

IN THESE PANDEMIC TIMES...

IT IS STILL TIME TO REMEMBER OUR NATIONAL HEROES

National Heroes' Day, a regular national holiday, is celebrated on the last Monday in August. It is known in the Philippines as "Araw ng mga Bayani."

It is a day to honor the bravery of all Filipino heroes who struggled for the nation's freedom, including those who vanished into anonymity.

Who are the National Heroes?

In 1995, a year before the centenary of the revolution against Spain, a committee produced the following list of key National Heroes who should be honored for their contribution to the Philippines: Jose Rizal, Andres Bonifacio, Emilio Aguinaldo, Apolinario Mabini, Marcelo H. del Pilar, Sultan Dipatuan Kudarat, Juan Luna, Melchora Aquino, and Gabriela Silang,

Two of these heroes, Andres Bonifacio and Jose Rizal, were key figures in the fight for independence from Spain that they also have specific national holidays in their honor.

The date chosen is intended to mark the "Cry of Pugad Lawin" in August 1896, which was the first act of insurrection against the Spanish colonizers by the Katipunan, a hitherto secret Filipino revolutionary movement. This is seen as the start of the Philippine revolution and movement towards independence. 1996 was declared as the Year of Filipino Heroes to mark the centennial of the revolution against Spain.

National Heroes' Day has been celebrated since 1931, when Act No. 3827 stated it should be observed on the last Sunday of August. In 2007, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo signed Republic Act No. 9492, moving the national holiday to the last Monday of August. The Arroyo administration said that moving the holiday to Monday was in line with the "holiday economics" program and promoted long weekends for citizens to engage with domestic tourism.

The day is marked by parades and the laying of wreaths to honor those who lost their lives in the pursuit of the Philippine nation.

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It might be of interest to present and future Paulinians that we have two alumnae who are direct descendants of national heroes: Ameurfina Melencio-Herrera, of Emilio Aguinaldo, and Benita Marasigan-Santos, of Marcelo H. del Pilar.



Supreme Court Justice Ameurfina Melencio-Herrera and Atty. Benita Marasigan-Santos were Centennial Caritas Christi Awardees of St. Paul University Manila. They were truly worthy descendants of their National Hero forebears.

AND STILL ABOUT COMMUNITY PANTRIES!

LUNCH ON WHEELS...

St. Paul University Manila went on a modified mobile community pantry on 26 August 2021, distributing 230 packed lunches to street dwellers in front of the Malate Church.



...AND A NOT SO USUAL BIRTHDAY PARTY

When Atty. Cesar Arambulo, a former professor in the Commerce Department of St. Paul Manila, turned 86 on 28 August 2021, he opted for a different kind of party: sharing with 125 families through his wife's "Community Pantry ni San Jose" in the Floodway, Cainta.



Cesar's wife is Carmencita Guanzon-Arambulo, BM 1958.

TWIN HONORS FOR CMPA

The Paulinian community sends its warmest congratulations to our very own, Dr. Raul M. Sunico, Dean of the College of Music and the Performing Arts, and Professor Carmencita Guanzon-Arambulo, SPU Manila Alumna (Bachelor of Music in Piano 1958, *Magna Cum Laude*), for having been given the first SUDI Awards by the National Commission for Culture and Arts (NCCA). The virtual awarding ceremony was held on 28 August 2021.

The SUDI is a national award that recognizes outstanding contributions in Filipino music with the highest standard and artistic excellence.



AND FINALLY FRIDAY!



27 August 2021

Bukas na ulit ang karambola sa FINALLY FRIDAY. Bida-bidahan sa araw na ito si G.Roel Supendio, kasama muli ang mga usyuserong sina Doc Aimee at Doc B ng tambalang Side A at Side B ng St. Paul University Manila. Biyernes nanaman!! Huwag mag-alinlangan. Makibida at maki-usyoso sa usapan at kwentuhan. Sugod mga kapitbahay!! Abangan ang livestream link.