

CHRISTENDOM OBSERVES START OF ADVENT SEASON

Catholics worldwide observed the beginning of the Advent Season yesterday, 29 November 2020.

In the Catholic Church, the Advent season is a period of preparation extending over the four Sundays before Christmas. The word *Advent* comes from the Latin *advenio*, "to come to," and refers to the coming of Christ. And the term *the coming* includes three references: first of all, to our celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas; second, to the coming of Christ in our lives through grace and the Sacrament of Holy Communion; and finally, to his second coming at the end of time.

Our preparations, therefore, should have all three comings in mind. We need to prepare our souls to receive Christ worthily. (*from Learn Religions*)



NATION HONORS ANDRES BONIFACIO



Today, 30 November 2020, is a holiday as the Filipino nation commemorates the birthday of one of its greatest heroes, Andres Bonifacio.

Born on 30 November 1863, Bonifacio is considered as the Father of the Philippine Revolution against Spanish colonization. He, along with some others, started a movement known as the 'Katipunan' in 1892. The Katipunan was a secret revolutionary society that instigated military revolts against the Spanish colonizers.

Bonifacio became the Katipunan's military leader and the president of the revolutionary government, which (according to some historians) makes Bonifacio the first president of the Philippine Republic. Bonifacio and the Katipunan recruited many citizens to their cause, eventually becoming the most prominent revolutionary force the Spaniards had to face.

However, Bonifacio's leadership was contested by some others, and in particular, Emilio Aguinaldo. After a series of leadership challenges and internal rifts, Aguinaldo violently took over the revolutionary forces and unjustly ordered Bonifacio to be tried and executed under the guise of treason.

Bonifacio Day is held every 30 November, or the Monday nearest this day to create a long weekend. Unlike the main national hero, José Rizal, Bonifacio Day is celebrated on his day of birth, rather than his day of death. This is because Bonifacio was killed by his fellow countrymen, rather than at the hands of foreign colonizers. (*from Public Holidays Global*)

SPU Manila Grads Pass 2020 Physician Licensure Exams

by Logan Zapanta
The Paulinian

Six Paulinian alumni passed the recently concluded November 2020 Physician Licensure Examinations (PLE). Trixie Bacalla, Glaisa Claveria, Jeremy Guieb, Bernadette Julian, Bea Ligeralde, and Pauline Villanueva are the new physicians who are SPU Manila alumni.

The Nursing Program makes up for most of the Paulinian passers, with Bacalla, Julian, Ligeralde, and Villanueva all receiving this degree from SPU Manila. Claveria obtained her Master's in Nursing and Guieb his BS Psychology from the University. These Paulinians join the overall passers totaled at 3, 538 out of 4,704 who took the exams.

Although restrained by the present health crisis, the Philippine Regulatory Commission (PRC) insisted on pushing through with the examinations as they "recognize the urgent need for physicians during these times of public health emergency." The November 2020 PLE is the second physicians' board exam. The first one was conducted in September 2020.

Guieb shares COVID, PLE experience

Jeremy Tomas Guieb, a 2013 Psychology graduate of SPU Manila, discussed the difficulties he encountered while preparing for and taking the licensure exams. Aside from the strenuous review periods and bouts with burnout, the new Paulinian physician also experienced difficulties when he had to take care of his father, who tested positive for COVID-19.

"The greatest one (challenge) I think would be when my father tested positive for COVID as he is already immunocompromised since he is a post-stroke patient. This happened on the 2nd to the last week of July. Our board exam was (originally) scheduled in September. It was very difficult to study at this time as I could not focus on all my readings while managing my father at home," Guieb shared. "I overcame all of these obstacles with the help of my family, my partner, and my friends. They all kept me sane during the hard times. Also, a day or two days of break helped me a lot," he added.

Guieb also encouraged Paulinians, who are aspiring doctors, to always persevere amidst challenges. "To my fellow Paulinians who want to be doctors someday, just always persevere and dream for it... No matter how hard it is, you'll make it. And dream now, dream big! Because dreams do come true! Good luck to future Paulinian doctors!" he said.

CONDOLENCES

The Paulinian Family condoles with the families of

Lilian Laurel-Reyes, BSC 1969
and Lisa Soberano (AB-CA) who passed away recently.

