

THE MARIPOSA

The Official Newsletter of the Filipino Cursillo Community Diocese of Oakland

SPECIAL ISSUE

September 2014

Editor – Myrla Raymundo, MBA

e-mail - -raymundomyrla@gmail.com

Website - <http://www.fccoakland.net/>

**24th National Encounter of the National Cursillo Movement
of the United States of America
Chapman University, Orange, California
July 31 – August 1, 2014**

**By: Bro. Mario Camorongan
Lay Director - FCC Oakland Diocese**



On July 31 through August 3, 2014 several brothers and sisters attended the 24th National Encounter of the National Cursillo Movement of the United States of America held in Chapman University, Orange, California.

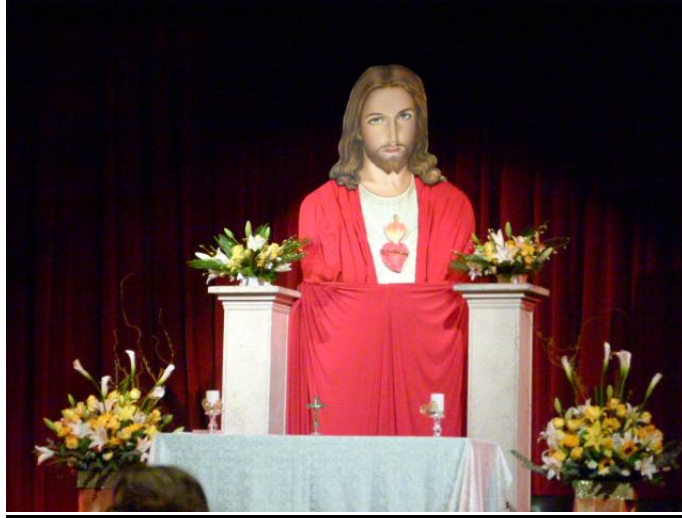
The following brothers and sisters attended the National Encounter:

- ✓ Sister Cora Tuason
- ✓ Sister Cora Pediglorio
- ✓ Bro. Vic Pediglorio
- ✓ Sister Josie Herrera
- ✓ Sister Shiela Ulgado
- ✓ Sister Dorie Nues
- ✓ Deacon Steve Budnik
- ✓ Bro. Mario Camorongan
- ✓ Sister Lolit Kintanar
- ✓ Sister Norma Acaba
- ✓ Bro. Anito Acaba
- ✓ Sister Ella Trinidad
- ✓ Bro. Sid Sabiniano
- ✓ Sister Letty Sabiniano
- ✓



It was an experience that we truly treasure for as long as we live. I really enjoyed the trip and the bonding and laughter and the friendship that was nurtured during the weekend. Our brothers and sisters shared their respective experiences and I asked Sister Myrla to publish a Special Edition of the Mariposa to feature the National Encounter and the Cursillo Picnic.

Below are the articles shared by our brothers and sisters who attended the National Encounter:



By Sis Letty and Bro Sid Sabiniano

It was heart warming and joyous occasion to see our brothers and sisters' cursillistas in different culture (English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Filipino) as well as developed new friendship and listened to the wonderful speakers. Met also a friend of Eduardo Bonin, Mr. Miguel Sureda Tierno from Mallorca Spain. The talks were all very informative and spirit filled. The National Encounter gave us the opportunity to renew our friendship with our brothers and sisters in Christ and got energized. We learned from the Talk of Bishop Elizondo on Cursillo and the New Evangelization - synopsis notes...

“All cursillistas are called to be witnesses of the joy of the good News and we need to be spiritually awake to proclaim and spread the Word and joy of the gospel.”

“Every single moment is an opportunity to share joy with Jesus in our life”

“Never get tired talking to our friend Jesus in prayer, so that we can listen to Him and discern what He wants from us”

“We are to propose our faith and not imposed it. Martyrdom is not in style but in perseverance”

“To believe is to live it. If we believe in harmony, peace, justice we need to live it in our life and show it to our children, spouses, friends, co workers, friends and all the people we meet”

“We have to be a mystic that sees beyond and discover a new reality beyond reality. Mystery is not to be resolved but adored”

“Cursillo is not in numbers but let us purify the mission.... Proclaim your faith in words and action”

With the other speakers, we learned to serve others in humility and respect. Always have a friendly attitude in bringing Christ to others. We need to learn to plant a seed of friendship and cultivate it. Let us remind ourselves to use all the gifts that God gave us to bring our friend to Christ. In Deacon Ben's talk on Growing Holiness through the Cursillo we need to grow our personal holiness first, then help others grow their holiness. These could be accomplished thru prayers, reading the scriptures – (set a time schedule and do it regularly) and spiritual books. Lastly, the National Cursillo Movement brighter future depends on our \$3/year donation campaign. This is an ongoing project and if we commit ourselves to do this every year will help us to have more encounters at a lower registration fees.

We also enjoyed the different performances during the Fiesta by our brothers and sisters in English, Spanish, Filipino and Vietnamese.

With regards to our Filipino Cursillo dining and performance experiences we have fun and enjoyed the camaraderie of each one from our Oakland, San Bernardino, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Sacramento, San Diego and San Jose. Our team is always ready and able to perform with short notice and practice. I am so proud of all of you... Bravo ...Bravo!!!! Mabuhay mga kapatid...

De Colores !!!!

By: Sis. Josie Herrera

My experience at the 24th National Encounter, one word, **“JOY.”**

The whole weekend was just so much joy. Seeing so many Cursillista brothers and sisters from the many walks of life is something I will treasure.

I was so inspired by the talk of Bishop Eusebio Elizondo, Bishop of Seattle, WA (Cursillo Movement National Episcopal Advisor). He spoke with such conviction to make us proclaim God's word. The following are some of the notes I have from his talk:

- “We must be witnesses of joy.”
- “Pope Francis said, we propose not impose our religion.”
- “Do it in our own style to proclaim the Word.”
- “We must be authentic.”
- He even used a quote from Alexander Hamilton. “If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything.”

Ahhh.... Most of us have a share of story about; I call it, “the missing room.” With our experience from Thursday night, Sis Cora T., Sis Ella and I were just laughing so much the next day, Friday morning, on our way to the Cafeteria. One of the sister Cursillista (I think she's from Dallas) saw us and said, she wanted to join our group because we're such a fun group. We couldn't stop laughing from our experience Thursday night. After a

while, because we just kept on laughing to ourselves, the same sister Cursillista decided to come back to us and asked us to share what was our experience that was so funny.

Meeting Cursillistas from other Dioceses at a National level is an experience in itself. Our FCC group has experiences that will always bring a smile on my face whenever I think of them. Our bonding alone is really a “joy.” The sharing of many life stories on our way to the Encounter. Then on our way back, singing to the many oldies but goodies songs of our years’ past..... Thank goodness, we somehow kept sis Cora T. entertained because she drove all the way. Thank you again sis Cora. Most of all, all praise and thanksgiving to our Lord Jesus, for having me experience, the “JOY” at the National Encounter.

By: Sis. Cora Pediglorio

I thank God for having given me the opportunity to attend the National Encounter at Orange, CA, the third time! Travelling in two separate vans with my beloved sisters and brothers [Sisters Cora, Josie, Lolit, Dorie, Ella, Norma and Shiela, and Brothers Anito, Mario, Vic and Dcn. Steve] was such a joyful experience: sharing, laughing and just bonding all the way from the bay area to Southern California. Being at the Encounter for three days is truly a memorable experience for me. Meeting other brothers and sisters from the different regions was such a joy! Everyone is all smiles, ready to say hello to you, and truly, you can see Jesus' face in everyone. The talks are wonderful and so are the speakers. I pray that what I gained from this Encounter can also be experienced by you brothers and sisters when you attend the National Encounter next year in Philadelphia, PA!

By: Bro. Vic Pediglorio

It was my first time to attend the National Encounter. It is much different from the Regional Encounter because there are more Cursillistas gathered together from the different regions, from Region I to Region XI. It was so interesting to meet Cursillistas, some I met from Texas, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, New York, Idaho and California. The talks given were inspiring especially the talk given on the "History of Cursillo". Bro. Miguel Sureda emphasized that Cursillo was founded, not by Eduardo Bonin but by the Holy Spirit. The other talk that inspired me was "Evangelization through Friendship". According to Jackie DeMesme-Gray of Region II, evangelization is about Christ. To preach the gospel is to convert to Christianity. Evangelize the person through the charism of friendship. Our Cursillo motto is to "Make a friend, be a friend and bring that friend to Christ **first**...before bringing that friend to Cursillo.

By: Sis. Shiela Ulgado

DE CO..... LORES

Thursday, July 31, 2014. **BEEP...BEEP...BEEP...BEEP...BEEP...** The alarm sounds. "Mom, its 7:00 am", said Lito. I answered, "Whyyy? Am I going somewhere?" "LA...." He replied. "LA???" I questioned. "Cursillo, National Encounter..." he explained. "AHHH.... I am going to be late." I jumped out of the bed and straight to shower. How could I forget? I slept late the night before to prepare our munchies to go. I am in trouble if I got late. Lito hurried and dropped me off to Sis. Cora Pediglorio's house, our meeting place.

I was relieved I am not late. Upstairs, I noticed Bro Mario's barong. I asked, are we supposed to bring our Filipino attire? Bro Mario answered "Yes". Sis Cora followed up with I left you a voice message. It was late afternoon email confirmation. "Oh no... I have to go back home. I did not get the message or the email." I replied. Got my cell phone and dialed, "Lito, where are you? Can you go back? I need to go back home to pick up my Filipino dress. Sorry, I did not know, please?????" Downstairs, Sis Cora Tuason said, "How long will it take you? We were going to be late." I answered, "thirty minutes, Dcn Steve is not here yet, I can make it before he arrive." How fast Lito drove, I do not know but we made it back to sis Cora's house before Dcn Steve arrived. God is good.

Twelve cursillistas in two vehicles. In Honda Pilot, Sis Cora Tuason was the designated driver with Sis Lolita Kintanar, Sis Josie Herrera, Sis Cora Pediglorio, Bro Vic Pediglorio and Bro Mario Camorongan. In Dodge Caravan, Dcn Steve was the designated driver with Bro Anito Acaba, Sis Norma Acaba, Sis Ella Trinidad, Sis Dorie Nues and Sis Shiela Ulgado. Forget the travel light idea because both vehicles were packed with food and munchies. You can say, typical Filipino voyage. Lunch stop at Coalinga rest area. Yummy.... Adobo, fried rice, steam vegetable, bitter melon, hard boiled eggs, and fruits.

We arrived at Chapman University about 5:30 p.m. Drove around the block. Where's the entrance? Drove again, look, parking lot, let us stop and check. Oppsss... wrong parking area. Took the car out of the parking lot, drove another block, parked again. We got out of the vehicles. We saw fellow Cursillista with badge, then the signage "Registration". Thank you Lord, we made it. We registered and sat. I Thought we would slowdown and relax for now, but Sis Josie reminded 6:30 p.m. the dining commons close at 7:00 p.m. Oh my God, thirty minutes left, rush... walk as fast as you can... you can run too, otherwise, we all starve. God is good, we all made it for dinner.

Now we relax? No, we went back to registration for our room keys and meal tickets. The registration process was simple. Direction to your building or dorm, room keys was explained clearly. We all separated to check our rooms.

7:30 p.m. where's everybody? Walk... walk... walk... nobody. Probably at the Auditorium. The walk was long. At the auditorium, the welcome ceremony was a blast. Orange color was the motif. Of course, we were at the Orange County. The parade, the beach ball toss kept us on our feet. Followed by Prayer and blessing of Rev. Alex Waraksa, National Spiritual Advisor.

The Most Rev. Eusebio Elizondo, Auxiliary Bishop of Seattle, gave a speech about "Cursillo and the New Evangelization". The night ended with the Sacrament of Reconciliation. On our walk back to our dormitories, we find out Bro Mario and Dcn Steve cannot find the entrance to their dorm. We felt bad but wait, they got lucky, we were at the same dorm so with our help, they magically find the entrance at the dorm.

Friday, August 1. Today, we wore our blue FCC polo shirt. Breakfast 7:00 a.m. we sat on one table. We were noticed, we stood out. Fellow Cursillista took our pictures and was recognized. A very good start for a day. We have endless stories from our sisters Cora T and Josie first night dorm experience. Our Sis. Norma & Bro Anito evening tour from one building to another building. Details of experience to follow from their report.

At the auditorium, after our morning prayer with Rev. Alex Waraksa, Miguel Sureda from Mallorca, Spain gave a talk regarding the History of Cursillo. He mentioned Eduardo Bonnin was born by family of believers. He studied Theology for two hours every day. In 1944 to 1948, there was six cursillo focused to the youth of Catholic action. In 1949, the first Cursillo was held and attended by all priests. Guillermo Stragellas introduced the De Colores song.

Evangelization through Friendship by Jackie DeMesme-Gray, Region 2 Coordinator. She explained Friendship as a relationship between two people. Evangelization was to spread the gospel and scripture into your environment. You find friendship in the Cursillo through the 3-Day weekend, the encounter with Christ during the weekend, encounter with others between team and friendship through group reunion and ultreya. #by personal contact we make friends to bring to Christ," by Jackie. *The Joy of the Gospel* was discussed by Rev. Alex Waraksa, followed by an Ultreya. The evening was ended with night prayer.

Saturday, August 2, 2014. Today, our topic is regarding *Servant Leaders' Call & Responsibility* by Omar Benz, Region 7 Coordinator. He defined leader as somebody who is humble, a person who can be trained, a server, must know his ideal, know what to do and what to achieve. To be a leader you have to be disciplined to accept all God's manifestation. We have to do it as if it's all depend on us and pray for it as if it is dependant to God. A leader has supernatural qualities, a living faith from daily life. Do what we can and ask God to help to do what we cannot do. A leader must have a lot of love. "Friendship is what we need to correct us, to help us see what we do not see and grow to be a good leader." By Omar.

Growing in Holiness through the Cursillo, Deacon Ben Agustin, Region 11 Spiritual Advisor. God want us to grow in personal holiness and help others grow in their own holiness. In the Cursillo we have three means to grow in our holiness. First, the Pre-Cursillo. Second, the Cursillo weekend. Third, the Post Cursillo. There are four dynamic catholic signs. The prayer, study, generosity and evangelization. "The happiest people are the most generous people. God calls you to change yourself and the world for the better," by Dcn Ben.

Stewardship, Hoang Tran, National Cursillo Service Administrator. Lived his Cursillo Weekend in 2007 and encountered Christ in such an intimate way that his spiritual life has change dramatically. He fell in love with the mentality, essence, purpose and Charism of the Cursillo Movement. In February, 2014, Hoang and his family made a decision to relocate to Round Rock, Texas so that he can be present at the National Cursillo Center located in Jarrel, Texas and serve the National Cursillo Movement with conviction., Hoang said, “The life of a Christian steward models the life of Jesus. It is challenging and even difficult in many aspects and yet there is intense joy to live Christ life.” He defined discipline is the call for love and stewardship is the fruit of love. “The Eucharist is the center of life throughout the three days of the Cursillo. Everything in the Cursillo tends to create in the Cursillistas a realization that afterwards, on the fourth day, the Eucharist must be center of our life.” by Hoang.

Sunday, August 3, 2014. All our bags are packed and ready to go. One stopped to visit the Christ Cathedral Parish at Garden Grove, California. The parish is still under renovation but the surrounding is so amazing. The lot size is huge; the mausoleum is so peacefully designed. Our dinner stop at IHOP.

We arrived in Dublin about 6:00 pm. Wow !!! There are more details to share. The line to get in at the dining commons, the line to get your meal (oppssss, they are still cooking). The walk/run to be the first one in and reserve tables and fourteen chairs. The group sharing about the topics. The jokes, the stories, the laughter and lotto tickets. To our fellow Cursillistas, join us next year. The more the merrier. Let us explore and meet fellow Cursillista within the United States. Just like our Cursillo Weekend, you have to experience it to describe the moments of your encounter.

DE CO LORES

By: Sis. Ella Trinidad

As a First time attendee to the National Cursillo Encounter at Orange California, I had no idea how powerful it was. I was so amazed with the attendance, there so many. The Chapman University Auditorium was full of fellow cursillistas that came from different places. I can feel the vibration of the crowd while walking in and out of the auditorium. I can hear the beautiful music, laughter, I can see the never ending flashes of cameras and cell phones in different angles of the room. Lots of hugs and kisses and lots of smiles. This encounter, I learned that being a cursillista is a blessing from God!

By: Sis. Dorie Nues

This is Sister Dorie Nues, Team Rep of St. Patrick's Team giving her two cents. My experience is awesome. In that auditorium, I felt the presence of Jesus with us. The attendees were Brothers and Sisters In Christ together and with each other with the presence of the Lord. And hearing, a speaker, all the way down from Mallorca, Spain; a friend of our own Eduardo Bonnin and shared his spiritual conversations and buddy,

buddy friend of Eduardo Bonnin. That's the highlight of the National Encounter in itself and we were blessed by three bishops in one of the Holy Masses in the encounter. This is my first time to attend a National Encounter. Next year will be at Villanova University, Pennsylvania on July 23 thru July 26, 2015. Brother Mario, count me in for next year. And I am already telling my group about the encounter. One is already thinking of going with me for 2015.

By: Bro. Anito and Sis. Norma Acaba

DECO.....LORES!!!! keeps on ringing in my ears. How long will this last? Could last maybe until the next encounter in Philadelphia. Sis. Norma and I thank everyone of the 12 apostles who represented the Diocese of Oakland at this National Encounter in Orange County. What? no Judas in the 12 apostles. We had a blast. We were the loudest group. We were the Holy Smurfs in this event with our blue shirt. We were also the best dressed group with our Filipiniana Attire. We even force ourselves to be allowed to sing the song that we religiously practiced on our way to Orange County. Sis. Lolit in her excitement keeps introducing herself to everyone around to the point that she was doing the same thing to her own group, the twelve apostle. Our excitement was too much that we could not find our assigned rooms for the night. Tired of looking, some were already resigned to sleep in their cars. But God is good, with some help from other Cursillistas, made it to their room to retire tired.

When everything got settled down, we were able to relax and listen to savor the messages from the speakers. The speaker from Spain, a close friend of Bonin had a very informative message about his friend. It took him more than an hour to tell the tale. I was touched by the message delivered by the first Bishop of Vietnam who celebrated one of the masses. He told us that Pope Paul II gave him two crosses. When he asked why the second cross, the Pope said that "I got too many crosses to bear so I'm giving you one" Several speakers shared some valuable food for thoughts which made our trip very worthwhile. I came to realize why they call the event encounter. I had encountered Jesus Christ in the persons of the cursillistas who attended. Makes me feel that our Filipino cursillo compared to most of the other groups is doing much less. Many groups hold Ultreyas on weekly basis and do more in other activities.

On our way home, we tried to look for an orange tree. Nothing. But we noticed that every street name had a picture of orange fruit before the name. Their traffic light had orange light before it gets to red light. But have the same thing in the Bay Area. No building painted orange. But then again, Sis. Norma and I have enjoyed the trip very much. We still don't have a definite plan if we could go to the next NATIONAL ENCOUNTER. I bought two raffle tickets at the event hoping to get two free tickets to Philadelphia. But I guess it's not a sacrifice that way.

By: Sis. Lolit Kintanar

An encounter with the Lord through the many faces and actions of Sister and Brother Cursillistas from all over.....different ethnic groups, colors, professional backgrounds, age, etc.

My roommate is the Region 8 Coordinator who is Hispanic - our morning and evening together is something I will always treasure as I learned so many things from her in our sharing of our experiences with the Cursillo. I felt that she was Christ speaking to me and I'm sure she felt the same way I did.

I also met Sisters and Brothers from Oklahoma, Arizona, Buffalo, New York, Seattle, Dominican Republic, etc.....many more faces of Christ....It was a happy place for all of us.....Now, our FCC Sisters and Brothers know that I can sing too.

By Deacon Steve Budnik

National Cursillo Encounter Reflection

What do you do when...

The rental van you reserved weeks ahead of time isn't available and you have to drive 10 miles out of your way to pick one up at another location.

The flies outnumber you and your friends 10 to 1 when you stop at a rest area on Highway 5 for lunch.

You make great time on the first 300 miles of your 370 mile trip; but it takes 2 hours for the last 70 miles and when you finally arrive at your destination you can't find where to park.

You go through a slightly chaotic check-in and finally get your room key and meal ticket.

You find the building where your room is located but you can't find the entrance to the building. Your friends know what room they are assigned; but they can't identify the correct building because all the buildings look the same.

Well, these things did happen to me along with eleven other Cursilista friends from our community during our National Cursillo Encounter adventure. What did we do? We laughed, we rejoiced, and we shouted DECO.....LORES!!!! God does have a sense of humor and he gives us great friends to amplify and share the joy.

The 24th National Cursillo Encounter was a truly awesome experience; but to describe is like describing the 3-Day Cursillo Weekend to a non-cursilista. You really had to be there and by the way, if at all possible, please consider attending the 25th National Cursillo Encounter to Philadelphia in July 2015.

The 24 National Encounter officially started with a colorful fun-filled Disney inspired (What else would you expect in Orange County?) opening ceremony. During the two and one half days fourteen Cursillistas from FCC Oakland along with 600 other Cursilistas experienced inspiring talks, great group sharing, joyful liturgies, and a rowdy fiesta with a great variety of entertainment including Mañanitas by the Region XI Filipino Cursillo Communities. By the way Region XI is the only Region in the United States with officially recognized Filipino Cursillo Communities. May this be an inspiration for us to attend next year's encounter and encourage our kababayan from other regions.

For me personally this 24th National Cursillo Encounter strengthened my love for our Filipino Cursillo Community, reinforced my commitment to the movement, and inspired new hope in the ability of friendship to transform the world.





Celebrating You

Filipino Cursillo Community Annual Picnic 2014



The Filipino Cursillo Community Annual Picnic was a success!!!

July 26 2014 was the big day!! The Post Cursillo Committee had the great Idea of reuniting the Men and Women graduates of the last five years from Cursillo #79 of 2009 through Cursillo #88 of 2013.

The theme of the picnic is “Celebrating you”. The goal is to celebrate each one of YOU for being an integral part of the Filipino Cursillo Community. To once again inspire and rekindle that Cursillo fire burning in all your hearts!!!

Everyone had a good time! The food was abundant just like any other Filipino gathering! There was endless delicious pork BBQ, grilled mixed vegetables, hot dogs, pasta provided by the FCC and of course countless different authentic dishes from all the group reunion teams!! Desserts were guiltily delicious!!! Everyone went home five pounds heavier not including the 10 lbs “to go” bags!



We had fun under the sun, Limbo rock game was the greatest!! Young and not so young joined in and competed in showing off limber bodies!!! It was amazing how the game brought joy and exercise at the same time!! Once again, women won the Tug-O-War game but gave the winning medals to the men!!! Blindfold egg hunt was great!!! Bingo as always is the all-time favorite!!!! Many gifts given away!

The guest of honors, rectors and rectoras of Cursillo #79 through Cursillo 88 were presented to the community together with their graduates. Each group present sang their theme song and some gave dance presentation.



Music and dancing were wonderful. The best part of the picnic was that the new and seasoned cursillistas bonded and celebrated well together in a different environment. It was beautiful to see each one share the joy, laughter and friendship we had built together. It is endearing to witness the genuine love we have for one another and reminisce the day we all started our journey together with our Lord Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit was certainly present in all of us that day!

Deacon Albert who joined us at the last stretch gave such a heartwarming inspirational talk that we all took home with great understanding.

Many thanks to all who pitched in with all the work and thank you to the PCC committee who made this event a glorious success!!!

The Filipino Cursillo Community is truly blessed to be the recipient of your love, dedication and commitment because of your love for our Lord Jesus Christ!!



God is good all the time, All the time God is good! ...De Colores!!!



Mariposa Newsletter
 Editor: **Sis. Myrla Raymundo, MBA**

**The Filipino Cursillo Community
 Diocese of Oakland**

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Spiritual Adviser:
 Deacon Steve Budnik

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Newsletter/FCC Website
 : Myrla Raymundo
 Through June 30, 2015

Website - <http://www.fccoakland.net/>
 Fr. Jose Arong, Webmaster

EDITOR'S NOTES:

To our brother and sister cursillistas:

This special issue is a compilation of thoughts of our brothers and sisters, who had experienced abundant joy and happiness in their recent special activities.

Thank you all for sharing your love of God to everyone who were in your company and to everybody who will read your beautiful messages.

Please enjoy this Special Issue.

.....
 The Secretariat



Bro. Mario Camorongan
Lay Director