



SPU MANILA NEWSLETTER

Vol. XIX No. 1

First Quarter 2026

PART TWO: ALUMNI NEWS

ALL PAULINIAN PARTY: ST. PAUL MANILA HOMECOMING 2026

All roads led to 680 Pedro Gil, Malate, Manila on 25 January 2026 as Paulinians for many generations came from near and far to attend the 2026 Alumni Homecoming, dubbed All Paulinian Party.

In keeping with tradition, the homecoming started with a Mass in the Chapel of the Crucified Christ at 3:00 PM. This year, the Eucharistic Celebration was presided over by Fr. Augusto Pulido. After the Mass, the batches had their picture taking in front of the chapel:



High School 1956: Titanium Jubilarian



High School 1961: Platinum Jubilarian



High School 1966: Diamond Jubilarian



High School 1971: Emerald Jubilarian



BSN 1971: Emerald Jubilarians



High School 1976: Golden Jubilarians



BSN 1976: Golden Jubilarians



High School 1981: Sapphire Jubilarians



High School 1986: Ruby Jubilarians



High School 1973



College 1974



AB 1977



BSC 1979



High School 1982

Dinner and program in the quadrangle followed the photoshoot.



Sr, Evangeline welcoming the alumni
Pilar giving the President's report



Betty Ann talking
about her mother's bravery

Some numbers in the program,,,



HS 1966...



and HS 1976



BSN 1976



Emcees Tess Manimtim
and John Fernandez

Some batch attendees and guests...



High School 1954, 1962, 1963



High School 1962



High School 1965



SPC Sisters



AB 1982



AB-ICPR 1984



ALUMNI NEWS...

PAULINIAN HONORED FOR BOOK ON STEWARDSHIP



Milagros Garcia-Glodava, BSE 1969 was honored among the Top Five by the Philippine Book Development Board in Spirituality and Theology. The PBDB recognizes the importance of promoting Filipino-authored works in 30 categories across literary and non-literary divisions.

It was a pleasure to have had the chance to sign books at the Philippine Book Festival on Tuesday, March 12, 2026. *Joy to Give: Buhay-Katiwala at Ang Simbahan ng mga Dukha* explores the stewardship as a way of life ("buhay-katiwala") and the mission of the Church among the poor ("simbahan ng mga dukha"). It draws from lived experiences, theological insights, and the vibrant faith of Filipino communities. This how-to book guides parishes in adopting stewardship and encourages generosity, compassionate service, and greater commitment to social justice in response to the Gospel's call. (P.S. Mrs. Marionette O. Martinez served as one of two editors of the book.)



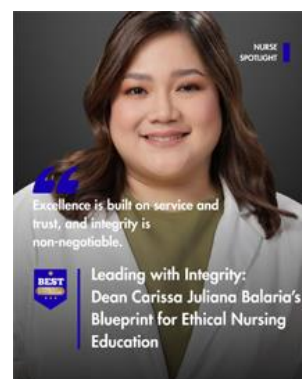
Leading with Integrity: Dean Carissa Juliana Balaria's Blueprint for Ethical Excellence in Nursing Education

NURSING ALUMNA GETS BEST HEALTH RANKING

Guam, United States — Amid increasing enrollment challenges in nursing programs and a nationwide shortage of educators, one Filipino nursing leader demonstrates that academic excellence and ethical leadership can coexist successfully.

In the rapidly evolving landscape of nursing education, Dr. Carissa Juliana Balaria, Dean of the College of Nursing at Wesleyan University–Philippines in Cabanatuan City, stands out as a leader who believes that excellence in healthcare education begins with integrity, transparency, and care for the people who teach.

With a Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing Education from St. Paul University Manila, earned as a CHED scholar, Dr. Balaria brings a rare combination of academic rigor and administrative experience.



A Registered Nurse since 2008 and Registered Teacher since 2014, she has spent more than 16 years shaping future nurses as a clinical instructor, while also serving in key leadership roles such as BSN Program Head, Director of Quality Assurance, and Head of the Presidential Communications Office.

Her philosophy of leadership is simple but powerful: care for educators so they can care for students—and ultimately, for patients.

“A dean’s greatest service is to provide the resources and respect that faculty need to thrive. When educators are supported, excellence naturally follows.”

...AND ANOTHER PAULINIAN NURSE GETS AN EXCELLENCE AWARD



Congratulations to Teresa Gonzalvo, MPA, BSN, RN, on receiving the Membership Excellence Award from the Philippine Nurses Association of Indiana!

This honor recognizes Teresa’s outstanding dedication, leadership, and commitment to advancing our nursing community. From mentoring future nurse leaders to representing Filipino nurses on the global ethics summit, Teresa embodies the spirit of world-class Filipino leadership. Her passion, advocacy, and service continue to inspire and elevate us all. PNAA proudly celebrates YOU, Teresa!

ALUMNA AT PHILIPPINE CONSULATE FOR WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

Elizabeth Ann Besa-Quirino, AB Mass Comm’77, a New Jersey-based award-winning journalist and author of the history memoir *Every Ounce of Courage*, was recently invited to be part of a powerhouse panel hosted by the Philippine Consulate General New York, led by Consul General Senen T. Mangalile, and the Ladies for Rizal NY Chapter in New York City, in celebration of International Women’s History Month last March. The panelists consisted of industry leaders who discussed how intellectual independence drives success for women, inspired by Jose Rizal’s historic letter to the women of Malolos in 1889.



Ms. Besa-Quirino discussed the focus of her memoir’s story, that of her late mother Lourdes “Lulu” Reyes Besa, an SPU alumna as well, and past recipient of the Fleur de Lis Award for her courage and humanitarian service during WW2, for saving lives of American and Filipino POWs. Ms. Besa-Quirino was also invited at other events during the first quarter of the year, to present her book, which focuses on Filipina heroism, a strong revival of Philippine nationalism and family values: as Guest Speaker at the SPU Alumni Homecoming in January 2026; as speaker at the Ateneo University History Department – Library of Women Writers: at a book launch of the Bacolod Negros Museum last February; at a courtesy call to newly-elected Tarlac City Mayor Susan Yap; and a book signing at the Ayala Museum’s Filipinas Heritage Library, where her memoir is included in the Roderick Hall Collection of WW2 books.

ALUMNA AT THE HELM OF CALAMBA MEDICAL CENTER



Warmest congratulations to Atty. Pilar Almira, (Paulinian alumna and SPU Manila BOT member), President of Calamba Medical Center, on her inspiring leadership and remarkable contributions to healthcare. Under her guidance, the Center continues to grow as a place of excellence, compassion, and service, bringing quality medical care closer to families and communities in Southern Luzon. Her work reflects a deep commitment to the common good and stands as an example of leadership that truly serves. We, in St. Paul University Manila, celebrate her achievements and pray that her vision and dedication may continue to bring healing, hope, and positive transformation to many more lives.

Pilar's message: In 2025, Calamba Medical Center grew stronger in its mission to provide compassionate, family- and patient-centered care. Throughout the year, we reached important milestones, improved our facilities, and enhanced patient care—living out Kalingang may Husay at Puso. We thank our patients, families, healthcare professionals, and partners for their trust and support. Looking ahead to 2026 and beyond, Calamba Medical Center remains committed to delivering high-quality healthcare and promoting the well-being of the communities we serve.

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

On 12 March 2026 St. Paul University Manila, in partnership with the St. Paul Manila Alumni Foundation Inc. (SPMAFI), held an Alumni Engagement Program titled: *Looking Back and Moving Forward: A Paulinian Filipino Strategy for Success*, featuring esteemed AB Psychology 1972 alumna, Ms. Cora Sia-Crisostomo



The meaningful session brought together members of the Paulinian community at Founder's Hall for an inspiring exchange of insights on leadership, purpose, and the values that continue to shape Paulinians in their personal and professional journeys. Through her reflections and experiences, Ms. Crisostomo reminded the community of the importance of staying rooted in Paulinian values while courageously moving forward toward success. Her message served as a powerful testament that the Paulinian spirit—grounded in faith, service, and excellence—continues to inspire generations of alumni to lead with purpose and make a difference in the world

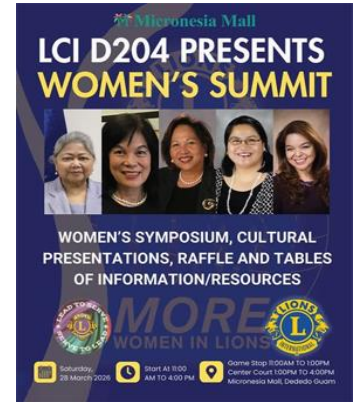
CHS AWARDS SPUM NURSING ALUMNA



Agnes Quimbo Villarruz, BSN '71 was recognized as Outstanding Alumni of the the College of the Holy Spirit, for her achievements on Governance and Public Service Leadership Development during the 2026 CHS Homecoming.

ALUMNA IN WOMEN'S DAY SUMMIT

Women's Day Outreach happened at Center Court on Saturday, March 28, 2026! The invite said: Join us for an inspiring afternoon with Lions Club International District 204 as we celebrate Women's History Month and the incredible impact of women in our community. Hear from empowering guest speakers, explore valuable resources, and connect through meaningful conversations that highlight the many roles women play in Guam. Saturday, March 28, 2026 Center Court 1:00 – 5:00 PM



One of the speakers at the Summit was Marie Virata-Halloran, BSN 1971 graduate of St. Paul Manila.

PAULINIAN DESIGNS FOR ASEAN 2026 DELEGATES



Noted designer Jeanne Margaret Lim-Goulbourn, HS 1964, AB 1968, founder of the Silk Cocoon line, had the honor of creating the Filipino attire for the delegates to the 2026 ASEAN Summit. Jeannie shares: "I feel very privileged that Silk Cocoon became part of another historical event—the 2026 ASEAN Summit. The Philippines hosted this significant gathering, with the theme "Navigating Our Future Together." Our biggest joy was hearing the positive feedback from the team, how the ministers and senior officials were very happy with their barong and the ladies' kimona, with inspired new sleeves that created a buzz among the lady ministers.

'Barong' worn by Social Welfare and Development Secretary Rex Gatchalian is based on Silk Cocoon's 'bib design,' which Goulbourn made with embroidered leaves and bamboo buttons. She used the same bib design on the ASEAN boat logo and 11 stalks in a medallion, representing the 11 member states. In the 35th ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council meetings March 3-5, 2026, chaired by Social Welfare and Development Secretary Rex Gatchalian



AND ON A LIGHTER NOTE...

PAULINIAN SINGERS ON CENTER STAGE



OPM legendary singers recently got together for a show dubbed "Groovin' the Greatest Hits."

Among the singers were two Paulinians—Celeste Legaspi (High School 1966) and Pinky Marquez (High School 1970).

...AND THE SAGA CONTINUES

We feature children and grandchildren on alumnae who have distinguished themselves in their chosen fields of endeavor, which prove that the apple does not fall far from the tree.

1. Cherilyn Secillano



The InLife SHEROES Awards recognize Filipinas who embody courage and strength across four categories: Financial Literacy, Health & Wellness, Women Empowerment, and Business Innovation. As part of the InLife SHEROES Movement, these awards celebrate women who drive community impact. Nominations for 2026 are accepted until November 25, 2025, via inlivesheroes@insular.com.ph. We're celebrating 7 years of InLife SHEROES by honoring those who redefine what it means to do good. Meet one of our 2026 InLife SHEROES Awardee: Che Secillano of Dwellbeing!

Che and her team aren't just creating beautiful products; they are bridging the gap between commerce and compassion. As Che shares, the challenge is in crafting items that people truly love, return to, and appreciate—not just for their quality, but for the heart behind them. From upcycling and empowering local communities to providing family meals for Project Pearls, Dwellbeing is a "full 360" of giving back. Here's to those who fill big shoes and meet every day with a purpose!



Cherilyn is daughter of HS 67 Susan Tan-Bendicion and William Bendicion.

Liv Vinluan



Liv Vinluan. Photo: Joseph Pascual

[ESQUIREMAG.PH](https://www.esquiremag.ph)

Liv Vinluan is known for installation works that involve paper in one form or another, creating historical narratives through images of fantasy and reality. She was a recipient of the CCP Thirteen Artists Awards in 2024, one of the featured artists (as the Karen H. Montinola Seletion) in Art Fair Philippines 2019, and an Ateneo Art Awards finalist in 2016 for *Cariño Brutal*.

From featuring art exhibitions to supporting annual art events like Art Fair Philippines and ALT ART, Esquire Philippines has always championed local art and creativity. In 2023, we released a list of 25 visual artists we love, recognizing them as movers of Filipino contemporary art. This 2026, we continue to shine the spotlight on our makers and dreamers through the inaugural Esquire Best Visual Artists Awards. The Esquire Best Visual Artists Awards recognize the artists who define their generation, serving as the living chroniclers of our time by confronting the evolving narratives and underlying plight of contemporary Filipino society. Spanning a diverse range of media, these creators have staged landmark exhibitions at major local galleries, represented the Philippines on the international stage over the past few years, and won awards for their creativity and skill both locally and abroad. Liv is the daughter of the late Lyn Romualdez-Vinluan, who was a grade school student of SPCM.

Margaux Salcedo

Margaux Salcedo is a Filipino economist and Undersecretary of the Department of Budget and Management in the Philippines. She leads the Public Financial Management Competency Program of the Department of Budget and Management. She was part of the Philippine economic team that conducted the Post-SONA Economic Briefing in 2023 and moderated the Philippine Economic Briefing in New York and other major cities around the world as well as the Philippine Economic Briefings in key cities in the Philippines.



Margaux is an outstanding alumna of St. Scholastica's College High School where she later became a professor of Philippine history and communication arts. She earned her bachelor's degree in economics from De La Salle University. She has a Juris Doctor from the Ateneo Law School where she was editor of the Ateneo Law Journal. Salcedo is the founding editor-in-chief of the faith website Dominus Est, which won the St. Pope John Paul II Award in 2023 and the Best Website Award at the Catholic Mass Media Awards in 2020, 2022, 2023 and 2024, as well as Best Vlog for the show In Depth.



Margaux is the daughter of Carmelita Vargas-Salcedo, HS 1967, AB 1971.

BATCH ACTIVITIES-PHOTO SHARING...



High School 1975

January 17, 2026. Classmates with Deng Valera visited the sick—Sunny recovering from sciatica



February 10, 2026
Welcoming Susie Crisostomo Legaspi from Florida USA who came with sister, Terai Crisostomo-Edeza HS 79. Carunungan residence Ayala Alabang Village.



February 15, 2026. Intimate get-together for Jun and May (Gaité) Tugade from Los Angeles CA. Carunungan residence

March 5, 2026.
 HS 75 welcomed three balikbayans—
 Beth Martin de Mil from Singapore,
 May Gaité Tugade from Los Angeles,
 Rocky Yupangco Buencamino from Minnesota.
 Sunny's house in Tierra Nueva, Muntinlupa.



High School 1965



January 14, 2026
 Birthday lunch for
 MOM



January 27, 2026
 Tagaytay trip
 Lunch at Mildred's
 house,



merienda
 in Sol's



Visit
 to Ephesus
 House



March 15, 2026
 Birthday party
 of Marilen Ruiz



March 21, 2026
 Visita Iglesia

High School 1966



Lullie Salcedo shares: January 25, 2026. Our batch, HS Class '66, celebrated our Diamond Jubilee with a fashion show featuring a collection of colorful shawls and the creative ways to use them. A short spiel introduced our number: A journey of sixty years In varied colors of the season Sixty years of trials and triumphs Struggles and successes Laughter and tears But through it all Friendships that remain Loyal and true Inspiring, uplifting A promise of forever Yes, we're here to celebrate our diamond jubilee After all, we're forever...diamonds!

After the homecoming, our dear classmate, Agnes Devanadera, President and CEO of Clark Development Corporation, treated our visiting classmates to a tour of Clark's facilities including a museum



Whenever Clarissa del Rosario Bautista is in town she always finds time to bond with her classmates. This March, she treated friends to Michelin selected Resto -

Terraza Martinez in BGC - for a fabulous spread of Spanish cuisine. Great food but the company was even better.

THROWBACK... Last Quarter 2025 Activities

Mayda Angsico Tankiang and her husband Edward Tankiang celebrated their 75th birthday with family and friends at their home in Dasmariñas Village, Makati.



Visiting Emily Lim hosted lunch at the Jasmine Restaurant, New World Hotel.



In return, a despedida was given her at Marudori in Rockwell PowerPlant Mall.



Agnes VST Devanadera has always been a trailblazer, rewriting the playbook of public service. She broke



barriers as the first woman Solicitor General, served twice as Secretary of Justice, and became the first woman Government Corporate Counsel. Today, she adds another milestone to her legacy—the inaugural Governance Commission for Government-Owned or Controlled Corporations (GCG) Leadership Award, a recognition that affirms governance as a catalyst for national progress. Conferred after 15 years of GCG’s existence, the award crystallizes the vision of the GCG Law: transparency, accountability, and excellence in government corporations. Former Senator Franklin Drilon, author of the law, personally presented the honor—a moment that underscored the enduring role of governance in driving development. “This is not just a personal honor, it is a call to action,” Devanadera said in her acceptance speech. “Public office is a public trust. Government-owned or -controlled corporations (GOCCs) must drive progress, fund hospitals, roads, bridges, and programs that uplift communities. Inclusive growth is our shared responsibility,” she shared.

Mayda Tankiang and husband Edward are presently Barangay Lupon of Dasmariñas Village tasked to keep peace and order among families and residents. Here with Barangay Chairman Wellington Lim and Secretary Roanne Dionisio.



US based ladies met up for a year ender at Fuji Restaurant in Glendale, California.

Roree Sta. Romana with son Chris Angeles and grandkids heard the Christmas Eve Mass at St. Philip the Apostle, where the apos also study.



Charee Barcelon Magsino celebrated Christmas with family and the huge Barcelon clan.



It was a pre-Christmas dinner for Lullie Salcedo and her sister Millie Salcedo Calaquian with family at the Prado residence in Filinvest Homes, QC.

For Edward and Mayda Tankiang, Christmas was spent with the whole family in Sapporo and Tokyo, Japan.



High School 1967



January, February March birthday celebration. Lydia Pua Sy, Leila Lardizabal-del Rosario, Nora Gan-Mabasa, Lulu Filart-Rius, Cecille Conti-Maranon, Dorothy Gabriel, Angela Reyes, Carol Suazo-Risos, Lolita Cua-Lim and Welcome balikbayans Puri Cariaga-Magdaraog and Lulu Filart-Rius

February 21, 2026 Aristocrat Jupiter Makati



High School 1970

Emilie Simon shares: HS 1970 may have had the most number of reunions for the first quarter of 2026 – a total of four. Aside from our usual first quarter reunion, we had three more reunions to welcome our balikbayan classmates and teacher and bid farewell to some balikbayan classmates. In addition to our reunions, we had a Visita Iglesia to seven Churches in Laguna. And of course, we attended our St. Paul University homecoming.



Welcome to Ms. Deng and Despedida for Vicky Tiangco-Dimalanta and Sylvia Leviste-Paras-Moraleta – January 21, 2026

Homecoming – January 25, 2026



Welcome lunch for Tina Jose and Lilian Mamaak-Quiros – February 2, 2026



Visita Iglesia to seven Churches in Laguna - March 7, 2026



First quarter reunion hosted by our first quarter birthday celebrants – January 31, 2026



Welcome merienda cena for Imelda Pagaspas-Armstrong – March 9, 2026



Welcome to Teena del Rosario-Tinsay and Despedida for Imelda Pagaspas-Armstrong – March 24, 2026

High School 1971



Susie de Leon shares: HS'71 at Wholesome Foods. First picture... Peia Gaité-Fausto, Tina Revilla-Valencia, Becky Villavicencio-Aranaz, Tessa, dear friend of HS'71, Nelia Ventura-Fabie, Dr. Elizabeth Gabriel-Martinez, Girlie Hernandez-Salonga, Violie Chico-Bustamante, Primie Obias-Tan, Mimette Maralit, Celes Naguiat, Susie Calaunan-de Leon

Friendships transcending time and distance! Some of us have not met in years but we instantly reconnected because of our shared experience. We picked up conversations and laughter flowed seamlessly, as if no time has passed. Till the next reunion!

High School 1962

Lunch treat of Grace Eusebio-Torres Romulo's BGC February 5, 2026



BSN 1971-Vias Marie



Post Homecoming Trip to Iloilo and Roxas



AB 1986

On 14 March, 2026, AB 1986 had a wonderful and memorable get together over a good lunch and great coffee. The gathering so overflowed with laughter, cherished memories and catching up, that it was agreed upon to hold the get-together, quarterly, to keep creating unforgettable memories.



BSE 1969
Lunch with Mila Glodava at Mesa March 13



High School 1968



AB 1977



Wake of Alice Balangue



Lunch with MOM

Former SPCM Secretaries



High School 1966



CONDOLENCES...

The Paulinian Family condoles with the families of these beloved alumnae.

