

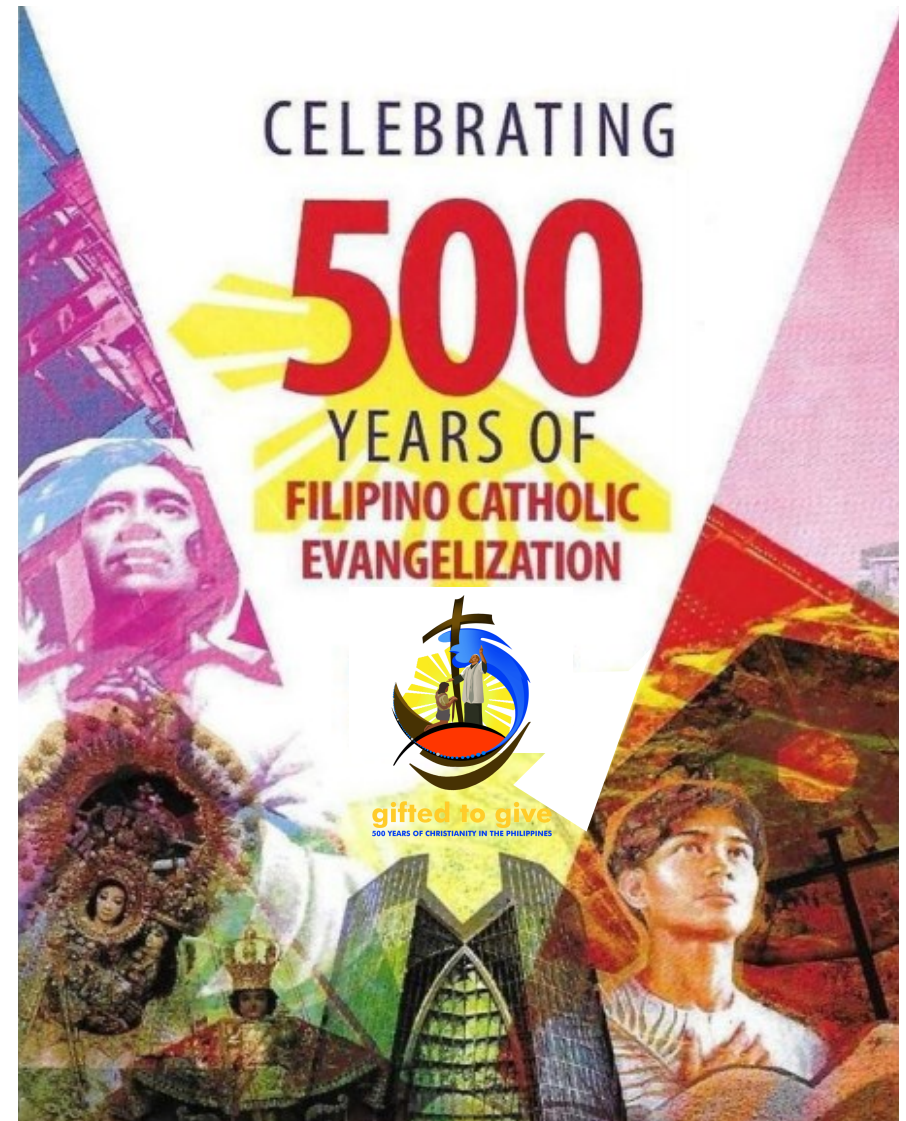
Santo Niño Shrine & Prayer Space at St. Paul Catholic Church in Tampa



THE OFFICERS

STO. NIÑO SHRINE USA, INC. & ANG BISAYA OF FLORIDA, INC.

**Worship Aid for the Eucharistic Celebration of
500 Years of Christianity in the Philippines
April 21, 2021**



ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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PROCESSION OF THE JUBILEE CROSS

INTRODUCTION

Today, we commemorate half a millennium of Christianity in the Philippines. We celebrate and raise our hearts and voices to God in praise and thanksgiving for in 500 years the Christian faith planted in the Philippines has not only survived but has been a strong influence in the culture and character of the people, and this faith is alive and vibrant.

The Christian faith and devotion of the Filipinos is recognized all over the world. Countless Filipino missionaries, migrants, and their families have shared the joy of this faith in their new homelands. The faith and joy of Filipinos continue to strengthen the Church - here in the Diocese of St. Petersburg, and in countries all over the world where Filipino communities are found.

The faith we have received as a gift from God has been nurtured in the rich soil of the Philippines. For 500 years, this vibrant faith has been, and continues to be, lived out daily and this vibrant faith has been a precious gift shared with the world. For this we give our thankful praise to God.

(The Jubilee Cross and the Statue of the Santo Niño and Our Lady process to the altar with entourage waving handkerchiefs while the Entrance Song, "Batobalani Sa Gugma" ("Magnet of Love"), is sung. The altar servers and the concelebrating priests follow. At the altar, the chief celebrant says the following):

We welcome this Pilgrim Cross, which today marks the 500th anniversary of the evangelization of the Philippines in 2021. The Filipino communities of our Diocese along with all the faithful, have been preparing for this significant commemoration through prayer, renewal, and reflection.

This Cross, the sign of our faith, is a replica of the cross planted for the first time in the Philippines in 1521 by Spanish missionaries, bringing our Catholic faith. Together with the Filipino communities of our diocese, we join in giving thanks and praise to God for the gift of faith and ask the Holy Spirit to renew us that we may always know Christ better and make him better known today. We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you. For by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.



gifted to give
500 YEARS OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE PHILIPPINES

COME PRAY WITH US!

First Friday of the Month

Novena to Santo Niño, 7:00 PM
Holy Mass, 7:30 PM

Fridays of the Month

Perpetual Novena to Santo Niño,
7:00 PM

Third Friday of the Month

Novena to Our Lady of Good Health,
7:00 PM
Novena to Santo Niño, 7:15 PM
Holy Mass, 7:30 PM

Third Sunday of January

Santo Niño Fiesta Mass & Sinulog
Festival, 4:00 PM
Preceded by consecutive 9-day Novena
of Masses, 7:00 PM



The Santo Niño Shrine USA, Ang Bisaya of Florida, Inc., and St. Paul's Filipino Ministry are profoundly grateful, in one way or another, to those who have given their time, talents and resources in the Commemoration and Celebration of 500 Years of Christianity in the Philippines. Our particular acknowledgement and gratitude go to Rev. Father Bill Swengros, pastor of St. Paul Catholic Church - Tampa; concelebrating priests; ministers of the altar; music team; Filipino-American organizations; multicultural & ethnic communities; Charles Yezak, Jr., Director of Communications; Mr. Jun Calotes, Cross Maker; and to the following generous Financial Contributors:

Thank You

Drs. Tito & Flor Alquizola, Ms. Cecille Andales, Mr. & Mrs. Rocky & Emma Barrido, Ms. Leonalda Barron, Dr. & Mrs. Antonio & Vilma Bayani, Mr. & Mrs. James & Mylene Bayani, Mr. & Mrs. Ed A. & Susan N. Bilbao, Mrs. Aurora Bowen, Dr. Ledwina Colina, Columbiettes #8104, Mr. & Mrs. Tito & Nilda de la Cruz, Mr. & Mrs. Emil & Lorma Cruz, Mrs. Zeny Cruz, Mr. & Mrs. Eden & Cindy Devora, Mrs. Olivia Dipasupil, Mr. & Mrs. Jun & Eva Domantay, Mr. & Mrs. Leo & Edna Duran, Mrs. Adela Gianan, Mrs. Celia Goforth, Mr. & Mrs. Stanley & Ida Houston, Mr. & Mrs. Mac & Nida Liwanag, Dr. Ricky P. Lockett, Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy & Lori Macalalag, Mr. & Mrs. John & Thelma Managad, Mr. & Mrs. Mervin & Maribel Markines, Dr. & Mrs. Quirubin & Flor Mendoza, Ms. Violeta Molina, Mrs. Marilyn A. Navarro, Mr. & Mrs. Wade & Evelyn Oden, Mr. & Mrs. Pete & Nenita Plaza, Mrs. Germelisa Ong Pepito, Dr. & Mrs. Ireneo & Helen Racoma, Drs. Jose & Maria Raffiñan, Mr. & Mrs. Ruperto & Dulcie Rivera, Mrs. Victoria Seaman, Mr. & Mrs. Bob & Rosalie Sherman, Mr. & Mrs. Dennis & Claire Thompson, Mr. & Mrs. Lito & Merced Villanueva.

Celebration of the Most Holy Eucharist 500 Years of Christianity in the Philippines † April 21, 2021

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Sign of the Cross

Greeting

Penitential Act

Gloria

Collect (Opening Prayer)

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading (Acts 2:42-47) [Tagalog]

Reader: A proclamation from the Acts of the Apostles.

They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their property and possessions and divide them among all according to each one's need.

Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple area and to breaking bread in their homes. They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 145)

R:/ I will praise Your name forever.

Second Reading (Eph. 1:3-17)

Reader: A reading from the book of Ephesians.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him. In love he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ, in accord with the favor of his will, for the praise of the glory of his grace that he granted us in the beloved.

In him we have redemption by his blood, the forgiveness of transgressions, in accord with the riches of his grace that he lavished upon us. In all wisdom and insight, he has made known to us the mystery* of his will in accord with his favor that he set forth in him as a plan for the fullness of times, to sum up all things in Christ, in heaven and on earth.

In him we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will, so that we might exist for the praise of his glory, we who first hoped in Christ. In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed* with the promised Holy Spirit, which is the first installment* of our inheritance toward redemption as God's possession, to the praise of his glory. Therefore, I, too, hearing of your faith in the Lord Jesus and of your love for all the holy ones, do not cease giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation: *(Alleluia! Alleluia!)*

Gospel (Matthew 11:25-30)

Priest: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At that time Jesus exclaimed: "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to little ones. Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him."

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily

Prayer of the Faithful

Priest: We are among those who believe in the resurrection of Jesus even though we never put our fingers in the nail marks in his hands, nor touched his wounded side. Let us renew our profession of faith in the Risen Christ, as we commemorate 500 Years of

Christianity in the Philippines and address our petitions to him:

- 1) That as we mark the 500th anniversary of the evangelization of the Filipino people, the Holy Spirit may renew and deepen in all of us the light of faith, we pray to the Lord. **R:/ Lord, hear our prayer.**
- 2) That all Catholics may grow in zeal to share the gospel with others, and offer the edifying example of unity, sincere devotion, and care for the poor, we pray to the Lord. **R:/**
- 3) That the Holy Spirit may guide the Church together with the Filipino communities of our diocese and all Catholics of every land, and may we experience a deepened renewal of hope and love, we pray to the Lord. **R:/**
- 4) That those who have left their native homelands seeking security and better opportunities, may find welcome, acceptance, and support in their new homes, we pray to the Lord. **R:/**
- 5) That the Filipino communities of our parish and diocese, may continue to share the gift of their faith, their strong devotion to the Blessed Mother, and their generous kindness with all, we pray to the Lord. **R:/**
- 6) That we and our young generation and generations after them may become active promoters of peace and justice in our families and society, we pray to the Lord. **R:/**
- 7) That those facing difficulties of any kind in this time of global pandemic, and those who have contracted Coronavirus, may experience God's providence and healing presence in their lives, we pray to the Lord. **R:/**
- 8) That those who have gone before us, especially those who had planted and nurtured the seed of Christianity in the Philippines, may rejoice in his eternal presence, we pray to the Lord. **R:/**

Priest: Lord Jesus, we thank you for the gifts of 500 Years of Christianity in the Philippines, your presence and the Holy Spirit. May they bring us ever closer to you, and make us signs and instruments of the life you gave us. You who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: **Amen!**

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Song

Preparation of the Gifts

Prayer Over the Offerings

Preface

Memorial Acclamation

COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

Communion

Prayer After Communion

(After the Prayer after Communion, all are invited to stand and say the prayer for the 500th Anniversary together.)

PRAYER FOR THE 500th ANNIVERSARY OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE PHILIPPINES

Almighty ever-living God, we offer our praise and thanksgiving to the honor of your glory, for by the grace of the Catholic faith planted in the islands of the Philippines in 1521, You blessed us with a prophetic calling to become missionary disciples of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Graciously hear our pleading for a

renewed outpouring of the Holy Spirit that we may embrace and embody the mission entrusted to us: "to know Christ better and to make Him better known."

Bless the Philippines, our parish of St. Paul and the Diocese of St. Petersburg, together with its Clergy, Religious and Lay Faithful, as we celebrate the Jubilee of our Filipino Catholic evangelization. We fervently implore that You continue to strengthen and empower us so that the faith we have received may become the journey we will ever live and the mission we will ever propagate, thereby bringing us to a divine encounter with Christ the Light, who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

San Lorenzo Ruiz de Manila, pray for us.
San Pedro Calungsod, pray for us.
Our Lady of Peñafrancia, intercede for us.
Senyor Santo Niño, have mercy on us.

CONCLUDING RITES

Solemn Blessing

Dismissal

Recessional Hymn

