



## IN THESE PANDEMIC TIMES...

### SPU MANILA HOLDS ADVENT RECOLLECTION



In preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord, SPU Manila is holding an Advent Recollection today, 6 December 2021.

The recollection will be facilitated by Msgr. Pedro Gerardo Santos, parish priest of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Makati, and a much sought-after speaker and facilitator.

Although the recollection is primarily for the SPU Manila employees, Sr. Evangeline has extended the invitation to the alumni.

It will be held via zoom, as well as through fb live streaming.

In her welcome remarks, Sr. Evangeline will say:

“As the deer longs for running streams, so my soul longs for you, O God”. Psalm 42 is a most fitting psalm for advent as we wait for the coming of Jesus this advent season.

Nineteen days more and it will be Christmas! How do we prepare for Christmas and for the second coming of Jesus? Is it by preparing gifts for our family members and friends? Is it by putting up and decorating our Christmas trees? Is it by hanging up the brightest and most beautiful Christmas lanterns? These are all good because they signify joy and anticipation, but there is no better way to prepare for Christmas and for Jesus’ second coming other than preparing our hearts and our souls. This is the reason why we have gathered here today for this advent recollection.

We cannot deny that many things have happened to us this past year. We were hoping that 2021 would be a better year, but perhaps many would say that it was not. Some of us may have lost our loved ones; some may have gone through economic crisis; some may have been physically affected by this health crisis. Some of us may still have questions and doubts or may be going through fear and anxiety. Whatever it was that you went through and whatever it is that you are still going through, let this advent recollection be an opportunity to come face to face with God, to open our hearts to Him, and to LISTEN to what He has to say. Let this recollection be an ENCOUNTER ... a chance to let God reveal Himself to us and for us to reveal our depths to Him. Let this be an opportune time to COMMUNE with Him.

We are very fortunate to have with us today, Msgr. Gerry Santos to facilitate this ENCOUNTER with the Lord. We would like to thank him for accepting our invitation for him to be our recollection master. Let us, therefore, listen to him attentively and allow him to guide us so that we may docile enough to open ourselves to the Spirit and say, “As the deer longs for running streams, so my soul longs for you, O God” (Psalm 42).

Welcome, Msgr. Gerry! Welcome, my dear Sisters, faculty, and staff of St. Paul University Manila! Welcome to the Friends of St. Paul! And welcome to the alumni who accepted our invitation to

join us today. Thank you and good morning. May we all have a prayerful encounter with Jesus and Mary!

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The program and the assignments for the recollection follow:

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|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Opening Prayer                  | Sr. Donnalyn Marie Morta   |
| 2. Welcome Remarks                 | Sr. Ma.Evangeline Anastacio  |
| 3. Introduction of the Facilitator | Rosalie Dizon  |
| 4. Talk                            | Msgr. Gerry Santos   |
| 5. Break-Out Groups                |  |
| 6. Plenary Session                 |  |
| 7. Mass                            |  |
| * Commentary                       | Angelyn Alcantara  |
| * First Reading                    | Roel Supiendo  |
| * Responsorial Psalm               | Mary Bernadette Morado   |
| * Prayer of the Faithful           | Maryday Tolentino  |
| * Altar Service                    | Maynard John Cornejo   |
| 8. Preparation of Certificate      | Jeannie Gutierrez and Maryday Tolentino                                  |
| 9. Presentation of Certificate     | Sr. Evangeline Anastacio and Sr. Nicole Dabalus                          |
| 10. Emceeing and Time-Keeping      | Ivy Coronel  |
| 11. Food                           | Abigail Valenzuela, Estelita Bustos, and Canteen Staff                   |
| 12. Zoom Facilitation              | Maryday Tolentino, Elvie Manalansan, Judith Alderete                     |
| 13. Documentation/Zoom/Sounds      | Mervin Cequeña, Mary Bernadette Morado, Aneen Andrada, Esperanz Amarante |
| 11. Multimedia and Technology      | Peter Paul Ocampo and ICT Staff  |
| 12. Evaluation                     | Joanne Salve Popanes, Marjiemae Lorenzo                                  |
| 13. E-Poster                       | Sr. Donnalyn Marie Morta   |
| 14. Liturgy/Accompaniment          | Sr. Nicole de Marie Dabalus, SPC   |
| 15. Overall Supervision            | Presidential Council and SPC Sisters                                     |

## SPCEM AND SPUP TO HOLD MARIAN FESTIVAL

The SPC Education Ministry and St. Paul University Philippines invite everyone to the MARIAN FESTIVAL 2021 in celebration of the Immaculate Conception of Mary!



We pray that through Mary, God may bring peace and healing to our family, country and the world.