a motorcycle for his father, a habal-habal driver, who could no longer afford to rent a motorcycle to ply his routes.

Melvin Monton, whose wish was chosen by Gotianuy, wished that his dad could come from home from Singapore.

"Since Grade 2, he hasn't been here for Christmas. So, I took the opportunity to wish that he could come home and visit my grandmother who is sick and already weak," Monton said in the video.

UC, which was founded by Gotianuy's father Augusto Go, is known for giving away cars and cash prizes to Architecture, Law, Education, and Engineering exam top-notchers.

One student got free dialysis treatment for a parent, and another was provided myoma surgery for her mother.

"Ms. Candice this (free dialysis for Papa Roland) might cost much compared to the other wishes posted here on your 'wish-wall' but this would mean a lifetime worth of gratitude, happiness and show of perpetual love to this one man who bravely fought for us, our dreams to finish school and

survive every day," student Reylin Mae Quiñahan said in her Facebook post after receiving word her wish for dialysis treatment was granted.

The University of Cebu Medical Center opened in Mandaue City in 2015.

The university also fed 200 street children as part of the UC Make-A-Wish program.

"We were also able to send students back to their families in the provinces so they wouldn't be alone during the holidays," Gotianuy said. Other requests were simple, but meaningful, the school chancellor added: "We had a lot of requests for medical assistance, which we fulfilled. One that stood out for me was a girl who asked—very politely—or a backpack because the zipper was broken and chicken joy for *noche buena*. That really got me."

The Cebu-native Harvard graduate said that she was the one who was "humbled" by the gift giving program, and in the end, she learned that "the things we take for granted are what some people valued the most."

She said, "it was the best feeling on Christmas morning when I woke up and realized how many families were so happy because we gave them a *noche buena*."

The chancellor had a team of five sort through the 1,500 wishes, which were all completed before the Christmas holiday.

The University of Cebu is the biggest school system in Metro Cebu, with 56,000 students across four campuses.

ALUMNAE GATHERING



High School 1969 (Golden Jubilarians) Dance Practice for Alumnae Homecoming

With Lydia Asuncion Martinez,
Ester Javier-Resurreccion, Beibi Bautista,
Rachel Martinez, Emily Pimentel, Tessie Mallari,
Maripaz Calero, Chonnette de Leon,
and Teresa Ignacio-Gonzalvo.

CONDOLENCES

The Paulinian Family condoles with Alice Cuartero on the death of her mother.

Alice with classmates,
Beibi Bautista
and Techie Gonzalvo.

