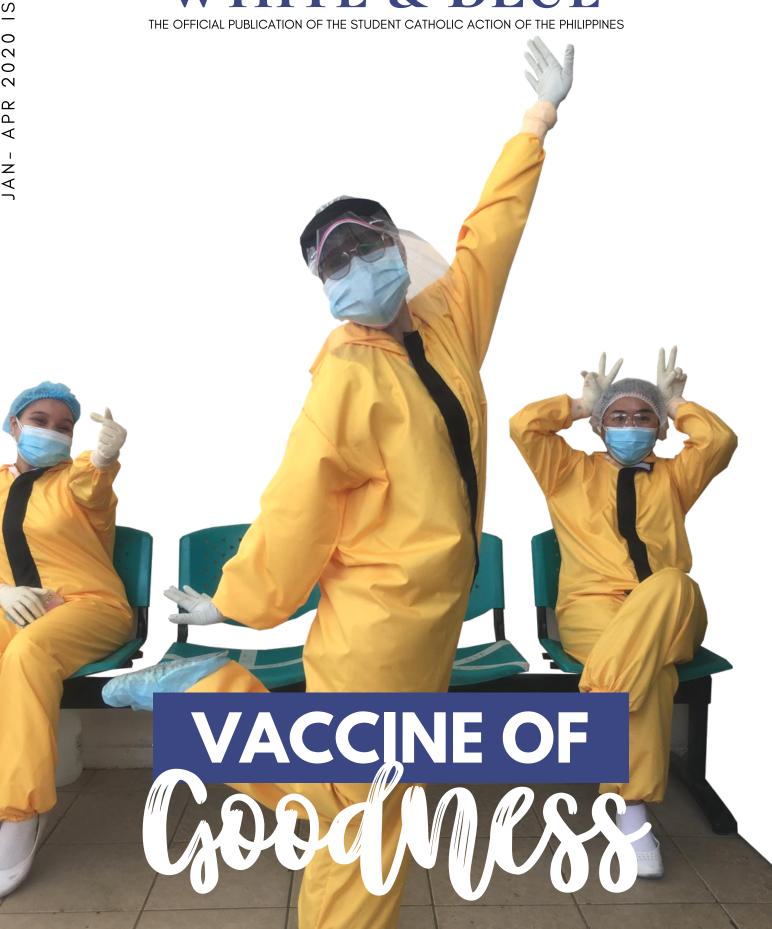


## WHITE & BLUE





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#### DISCLAIMER

The Student Catholic Action of the Philippines welcomes and respects personal reflections, thoughts, and opinions coming from contributors and writers of White and Blue. However, any form of written expressions, sentiments, feedback, and reactions published do not necessarily represent the national movement, the national board, council, and the secretariat.

Make us more effective media evangelizers. Feedback at mail@scaphilippines.org



# FROM THE NATIONAL DESK



ATTY. ALMA "KINS" E. APARECE
National Directress

I have many lessons learned during this quarantine period. I learned that I need to take care of my feeling of being afraid because things are beyond my control. After that, I was calmer, more precise, and more spiritually connected. I decided to notice goodness all around us.

I highly appreciated the creativity and resilience of humanity all over the globe. I am amazed at how we can virtually connect! A week after quarantine, SCAP offered to host cultures of peace workshops that allowed some of our SCAn leaders to be together. Said Friday sessions gave rise to having more kamustahan, online cell meetings, prayers, masses, and even an online concert for the 84th anniversary of SCA!

The words of Isaiah as he said, "Be not afraid for I am with you" (Is 41:10) is very much palpable in these times. I am very proud to hear about how each one of us did our part to combat COVID-19. I am also touched to read SCAn front-liner stories!

Daily, I hear stories of goodness happening around us. In this quarantine, two great persons of goodness joined to our Creator: Tita Carn Abella and Sr. Mary Vianney Ramirez. They dedicated part of their lives to SCA. Tita Carn served the SCA board and unselfishly coached and mentored the national team. Sr. Mary Vianney served the Manila Archdiocesan SCA Public High Schools and journeyed as a formator to them.

The list of lessons and learnings will continue. And I am very sure, the greatness of the human spirit will always prevail.

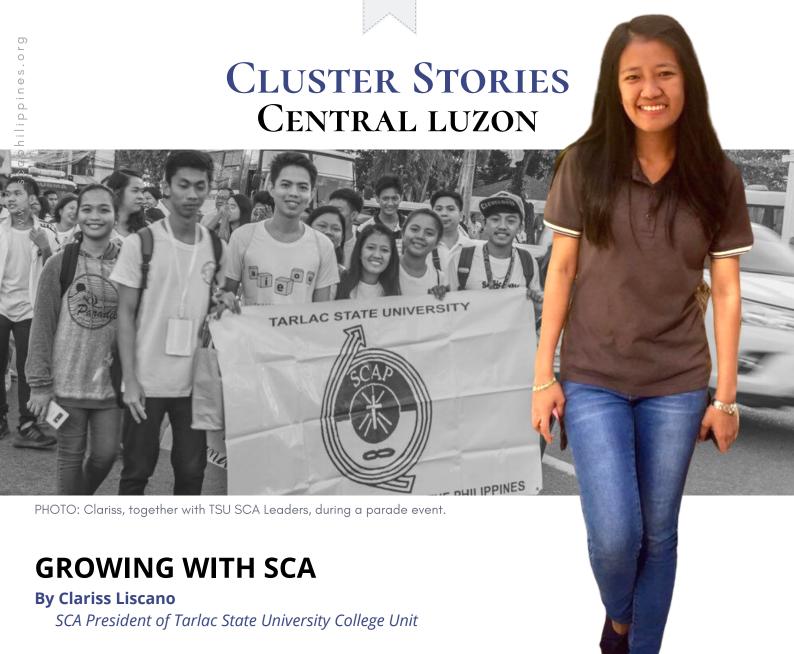
+LEOPOLDO C. JAUCIAN, SVD, D.D.

National Chaplain

FRENCE M. BOISER | JONEL BRYAN M. REYES | JOHN FLOYD D. ABRICO

National Coordinators





I share to you my SCA journey and how God changed me to grow and to love more. As I write my SCA story today, I am filled with emotions. I am amazed at how God allows me to meet Him halfway.

When I accepted the responsibilities to become an SCA President at Tarlac State University, I doubted first. Can I make the mission work? I knew I would need to be physically and spiritually prepared. And so, I always pray, "Lord, please, lead me so I can lead others." I hope to accompany new SCA Leaders. I surrender all my worries to God because He never fails to guide me. I strive to do more, but I made sure to focus on Christ, not only in my own strengths.

It is challenging to handle academics and extra-curricular activities at the same time. But I am willing and able to commit myself to service, to restore all things in Christ. I've been through a lot of hardships and victories, and there are learning moments with my co-SCAns. The regular meetings and sharing enrich our personal faith experiences. (continue to next page)



# CLUSTER STORIES CENTRAL LUZON

In SCA, the movement helps me to remind myself whether every day I am conscious enough of not destroying all forms of life. With all that is happening around the world, I realize that everyone has to be more caring and compassionate - to love deeper and see God's love in them.

God sees all our efforts and sacrifices. There were times I get tired and disappointed when plans don't work out. But, He continually shows the right way. Life is teaching me also that it is not all about me. It is about strengthening others and glorifying God.

As an SCA Leader, I hope to have an impact on our brothers and sisters in Christ. SCA does not only focus on religious activities. It also values those who are at the fringes of society. It is vigilant about how we treat our surroundings, especially our care for the earth.

One of my goals in life is helping others, even in the simplest means. I am forever grateful because I get to apply the See-Judge-Act Methodology. What I like best also is the SCA Advocacy for the care of creation, and the "Deep Journey to Laudado Si." In SCA, the movement helps me to remind myself whether every day I am conscious enough of not destroying all forms of life. With all that is happening around the world, I realize that everyone has to be more caring and compassionate - to love deeper and see God's love in them.

All for Christ!



### Cluster Stories NCR



#### MISYON, PAGPAPALA SA GITNA NG "LOCKDOWN"

**Kuwento ni Peter Matthew Glinoga** 

SCA College Leader, University of the East (UE CCP-SCA Unit)

Napakasimpleng isipin na ang isang estudyanteng katulad ko ang gagawin lang ay pumasok sa pamantasan at ang iisipin ay pag-aaral lang. Ngunit, ang mga ganitong bagay pala ay kadalasan kong nakakalimutan na isang biyaya.

Sa aking pag-uwi kasama ko naman ang aking mga magulang na nag-aaruga at nagmamahal sa akin. Sa 'di inaasahang pagkakataon may mga sakunang dumarating sa ating buhay. Ang pagsabog ng bulkang taal ay isa na dito. Naranasan kong pumasok sa unibersidad na may facemask. May kasaysayan ako sa sakit sa baga, kaya doble ang pag-iingat ko noong sumabog ang Bulkang Taal. Abot ang abo sa kalakhang Maynila.

Nagagalak ako dahil marami ang tumulong sa sakuna na dulot ng bulkang Taal. Ngunit nahiya ako sa aking sarili dahil hindi ko naibigay man lang ang hinanda kong donasyon na mga kumot. Naisip ko kasi na baka 'di ito tatanggapin. Sa aking pagninilay, dapat pala na ibinigay ko ang aking tulong sapagkat ito ay misyon. May misyon ang bawat pinagpala na magbigay, gaano man ito kalaki o kaliit.

Pagkalipas ng ilang araw, dumating ang COVID-19. Nakansela ang mga klase ko. Nasakto ito nang isinugod ang aking ina sa UERM hospital. May masamang pakiramdam ang aking ina at kailangan niyang maoperahan sa apdo. Labis na pagdadasal ang aking ginawa. Naging matagumpay ang operasyon kahit na natatakot kami sa pagka-diabetic niya. Inabot ito ng anim na oras. Pagkatapos ng operasyon, siya ay aming inalagaan nang lubos. May mga panahon na kami ay nagtatalo lalo na kapag nagnanais siyang uminum na bawal pa sa kanya. Kung minsan, hindi ako nagiging tutok sa pag-aalaga sa kanya. (Itutuloy sa susunod na pahina)



### Cluster Stories NCR

Patuloy akong nagdarasal ng rosaryo para sa aking ina. Ito rin ang daan upang mas mahalin ko siya. Inabot kami ng halos isang linggo sa ospital kung saan inabutan na kami ng community quarantine. Maigi na lang na naka-uwi kami sa Taytay Rizal kung saan doon nagpagaling si Mama. Laking pasasalamat naming na sa pamonuan sa UERM, sapagkat halos wala kaming ginastos sa ospital. Lubos na pinagpala kami ng Diyos.

Habang kami ay nasa Taytay at nagpapagaling ang aking ina, kami ay tumulong sa mga nangangailangan lalo na sa lugar namin. Nag-repack at binahagi namin ang relief goods sa mga lugar na labis na nangangailangan. Ako ay nagpapasalamat sa Tita ko mula sa France na nagbigay ng pera upang kami ay tulungan at makapagbahagi sa iba.

Habang may ECQ, ginugol ko rin ang oras na kasama ang aking magulang sa pagsisimba online at pagrorosaryo kada gabi. Ginugol ko din ang mga panahong ito upang gamitin ang social media at iba't-ibang *conferencing platform* para magpatuloy sa aking ministry, sa SCA-CCP UE Manila, Feast Taytay, at Catholic Faith Defenders Rizal.

Sa bahay naman sinigurado ko na makakapag-aral ako ng pang-akademiko at dagdag pa rito ang pag-enrol sa mga libreng kurso sa DOST. Nalayo man ako sa isang espesyal na kaibigan, sinigurado ko naman ang aking komunikasyon sa kanya araw-araw. Habang nasa ECQ, napapalalim ang relasyon ko sa aking pamilya para lalong tumibay ang aming samahan sa isa't-isa. (Itutuloy sa susunod na pahina)

Nalayo man ako sa isang espesyal na kaibigan, sinigurado ko naman ang aking komunikasyon sa kanya araw-araw. Habang nasa ECQ, napapalalim ang relasyon ko sa aking pamilya para lalong tumibay ang aming samahan sa isa't-isa.



### Cluster Stories NCR

Ang misyon ko ngayon ay pagmamahal at pagaalaga sa mga ipinagkaloob sa akin ng Diyos. Ito ay ang aking pamilya, kaibigan, talento, at espesyal na kaibigan. Ito ang misyon ko, hanggang nabubuhay ako. buo ang desisyon ko sapagkat ito ang pamana ng Diyos ko sa akin.

Tunay na ako ay pinagpala ng Diyos, kaya may tungkulin akong gamitin ang pagpapalang ito, upang makatulong at makapagbahagi sa iba. Ang misyon kong ito ay nagsimula sa pagtawag ng Diyos, na puno ng pagmamahal, sumunod ang aking pagtugong dasal ng puno ng kapayapaan, at ang aking pagkilos na may pagmamahal.

Ang misyon ay pagmamahal. Saan man tayo dalhin ng Diyos ito lamang ang tawag na hindi maitatanggi ng lahat. Ang tawag ng Diyos ay gagabayan at papalakasin ng dasal. Ang misyon ko ngayon ay pagmamahal at pag-aalaga sa mga ipinagkaloob sa akin ng Diyos. Ito ay ang aking pamilya, kaibigan, talento, at espesyal na kaibigan. Ito ang misyon ko, hanggang nabubuhay ako. buo ang desisyon ko sapagkat ito ang pamana ng Diyos ko sa akin.



#### **MY SCA STORY: From Discrimination to Inspiration**

By Donnabelle T. Saure

Outgoing SCA President of St. Anthony's Academy of Carmen (Diocese of Talibon)

When I saw the post in the Student Catholic Action of the Philippines Facebook page encouraging SCAns from all over the country to share their SCA stories, I can't help but smile as I reminisce mine. Flashbacks rushed into my mind from the moment how God changed my life when I joined SCA way back 2017. I realized that we can find true happiness when everything we do is central to God.

I remembered the day when my mom told me that I am a miracle baby. She even thought that I was a "special" child because of the medicines I took, which eventually affected my lungs. As a result, I have asthma. Because of that, my life wasn't easy. I even had a distant relationship with God. Sometimes, I lose hope and even wish to die. I felt that I didn't belong to this society because I also experienced being bullied and discriminated by others. But hope is always there, as long as you are alive. God had sent beautiful people who introduced me to Him. One day, I saw a group of SCAns who are happily serving God and treating each other as a family. I felt overwhelmed with what I saw, which encouraged and inspired me to join such a beautiful movement. (continue to next page)



PHOTO: The author stands with a number of SCAns from Talibon during their diocesan convention.

I saw a group of SCAns who are happily serving God and treating each other as a family. I felt overwhelmed with what I saw, which encouraged and inspired me to join such a beautiful movement.



As time passed by, I became a full-fledged SCAn. My life became better when I decided to serve and follow God. There are things that I never thought I would be able to experience, and I discovered a lot of things I was capable of doing. My journey was indeed a roller coaster ride when I was elected as SCA President in our unit. There are times that I wanted to give up because being a president is a huge responsibility. Fortunately, my family and fellow SCAns motivated me to continue. I also gain more confidence when I was exposed to many places to inspire people by evangelizing the word of God. When I see people smile, it inspires me to help those people in need. SCA taught me how to become a good citizen in our society by using the SEE-JUDGE-ACT Method.

When I see people smile, it inspires me to help those people in need. SCA taught me how to become a good citizen in our society by using the SEE-JUDGE-ACT Method.

Indeed, Student Catholic Action molded me in all aspects of my life. I discovered that I can do more, more than I expected. I learned that God's love can change a person's life as He did to mine. There are times that we lose hope, but He will surely find ways to express His love to us. I am so blessed to have a supportive family and friends. I owe my life to the Lord, and I am giving it back to Him through serving others. Lastly, I hope that the SCAns in my unit will continue striving to become more like Christ. Just like Him, may we continue to be "fishers of men"" who generously evangelize and inspire others. Let everything that we do here on Earth be made with and for God, "For our Flag, For our Faith, For Christ the King!"



#### **MY SCA STORY: Trust beats Humiliation**

By Maria Teresa G. Butron

SCA Unit Secretary of Pilar Technical Vocational High School (Diocese of Talibon)

My life before I join Student Catholic Action was somewhat full of despair, insults, and bullying. I felt like no one treated me as a family. I have a congenital cataract. An eye operation when I was in grade six made my right eye aesthetically distorted. Being physically-challenged, I am sad to know people who looked at me negatively different. I even heard some of them telling me that I am not capable of doing anything. Despite the humiliation, I still feel blessed because I met beautiful souls called SCAns, who saw greatness in me. They saw me as someone capable of doing things on her own. They believed so I can believe I got talents that I could use to glorify and serve God.

Despite the humiliation, I still feel blessed because I met beautiful souls called SCAns, who saw greatness in me. They saw me as someone capable of doing things on my own.

Because of SCA friends, my ambitions in life became different. That's the reason why I joined this movement five years ago. My first goal when I joined SCA is to build trust. Building trust in the sense that in everything that is given to me, I can do it. To build trust is staying true to other people and to be with them without fear. Building trust in a manner that I can give my assurance to God's plans for my life.

My second goal is to make myself available to others. That I could freely mingle with others despite my difference. That I could generously help to the needs of my environment and that I could fully consider myself as a big part of the society.



My third and last goal is to become a SCAn not just by name but as a whole person for others. I want to be an inspiration to other people who has certain conditions like mine.

Now, in my 4 years of being a SCAn, I am thankful that all the goals I set for this movement are achieved. I never imagine being seen as someone trustworthy, friendly, and selfless servant leader. SCA made me realize that I am not just my disability. I am very grateful that in every word I speak and in every action I make becomes an inspiration to others. As a "risk-taker" in this journey, I walked through, my greatest asset will forever be my dependence on God. I trust that God will never leave and forsake me.

Though this journey is just a beginning, I am looking forward to more experiences to cherish and more people to inspire. One thing that I learned in SCA is to pray, not for myself, but to pray for others. Praying for others is a way of expressing my love for them. In SCA, I dedicate that I won't just promise to show loyalty, but also turn my words in actions for God's glory. No matter what I will go through in life, as long as God is with me, I will always consider it my success. I will always put in mind that every achievement will never be called a success without God. And yes, my SCA life is my success.

"To Christ, the King... Love and Loyalty!"

Now, in my 4 years of being a SCAn, I am thankful that all the goals I set for this movement are achieved. I never imagine being seen as someone trustworthy, friendly, and selfless servant leader. SCA made me realize that I am not just my disability.



### CLUSTER STORIES MINDANAO



#### Remembering SCA Outreach, Connection

By Julie-boy Revilleza, SCA National Council College Rep for Mindanao

**SCA TANDAG -** Unusual events start to make scenes this year. But, hope is still alive in the hearts of many. The same is true in Mindanao.

During the lockdown, holy mass is celebrated in the Facebook live stream. Meetings are quite hard to discuss. Going to the grocery and other day-to-day works are all affected. The pandemic changes everything from the usual to uncomfortable. However, I continue to join SCA activities through online means.

SCA taught me to be authentic and confident in service. But this time, I have hard thoughts. Given that I am a student, I ask myself, how can I help battle the pandemic. I miss the SCA outreach. I recall the first quarter of the year. SCA Tandag served almost 200 students and other members of the community at KisKis School of Living Tradition in Sitio Siagao, San Miguel, Surigao del Sur last January 24, 2019.





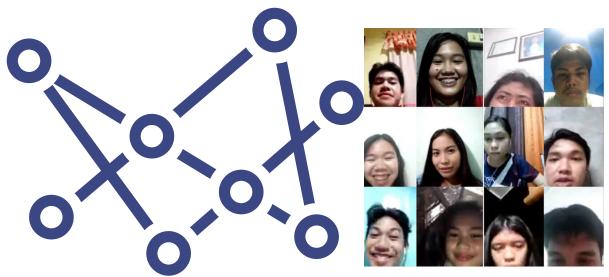
PHOTO: SCA Tandag team visits Kiskis School of Living Tradition in Sitio Siagao

During her 18th birthday, Alma R. Mendero, SCA NCC High School Representative for Mindanao, chose to celebrate her 18th birthday with the students in Sitio Siagao. SCA volunteers provided meals, school supplies, and home essentials. The volunteers also taught the participants how to keep the environment clean. Fr. Ronald Josoy, DCT, our St. Therese College of Tandag School Chaplain accompanied us in celebration of the Year of Ecumenism, Inter-religious Dialogue, and Indigenous Peoples. (continue to next page)



### CLUSTER STORIES MINDANAO

Today, I am facing a "how-to-help" crisis. But since our actions are limited, I can become a back-liner instead - to stay at home for our front-liners, to offer them my prayers, and to console fellow SCA friends in any possible communication means. Let us ask for the intercession of our dear Mother exemplifying the virtues of obedience and humility. In being an SCAn, one does not stop the mission. We can still be connected. Let us all journey towards healing and when the time comes that we can all go out once again, let us do more! - FIN -





SCA Online Cell Meetings launched

By Stephanie Mana, Senior High School Leader

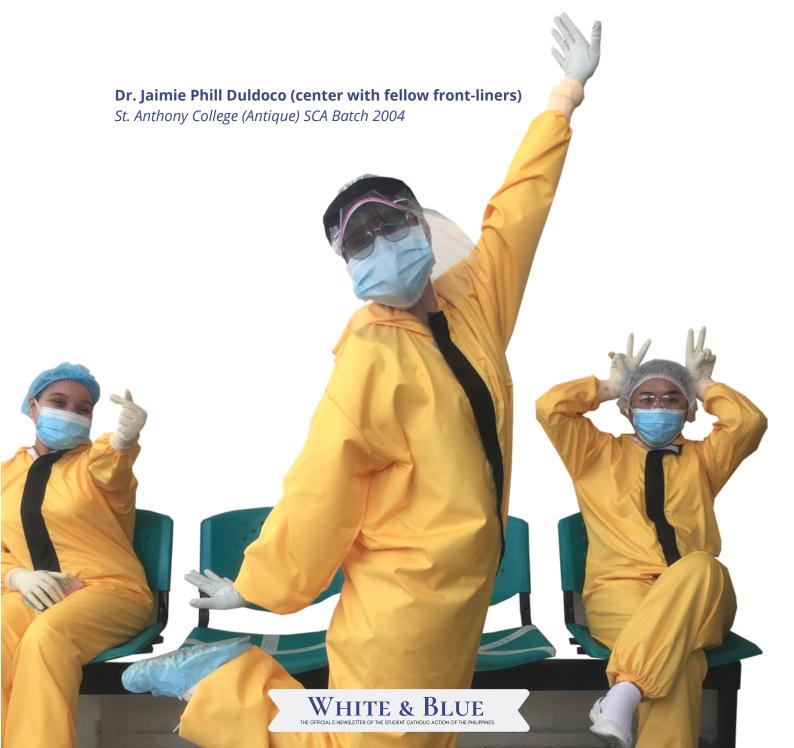
SCA CAGAYAN DE ORO - We conducted our second online cell meeting last 3rd of May 2020 using the 7-Step Gospel Sharing. Each of us was able to pray, share, and reflect with the Gospel, according to Saint John. Amidst the pandemic that is currently disturbing the lives of the people, we successfully made the said activity with the help of our Almighty God. The cell meeting helps us to grow closer and pray together as one SCA family. Even in challenging times, distance is not a problem to be able to communicate with each other and pray as one. May the Lord continue to protect and guide us in the coming weeks ahead.

\*The SCA cell meetings, practically done face-to-face in small groups, are now introduced online. This move came out from the limitations of the pandemic. SCA aCDO began conducting the activity last 26th of April 2020. SCAP is providing free technology such as Teams app for video and call conferencing. The national secretariat is planning to roll out guidelines and tutorial to setup the online cell meeting. Cell meetings are in the heart of SCA life. It is where personal formation of leaders start to grow.



## SCA COBLOOD

In SCA, we live the SEE-JUDGE-ACT to critically reflect every situation for us to see clearly and to be able to find the right solutions. We were taught the WWJD principle: What Would Jesus Do in a case like this pandemic? I believe that Jesus, too, will be serving in the front lines. Who am I to walk away during these difficult times?



### SCA COBLOOD









PHOTO: (From left) Dr. Jaimie Phill Duldoco, SCAn from St. Anthony College (Antique); Dr. Mark Caezar Calimbahin, SCAn from Jesus Good Shepherd School (Imus); and Nurses Beda Galicia and Sandra Beronio-Court, SCAns from University of Bohol.



In the race to finding the cure against the COVID-19, four alumni SCAns offered their personal notes on how they bravely face the invisible enemy to save the lives of those who are at risk. PPEs turned out like full-combat gears yet the main shield of defense were the true acts of goodness - service, commitment to mission, and compassion.

The next pages will feature alumni SCAns Dr. Jaimie Phil Duldoco from St. Anthony College in Antique, Dr. Mark Caezar Calimbahin from Jesus Good Shepherd School in Imus, Cavite, and nurses Beda Galicia and Sandra Beronio-Court from University of Bohol. Spread out in the different corners of the country and another based in United Kingdom, let us read their difficult encounters, personal struggles and above all the triumph of their faith in action.









PHOTO: Dr. Jaimie exposes her face unmasked after work. She works with fellow doctors in the hospital's triage.

#### DR. JAIMIE PHILL DULDOCO NOTES HER FAITH IN SERVICE OVER FEAR.

I never imagined that in my calling as a doctor, I will be serving in a pandemic. I am a Family Resident Physician in Training, and I act as one of the Triage Officers in our hospital. I do a quick assessment of all patients coming in for admission and tag them according to the DOH Algorithm for COVID-19 Classification.

Being in the front lines is overwhelming. I had encountered disease outbreaks like dengue and measles in the past, and I was confident. But COVID-19 is different. With a high infection rate, without a known cure, and the vaccine still being developed, the disease is scary. You never know if you will be spared even if you are equipped with personal protection. It is challenging and complicated since the situation can get out of hand if we are not able to stop the virus from spreading. But no matter how scary, challenging, and hard it is, I still have to carry on because that is what I am called to do. In SCA, we live by the SEE-JUDGE-ACT methodology; *(continue to next page)* 

White & Blue

to analyze deeply every situation for us to see clearly and be able to find the right solutions. We were taught the WWJD principle: What Would Jesus Do in a case like this pandemic? I believe that Jesus, too, will be serving in the front lines. Who am I to walk away during these difficult times?

One of the hardest things about this pandemic is being away from your family. My siblings and I are scattered all over the Philippines. My brother is in Manila, one of my sisters is stuck in Cebu, whereas my other sister, who has a heart condition, is in Iloilo and is part of a skeleton workforce – while our parents are in our hometown in Antique. Many weeks ago, my brother told us that he may have been exposed to the virus. The fear and worry that this brought me are distressing, knowing that he is all alone in Manila. But prayer is my weapon. Every day, I fervently prayed for my brother's health and that he will be spared, and God did not fail to heed my call.

In these trying times, we cannot help but ask where God is amidst all these. Why is He allowing all these to happen? But if we look closer, we can see that God is present everywhere. He is in the people serving in the front lines.

In these trying times, we cannot help but ask where God is amidst all these. Why is He allowing all these to happen? But if we look closer, we can see that God is present everywhere. He is in the people serving in the front lines. He is in the different business tycoons, philanthropists, and ordinary people who join in solidarity to help the front liners, the homeless, and the jobless, in the people who recovered and proved that miracles happen, and in our homes as we stick together reunited and pray as a family.

Let us continue praying for our front-liners that they may be protected and spared. Let us remember the people afflicted with this disease that their health will be restored; for the scientists that they may finally come up with the vaccine and a cure; for the government leaders that they consider the welfare of everyone in making decisions; and for everyone's safety and wellbeing.



#### DR. MARK CAEZAR CALIMBAHIN UPLIFTS FELLOW FRONT LINERS IN THE HEALTH BATTLE.

I am a doctor, currently in the field of occupational medicine, and I am an SCAn. My main task is typically to promote the health of employees as well as to educate and treat them against safety and health hazards. Aside from the regular medical cases, I sometimes encounter patients who are COVID PUMs or PUIs and refer them to necessary facilities for screening and subsequent treatment. These are rare times indeed, and I know many are scared and paralyzed by fear of the invisible enemy, and that is why empathy is very helpful no matter what disease our patients are suffering from.

A physician's duty goes beyond the walls of the clinic or the hospital. Personally, I have opened up my social media for online consultation, to help decongest the emergency rooms. I dare to be of service to our brothers and sisters who do not have immediate access to healthcare due to lockdown and personal fear of going out and being infected with the virus. I value this blessing of being able to help others, and we must use all available platforms to extend our hand to those in need. In these trying times, I don't see pure darkness. I feel God for every "Ingat po kayo," "maraming salamat po," "magaling na po ako" and all other heartwarming messages I receive from our dear patients.

Front liners, may they be involved in health care or other fields, are all essential in this battle. Although we are blessed to serve, we also face challenges during these trying times. The lack of PPE's is one of the most highlighted problems now. Still, I think one vital matter to be shared would be the discrimination occasionally experienced by some of our colleagues, may it be in markets, public facilities, or even at their very own places of residence. *(continue to next page)* 







#### SCA COBLOOD



This pandemic had exposed our weakness and fears, but it also brought out our strength, our bravery, our camaraderie, and our faith in God. 🤧

Personally, I have not encountered this scenario, but I urge the public to know that healthcare workers should not be subject to judgment or discrimination. I hope that the negative mentality of some people towards these front liners, may it be doctors, nurses, med techs, rad techs, the guards, janitors, and all other workers thought to be infectious by some, would change over time. We follow the protocol, and we would not want to expose others from the real enemy at hand. Some don't even have the luxury of going home despite the loneliness and longing, as they would not want to compromise their loved ones when they know they are at risk of spreading the virus. I am thankful for people who go out of their way to show their support and care. I would like you to know that you are very much appreciated, and we are eternally grateful.

"On earth's battlefield never a vantage we'll yield as dauntlessly on we sing."

This was directly lifted from the SCA Hymn. I believe this should be our battle cry in the current situation. This pandemic had exposed our weakness and fears, but it also brought out our strength, our bravery, our camaraderie, and our faith in God.









PHOTO: Beda supervises nursing staff orientation in the fight against COVID-19

#### HEAD NURSE, BEDA GALICIA HUDDLES STAFF WITH PROPER PROTOCOLS, DAILY PRAYERS AND GROUP SHARING.

I am a nurse in the profession for 27 years. I specialized in cardio and critical care. I am currently serving as the board member for the Critical Care Nurses Association of the Philippines.

It was on March 6 when our hospital accepted the first patient of COVID-19. During this time, I was not with the Intensive Care Unit, but our CEO requested me to join the team and asked me to take charge of the staffing especially for the training and other managerial aspects in ICU. Not thinking about my own safety, and the danger inside the critical area where COVID patients are admitted, I said YES to the calling – to manage the whole critical care area.

Challenges grew every day, such as lack of staff. We hardly needed a ratio of one nurse per patient, but due to the lack of PPEs and other supplies, these were not enough to accommodate the need. I felt the negative room pressure in the ICU and the still unknown effects of the novel virus. (continue to next page)



However, I don't want to lose the battle. I assured that I will be able to orient all nurses properly from various units and departments and of those redeployed to the ICU. I became more particular and sensitive to the acuity of patient cases, the proper usage of PPEs and other supplies as recommended by the Center for Disease Control. I see to it that every staff will understand the latest updates and protocol about the virus as provided by DOH and international health agencies.



During my SCA days in college, I was one of those willing to join praying-sharing groups during weekends.

Even our home is too far, I dedicated my time to be with fellow students to listen and to share faith experiences. Now, in my profession, I strive to be a good leader, inspired by Jesus, who works with a good heart and with compassion.

A significant part of the challenge is to always see my own self as God's messenger. I am not just a nurse but also a colleague, a friend to all those facing COVID-19. In my personal way, every orientation day, I start our daily huddle with prayers and informal sharing offline and online. During my SCA days in college, I was one of those willing to join praying-sharing groups during weekends. Even our home is too far, I dedicated my time to be with fellow students to listen and to share faith experiences.

Now, in my profession, I strive to be a good leader, inspired by Jesus, who works with a good heart and with compassion. God takes first place in my life.



### OVERSEAS NURSE, SANDRA BERONIO-COURT RECOVERS FROM COVID-19 OUT OF PRAYER & GOODNESS.

**4th of April 2020** - I was exhausted from work. I was supposed to go back for duty, but I just couldn't. I found myself unable to sleep. I became feverish and discovered that my temperature rose to 38 degrees centigrade. My uncomfortable feeling got worse in the next days until it was not easy for me to breathe, and I thought of passing out already. I told my husband to drop me immediately to the nearest acute medical unit (UK).

**12th of April 2020** - In the hospital, medical personnel immediately resuscitated me, gave me oxygen, took blood samples, swabs, series of X-rays, oral antibiotics, and the very painful "arterial blood gas." I was moved to a ward supporting room air, but I felt tightness in my chest already. The next day, the saddest news came. I was COVID-19 positive, leading to pneumonia. I was lost of words. I told myself:

"Lord, you control over my body. In you I trust my whole self. I'm fatigued, and may your will be done."

I suddenly remember my husband, my two children, and our dog who were staying at home away from me.







PHOTO: The writer shows images of herself from COVID-19 struggle to continuing recovery.

Then people started messaging with their thoughts and prayers. I knew I was not alone in the battle. I just needed to entrust my life to the Lord. Six nights passed, and I tried to maintain my strength and trust coming from the support of the hospital staff, friends, and family. (continue to next page)



#### SCA COBLOOD



The formation that I have in college as a member of **Campus Ministry-Student Catholic Action in Bohol** played an essential role in who I am today. The SCA prayer we offer daily was implanted in my heart and mind. It sustained me towards my recovery.

I prayed more than once every day to keep my spirit stronger. I discovered that it is a mighty weapon against the disease. The formation that I have in college as a member of Campus Ministry-Student Catholic Action in Bohol played an essential role in who I am now today. The SCA prayer we offer every day was implanted in my heart and mind. It sustained me towards my recovery.

Another healing factor was the goodness of all front liners in the hospital - from doctors to nurses, to janitors, to friends who were not able to forget even giving a simple gesture of care. I appreciated more my profession as a nurse. Since 1994, I always look at nursing as a vocation more than a job.

I would like to thank all medical staff, including fellow Filipino nurses who took care of other COVID-19 patients and me. I thank them for being good listeners at a time I am about to lose hope.

I pray for all the front-liners who are still in the fight. I pray for all those who sacrificed their lives even until death. Salute to all of you, and may the eternal light shine upon them.



#### NATIONAL UPDATES IN BITS

#### PROGRAM MILESTONES & REPRESENTATION FROM JAN TO APR 2020







#### SCA Workshop and Orientation at St. Scholastica | 23 January 2020

SCAP National Secretariat joined Bp. Leopoldo C. Jaucian, SCAP National Chaplain in introducing SCA movement to St. Scholastica's College of Manila during their Bible Month Celebration.SCAP shared a workshop on the occasion of the International Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The theme focused on Hospitality - the Unusual Kindness (Acts 28). 500 scholasticans gathered for the event.









#### SCAtulong sa Taal | 15-30 January 2020

The Student Catholic Action of the Philippines, together with the Our Lady of Lourdes Parish-Tagaytay, the Capuchin Brothers, The Somascan Sisters and The Amigonian Fathers and Brothers, co-organized relief efforts for the victims of Taal Eruption from January 15 to 30. Three hundred three individuals (303) or at about 85 families received a decent shelter, enough food and supplies and caring hands of the volunteers at the Religious Tertiary Capuchins of Our Lady of Sorrows Center, General Trias, Cavite during the evacuation period.



#### NATIONAL UPDATES IN BITS

#### PROGRAM MILESTONES & REPRESENTATION FROM JAN TO APR 2020





#### Online Prayer Services in the Time of Pandemic | March - April 2020

SCAP National Secretariat launched its online prayer services through webcasts during the start of community quarantine. Online prayer services offered were the daily Holy Rosary, Oratio Imperata against COVID-19 and the Holy Week Night Prayers with Songs of Taize and Reflections coming from student leaders, animators, and alumni.





#### 84th SCAP Anniversary and Tribute to Front liners Online Concert| 12 April 2020

SCAP gathered student leaders and alumni for the online musical event via the SCAP Facebook Live, "Padayon" (Life goes on). The musical performances were offered for the 84th anniversary of the movement as well as tribute for the front liners of the pandemic.



#### NATIONAL UPDATES ADVOCACY ON SOCIAL JUSTICE & PEACE



PHOTO: Participants showing their core selves drawing in a Zoom session.

#### **Practicing Cultures of Peace Online**

Original Article from Friends Peace Teams-Asia West Pacific through Alma "Kins" Aparece

Immediately after the lockdown was declared, SCAP together with Filipino Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) facilitators, paid attention to SCA and non-SCA leaders and peace advocates in cultures of peace practice sessions. Nine workshops were organized from March 27 until April 24, reaching around 100 local and international participants.

#### We noticed that:

- We can practice the tools of peace anytime, even while on lockdown. We can amazingly adjust to situations. Human connection works in virtual settings.
- When we are aware of our limitations, we practice patience and tolerance more. Low bandwidths and slowness in learning curves allow us to accept one another better.
- We are more time-conscious now and appreciate punctuality more and more and practice sharing equal time with friends.
- Facilitators prepare and practice how to become more articulate and direct in their instructions and in the way they lend their confidence to the participants.
- We can always come before the designated time or stay on after the workshop time to personally check on each other, share concerns and COVID practices. (continue on next page)



#### NATIONAL UPDATES ADVOCACY ON SOCIAL JUSTICE & PEACE

Here some of SCA participants' realizations:



As people, we witnessed numerous violent and nonviolent events. I realized that we have the power to make things more peaceful or the other way around.

Peter Matthew Glinoga College SCAn, University of the East (UE CCP-SCA)



We need to take both sides into account to achieve peaceful communication despite the differences faced. The Culture of Peace Workshop is a training ground for good companionship and service. Although online communication is sometimes challenging, the facilitators steered the participants with great vigor and enthusiasm. Indeed, it is chicken soup for the soul in these trying times.

Chad Vincent Mordeno Mindanao State University-IIT (Iligan City) SCA Tandag



Often, we listen to reply and not to understand. A key element in ensuring communication is understanding one another. This experience teaches us that regardless of our point of view, we can achieve a sensible approach in securing a path of genuine listening and responding.

Kim Karlo Pablo St. Scholastica's College Faculty SCA NCR Cluster Coordinator





We envision Filipino student leaders committed to transform their organizations, schools and parishes by witnessing to Gospel Values in Word and Action. And, we invite you to be our companion in the mission.

For more than 80 years, the Student Catholic Action of the Philippines (SCAP) continues to inspire and nurture the seeds of leadership in all its members across the country. SCAP has been a training ground of notable Filipino change-makers. At the heart of this mission is the desire to accompany more young people who can commit to live a life with faith-values (justice, peace, mercy, and love).

SCAP serves more than 5,000 high school and college students in more than 100 schools and parishes nationwide. The organization needs to sustain values-based and holistic formation program that will move them to become people of truth and integrity, persons who are capable transforming his or her community.

With your pledge, you become a partner of the Church and SCAP in this endeavor.

#### TAKE ACTION!

Email us at mail@scaphilippines.org





## Thank you, Yours!

- SCA CEBU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
- ROSYL SALINAS-INGCOL
- APOLINARIO JAMIN
- NITO FERDINAND CALOPE
- CHARMIE DALUMBAR
- SHEAREL MARIE LARA
- JOHN FLOYD ABRICO

- JUSTIN EARON PABON
- ANTHONY LUTO
- JACQUILYN LIBETERNOS
- STEVEN NELSON SEGURA
- VINCENT GANZON & STELLA GANZON-BAJA
- CYRIL RYAN LITUANAS

**TOTAL AMOUNT (MARCH - 11 MAY 2020)** 

Php 32,228.00

DONATE & SUPPORT US.



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