



# SIMBAHAY

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN BOSCO PARISH CHURCH, MAKATI CITY, PHILIPPINES

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 7

JULY 2013



World Youth Day RIO  
23rd – 28th July 2013

MAKING DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS

**By Janina Celeste**

At the close of the “Holy Year of Redemption” on 22 April 1984, then Pope (soon saint) John Paul II, entrusted the large wooden cross used during the Jubilee Year to representatives of the world’s youth with the words: **“My dear young people, at the conclusion of the Holy Year, I entrust to you the sign of this Jubilee Year: the Cross of Christ! Carry it throughout the world as a symbol of Christ’s love for humanity, and announce to everyone that only in the death and resurrection of Christ can we find salvation and redemption”**. And carry that cross across the world they did . . .

On December of the following year, the first UN-declared “International Youth Year”, Pope John Paul II announced the institution of World Youth Day (WYD), a coming together of the world’s young people to celebrate their Catholic faith. WYD is to be celebrated annually at the diocesan level on Palm Sunday in Rome and at week-long events in different countries every two to three years.

The first WYD took place in the diocese of Rome in March 1986 with the theme, “Always be prepared to make a defense to anyone who calls you to account for the hope that is in you” (1Pt 3:15).

A year later from April 11 to 12 in 1987, the

first international WYD debuted with a million young people converging in Buenos Aires, Argentina to be with their Pope. The theme was, “We ourselves have known and put our faith in God’s love towards ourselves” (1Jn 4:16).

The Pope chooses a Bible verse for the theme of each WYD. For international celebrations, the theme inspires the logo and anthem, is echoed in the slew of pre-WYD preparations and fully developed during the WYD fortnight of catechesis, testimonies, sharing, opportunities for reconciliation and prayer (especially, Taize prayer), music festivals and cultural events.

While each host country infuses its nation’s soul, history and culture in the activities to create a unique experience for its young guests, the main WYD events are preserved from one WYD to the next. These include the:

- ◆ **Missionary Week (aka, Days in the Diocese or Pre-WYD)**
- ◆ **Papal Welcome and Opening Ceremony**
- ◆ **Way of the Cross**
- ◆ **Walking pilgrimage to the Vigil site**
- ◆ **Evening Candlelight Vigil with the Pope**
- ◆ **Overnight Delegates’ Camp-out at the Vigil/ Mass site**
- ◆ **Sunday Morning Papal Mass**

Twenty seven years, eleven countries (Argentina, Spain, Poland, United States, Philippines, France, Italy, Canada, Germany, Australia and Brazil) and three popes later, the journey of the WYD cross continues, summoning the world’s youth to convene as a global community with the shared mission to be the face, heart, hands and feet of Christ as they faithfully and joyfully proclaim and personify his message of love and salvation to the rest of the world.

This year, from 23-28 July, Brazil’s Christ the Redeemer welcomes young people from all corners of the world to the city of Rio de Janeiro for the 28<sup>th</sup> WYD. They will come to pray, worship and celebrate their Faith; and they will leave renewed in spirit, revitalizing the Universal Church with the zeal, purpose and strength of millions of young missionaries.

Christ invites us:  
Come to me, be my friends  
Christ, He sends us  
“Be missionaries!”

(from the official WYD Rio 2013 Anthem, “Hope of the Dawn”)

*Please pray for Pope Francis’ general prayer intentions for July 2013: “That World Youth Day in Brazil may encourage all young Christians to become disciples and missionaries of the Gospel.”*



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## SCHEDULE OF MASSES

### Monday to Friday:

6:30am • 7:30am • 12:15pm • 6:00pm

Holy Hour every Thursday after the  
6:00 pm Mass

### Saturday:

6:30am • 7:30am  
6:00pm (Anticipated Mass)

### Sunday:

6:00am • 7:15am • 8:30am • 10:00am\*  
11:15am • 12:30pm • 4:00pm • 5:30pm  
7:00pm • 8:30pm

\*with sign language interpreters

**Confessions** are available during all  
the Masses

**Adoration Chapel** - open daily from  
7:00am to 8:00pm

## PARISH OFFICE & RELIGIOUS STORE HOURS

**Monday to Friday (except Thursday)**  
8:00am - 11:30am • 12:30pm - 6:00pm

**Thursday:**  
8:00am - 11:30am • 12:30pm - 4:00pm

**Saturday:**  
8:00am - 12:00pm • 1:00pm - 5:00pm

# Life without Plastic Bags

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST

The 20<sup>th</sup> of last month passed by with most Makati residents seemingly unaware of a “historic” and far-reaching event – the implementation of the city-wide ordinance banning the use of plastic bags and styrofoam. Officially named Executive Order No. 007, series of 2012, the ordinance specified the following as prohibited acts: 1) the sale, use or distribution of plastic bags that can be used as primary or secondary packaging materials on dry and wet goods; 2) the sale, use or distribution of styrofoam and other materials with similar non bio-degradable components that are being used as food, drinking, dining utensils and beverage containers.

The city of Makati is the latest among the growing number of towns and cities that have banned plastic bags. In time, we shall witness city life without this ubiquitous carry-all. But is this possible? And seriously, is the ban necessary? How is life without the plastic bag?

Admittedly, the ban on plastic bags and styrofoam containers will inconvenience many, at the outset, but in the long run, it will benefit many more and even save the whole earth. The basic reasons for this prohibition are environmental protection and preservation. Plastics are not biodegradable, i.e., microorganisms are unable to break it down even for a thousand years; if not properly disposed of, these synthetics contaminate the environment. Today, the disposal of plastic and styrofoam

wastes is already a nightmare for local governments. Plastic and styrofoam make up the bulk of the garbage collecting in landfills, clogging our esteros and rivers, polluting our seas and endangering its creatures, and defacing our beaches, mountains and erstwhile virgin forests to the dismay of mountain climbers, trekkers and nature lovers.

But beyond the concern for environmental issues, is the spiritual dimension. Nature and the environment emanate from God, the creator. Man, as His greatest creature, is duty-bound to acknowledge and give due respect to God. When man respects nature and his environment, and takes great care in preserving it for his sake and those of future generations, he is honoring and acknowledging the Creator. Even the non-believer will be hard-pressed to ignore that there is something divine in nature that must be respected and preserved at all cost.

On the question, how is life without plastic bags: with fewer dumpsites and smaller landfills, seas chockful of marine life and not choking with 1000-year old trash, water flowing freely in our streams and rivers and not our streets and living rooms, with “reusable” rather than “disposable” as our bags of choice, along with eco-friendly tote bags and the old reliable “bayong”, with the blessings of the Creator and to the delight of Mother Earth, life indeed will “carry on”.

— **Fr. Ting Miciano, SDB**

## AN APPEAL FOR HELP

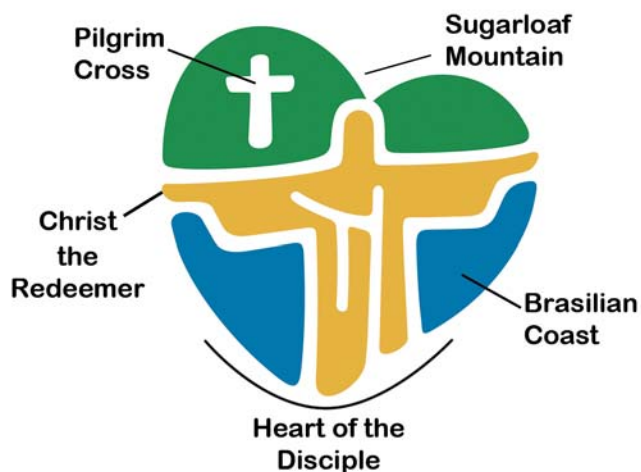


Fire broke out in the morning of 11 July, razing a third of the shanties in the “Botanical Garden” depressed area fronting Makati Medical between Amorsolo and Urban streets. About 1000 families were displaced, including SJB parishioners who are active members of Parish organizations. We appeal for IMMEDIATE relief assistance for the fire victims who need food (canned goods), water, dry clothes for adults and children, cooking and eating utensils, mats and beddings. Please bring your donations to the Parish office or to the Barangay Offices of Pio del Pilar and San Lorenzo.

This year's WYD Logo, designed by Gustavo Huguenin, a 25 year old graphic designer from Brazil, takes its inspiration from the theme, "Go and make disciples of all nations", as well as from the event's magnificent setting – the city of Rio de Janeiro in Brazil.

Recalling Jesus' ascension from the top of the Mount of Olives, after he ordered his disciples to spread the good news to all nations, the image of Christ the Redeemer stands with outstretched arms and towers above the city. Since 1931, it has welcomed visitors to Rio, as it will, hundreds of thousands of young pilgrims for two eventful weeks this July.

Sporting the colors of Brazil's flag are stylized images of Brazil's iconic landmarks: *Cristo Redentor* in yellow, Sugarloaf Mountain, in green and Rio's famous coasts in blue, with the images coming together to form a heart – the disciple's heart. The rallying symbol for all 28 WYD's since 1986, the WYD cross, shown white against the heart's green lobe completes the logo of WYD Rio 2013.



# WORLD YOUTH DAY 2013

## LOCAL CELEBRATION Overnight event

**when** 1:00 p.m. of July 27 up to  
1:00 p.m. of July 28, 2013

**where** Don Bosco Technical  
Institute Makati City

### Here's how:

On or before **JULY 17**:

- Register at the Parish Office
- Pay Php 150

On **JULY 27 (Saturday)**:

- Bring bottled water, snacks, packed dinner
- Toiletries and sleeping bags

opening Mass  
catechesis  
small group sharing  
youth festivals  
praise and  
worship night  
live streaming  
of the vigil  
with Pope  
closing Mass

**SIGN UP  
NOW!!**



## SUNDAY MASS REFLECTIONS

Simbahay features the Sunday Mass Readings' themes from Fr. Sal Putzu's "Exploring God's Word".

These themes are part of a systematic approach to study and have a good knowledge of the Biblical passages which will be used in the coming Sunday Masses and to relate these readings to our lives.

Listen to Fr. Salvatore Putzu, SDB (General Manager and Editor, Word and Life) at *Bisperas sa Veritas* 846 AM, 5pm Saturday.



### 15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### 14 July 2013 Readings

\*Dt 30:10-14 – Moses exhorts the people to obey God's law.

\*Col 1:15-20 – Paul's profession of faith in the sublime dignity and role of Jesus

\*Lk 10:25-37 – Parable of the "Good Samaritan" as an example of love of neighbor

#### **Theme: A CHALLENGE TO BE GOOD SAMARITANS**

We all know that we have the duty to love our neighbor as ourselves (and even more, if we take seriously Jesus' command to love one another as he has loved us) . . . . But two very big difficulties are encountered in the practical application of this all-important commandment. The first concerns whom to include in this very wide category of people labeled "Neighbor." The second difficulty, of course, is to actually love all those who fall into that category.

The parable contained in today's Gospel answers both questions in a striking and unforgettable manner: Neighbor is every human being, including our enemies. We must show our love for our neighbor by being attentive to his/her needs, and satisfy those needs even at the cost of personal sacrifice. Only at that stage do we begin to be disciples of the One who practised this commandment to the utmost.



### 16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### 21 July 2013 Readings

\*Gn 18:1-10a – Abraham offers hospitality to three mysterious visitors.

\*Col 1:24-28 – Christ is the center of the mystery hidden for centuries in God.

\*Lk 10:38-42 – Jesus enjoys Martha's hospitality and Mary's attention.

#### **Theme: WELCOMING THE LORD IN ACTION AND CONTEMPLATION**

The final purpose of our existence is "to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of our life" (Ps 27:4). We shall be His guests for ever in heaven. One way to prepare ourselves for that lasting enjoyment of God's presence is to seek His presence here on earth, and to welcome Him into our lives with an open heart.

It is the Lord Himself who takes the initiative to come to us, often in the most unpredictable and unlikely ways in the hassle of our life. The difficulty, on our part, is to be aware of His presence and to offer Him a generous hospitality.

But the Lord wishes to come to us also in the quiet of our hearts, to be our welcome guest at a deeper, personal level – a level no human being can fathom or fill. He wishes to have with us that heart-to-heart conversation which fills our souls with unspeakable joy, while equipping us with the light and strength we need so badly for the other "encounters" in life.

Unfortunately, nowadays, not many people seem to appreciate the importance of this more intimate encounter with the Lord. These two ways of welcoming Him are complementary. We need both. And though God does not need any of them, He enjoys each of them.

### 17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### **Fil. Mission Sunday/Conclusion of World Youth Day**

#### 28 July 2013 Readings

\*Gn 18:20-32 – Abraham intercedes for the salvation of Sodom and Gomorrah.

\*Col 2:12-14 – Jesus Christ is the source of our life and salvation.

\*Lk 11:1-13 – Jesus teaches his disciples to pray without ever losing hope.

#### **Theme: PRAYER: TALKING WITH FAITH TO A GENEROUS GOD**

Prayer is not simply an act of adoration, praise, thanksgiving or a request addressed to God. It is also a revelation of our concept of God, as well as of how we relate to Him. We Christians consider God, not just as the Creator and End of all that exists, but also as our loving Father who cares immensely about us, and wants that we care for one another.



We have learned all this from Jesus, the incarnate Son of God and our Brother, who came to reveal to us what it means to be a child of God and to live as one. It is part of this wonderful relationship to address our prayers of petition to our heavenly Father, and even to repeat our request more than once with hope-filled boldness. At the root of such insistence, there should not be the blasphemous attempt to prevail on God and "force" Him to do what we want, but the deep conviction that He loves us and will grant us all that is for our greater good and the good of all the people we pray for.

### 18<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### **Parish Priest's Sunday**

#### 4 August 2013 Readings

\*Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23 – Nothing seems to make sense in life.

\*Col 3:1-5.9-11 – The ideal behavior of a disciple of Christ

\*Lk 12:13-21 – The need to be detached from material wealth and to grow rich in God's sight

#### **Theme: THE FOOLISHNESS OF MAKING WRONG INVESTMENTS**

Our life on earth is often replete with disappointments and frustrations. Many times, justice eludes us. We do not see



virtue rewarded and criminals punished as we would expect. This can confuse us and throw a shadow of uncertainty on all we do, as we are brought to ask what can be the point of being honest if honesty is not rewarded and dishonesty seems to pay.

Only faith in eternal life and in divine justice enables us to make sense of this life, in spite of the many unanswered questions and riddles that vex our existence. What we do and what happens to us here on earth is not “the whole story” but only a series of steps in our journey toward God. Our existence will reach its completion and full meaning only in the life to come, when He will reward every human being according to his/her deeds.

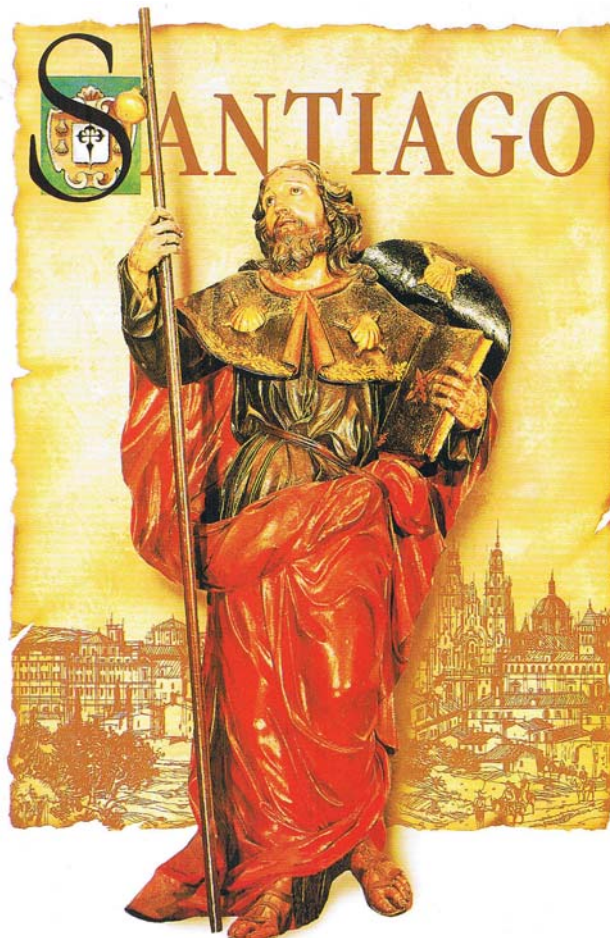
## ST. JAMES THE GREAT, APOSTLE

By Rescy Bhagwani

The Church celebrates the feast of St. James on 25 July. “The Great” is attached to his name to differentiate him from the other apostle James, son of Alphaeus who became Bishop of Jerusalem, and who may have been younger or smaller in body built.

St. James was known to be a Galilean and a fisherman. Walking by Lake Genesareth, Jesus called the brothers, James and John, who were mending their nets with their father, Zebedee to be “fishers of men”. Their response was instantaneous; they left their father with the nets, forsaking all their worldly cares to follow Jesus.

The brothers were full of faith and zeal, such that Jesus called them “Sons of Thunder”. When the Samaritans refused to accept Jesus, the brothers wanted him to call down fire from heaven to consume them. Instead, the Lord taught them that meekness and patience were the arms by which they were to conquer. Later, their mother, Salome, boldly asked the Lord that her sons be seated next to his throne, one on each side. But Christ said they knew not what they asked. Even as he assured them that they will indeed be “drinking from



the same cup [of suffering]”, Jesus told them that only the Father decides who will occupy seats of honor in heaven. Both events reflect the brothers’ journey into maturity prior to the coming of the Holy Spirit.

St. James was highly privileged to be in Jesus’ inner circle. He, Peter and John were the only witnesses to Jesus’ Transfiguration

## JULY 2013 CALENDAR

04 Thu	St. Elizabeth of Portugal
05 Fri	St. Anthony Zaccaria
06 Sat	St. Maria Goretti
07 Sun	<b>14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
09 Tue	St. Augustine Zhao Rong
11 Thu	St. Benedict, the Abbot
13 Sat	Mass Wedding
14 Sun	<b>15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
15 Mon	St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor
16 Tue	Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
21 Sun	<b>16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
22 Mon	St. Mary Magdalene
23 Tue	St. Bridget of Sweden/ Start of World Youth Day 2013 in Rio de Janeiro/ Talk on “Spiritual Warfare” by Fr. Jocis Syquia (Church)
24 Wed	St. Sharbel Makhlof
25 Thu	St. Thomas, Apostle
26 Fri	Sts. Joachim and Anne
27 Sat	Local Celebrations of World Youth Day - Vigil in Don Bosco Tech. School (Parish youth to join)
28 Sun	<b>17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time/ Fil-Mission Suinday</b>
29 Mon	St. Martha
30 Tue	St. Peter Chrysologus
31 Wed	St. Ignatius of Loyola

**Sick Visitation** – Thursdays 9AM

**Holy Hour** – Thursdays 6:30PM

**Medical & Dental** – Sundays 2:00PM

Visit our website for the complete July 2013 Calendar  
<http://sjbmakati.com/parish-events.html>

at Mt. Tabor and his agony in the Garden of Gethsemane.

It is believed that St. James preached and brought Christianity to early Spain and that the Virgin Mary appeared to him as Our Lady of the Pillar to encourage him in this mission. James was the first apostle to be martyred, beheaded with a sword in Rome alongside his accuser, who was so moved by Thomas’ confession, that he publicly proclaimed being a Christian and bravely faced death for his new-found faith. St. James’ body is buried in Spain’s Santiago de Compostela, from which pilgrim routes have sprouted. This pilgrimage, mostly done on foot is, very popularly known as *El Camino de Santiago de Compostela*.

Source: Rev. Alban Butler (1711-73). *Volume VII: July. The Lives of the Saints*. 1866.



LOM is now the biggest lay Catholic organization in the world. Young or old. Male or female. Single or married. Consecrated or lay. All Catholics who are faithful to the Church, willing and capable of performing the Legionary duties are welcome to join. Active members meet weekly and undertake apostolate work, while auxiliary members are the prayer army of the Legion.

## \*\* Legion of Mary \*\*



### \* SENIORS \*

Don Bosco Parish, Makati

*The Legion of Mary – Seniors. Open to Catholics ages 18 above. Don Bosco Parish has six praesidia namely Mary Help of Christians, Mater Dei, Assumption of Our Lady, Mary Cause of Our Joy, Mary Queen of Peace and Seat of Wisdom.*



## \*\* Legion of Mary \*\*



### \* JUNIORS \*

Don Bosco Parish, Makati

*The Legion of Mary – Juniors. Open to children ages 12-17.*

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**EMHC RECRUITMENT ONGOING**

*By Mon Angeles*

The Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion of St. John Bosco Parish is inviting new members to serve on weekdays and Sunday Masses. Application forms are available at the Sacristy Bulletin board. You may contact Bro. Rick Sargan at (02) 502-0025 or (0917) 8392529 or Bro. Edwin Paguio at (0918) 431-

3931 for more information. All qualified applicants have to undergo the Basic Formation on 3 August 2013 and the Doctrinal Formation on 24 August 2013 at the Arzobispado Chapel, Arzobispado de Manila, Intramuros, Manila.

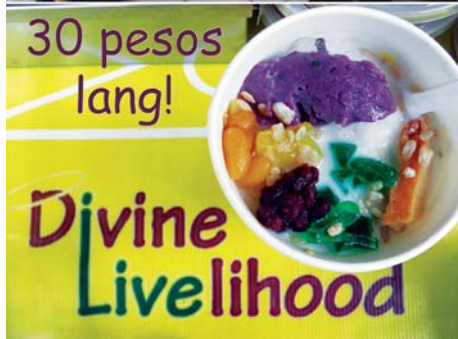
**CHIEF EXORCIST TALKS ON SPIRITUAL WARFARE**

*By Joel D. Aurellano*

Challenge your beliefs – do ghosts, haunted houses, *tikbalangs*, *aswangs*, *dwendes*, *kapres*, *diwatas*, *manananggals*, etc., merely belong to folktales, movies and overactive imaginations? What's the harm in consulting fortune tellers, *albuaryos* the spirit of the glass and Ouija boards? Do *anting-antings*, amulets and charms really work? Is having a third eye, a gift?

**Fr. Jocis Syquia**, Director of the Office of Exorcism, Archdiocese of Manila and author of *Exorcism: Encounters with the Paranormal and the Occult*, answers these questions and more during his talk on "Spiritual Warfare" on 23 July 2013 (Tuesday), from 7:00PM at the SJB Parish Church.

The Servants of the Lord's Vineyard (SOLV) Catholic Community organized this event as part of its Year of Faith activities.



**DIVINELY YUMMY HOT AND COLD MERIENDA**

*By Rescy Bhagwani*

Noticed the Divine Livelihood Bahay Kubo "extension" lately? The Parish Livelihood Program has impressively gained clients for their new *merienda* products. *Halo-halo* was a summer hit. With the onset of the rainy season, hot *sopas* and *lugaw* –chicken, *goto* or seafood, with optional fried *tokwa*, and a variety of *ginataan* have become instant faves. Try them!

**MID-YEAR OF FAITH**

*By Vi P. Hernandez*

Midway through the Year of Faith (11 Oct 2012 to 24 Nov 2013), a series of posters along the church driveway provides a quick review of very doable recommendations to know our Faith and to strengthen our faith.

The Information Ministry thanks Mr. Kelly Revlin Liwanag who designed the original series of 12 posters, and Ms. Len Constantino who added to the collection.

"Ang Pinto ng Pananampalataya ay palaging nakabukas para sa atin."  
-- Papa Benito XVI

Paanyaya sa lahat ng mga Katoliko at Pamilyang Katoliko sa Taon ng Pananampalataya (Year of Faith - YOF)  
11 Oktubre 2012 - 24 Nobyembre 2013

**TULOY PO KAYO!**

**Sumama sa Pilgrimage o Bisita Iglesia.**

**HIMIG NG KABATAAN ALAY KAY DON BOSCO CHORAL COMPETITION 2013**



**AUG. 16 FRI. 7PM**  
ST. JOHN BOSCO PARISH CHURCH, MAKATI CITY