



WHITE & BLUE

THE OFFICIAL E-NEWSLETTER OF THE STUDENT CATHOLIC ACTION OF THE PHILIPPINES

iO the future.

Where are we heading to from this Year of the Youth?



CONTENTS

1 FROM THE NATIONAL DESK

2 COORDINATOR'S THOUGHTS
John Floyd Abrico

4 ACROSS SCA CLUSTERS: CENTRAL LUZON
Faith for the Mission
Edison P. Cruz

6 ACROSS SCA CLUSTERS: NCR
5 Units get SCAfe
Kim Karlo Pablo

7 ACROSS SCA CLUSTERS: VISAYAS
SCA Alumni treat 50 Kids, Gather for a Cause
Steven Nelson Segura

8 ACROSS SCA CLUSTERS: VISAYAS
Growing up with Manay (Tribute to Myrna Baynosa)

9 ACROSS SCA CLUSTERS: MINDANAO
SCA CDO, Tandag commission new units,
to host 2019 Regional Confab

10 SCA BLOOD: Featuring Shanaine Daan
Earthkeepers for Peace

13 NATIONAL UPDATES
Program Milestones & Representations for Sep-Dec 2018

16 NATIONAL UPDATES
Advocacy on Social Justice and Peace:
SCAP partners with DLSU LSPO, PCID, ACP3 for
Muslim-Christian Dialogue
Frence M. Boiser

18 SCAP 2019 CALENDAR - YEAR OF THE YOUTH

19 ANNOUNCEMENTS

20 THANK YOU, DONORS

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

NEW YEAR GREETINGS!

Last 13th of January was the conclusion of the Christmas Season. This month holds new breeze of a calendar to yet another track of milestones for the Student Catholic Action. 2019 is ours, the Year of the Youth (YOTY)! Leaving the season of the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ, our hearts are once again blessed and revitalized by His glory to proclaim the Word into concrete forms of actions.

The concluding quarter of 2018 marked significant moments of the movement. The “ber” months gave us hints and hope making us more excited for this year’s round of activities and ministry works.

We look back in our involvement during the Season of Creation. It continued to affirm our strong position to take care of our earth. We resumed our regional leadership conference with a fresh breath through SCA Cabanatuan. This year, another regional gathering awaits in Cagayan de Oro. Furthermore, many member-dioceses simultaneously celebrated the feast of all our feasts, Christ the King and SCAP’s National Solidarity Month in November. We partnered with like-minded organizations for an inter-faith dialogue and led the announcement and launching of the Year of the Youth through the radio waves.

“*Filipino Youth in Mission: Beloved, Gifted, Empowered*” – This statement is the official theme of YOTY. It was released as the same title of the CBCP Pastoral Letter last December 2, 2018. It was the response to the “*Open Letter of the Filipino Youth to the Catholic Church*,” a document read during the National Conference for Youth Ministers 2018. It is our joy as members of SCA to be recognized as a trusted organization in the country which is committing to take an active role in social transformation. We continue to “*journey now in every part of the earth where the Lord Jesus sends us as missionary disciples*.” (Synod for the Youth, 28th Oct 2018)

There is a more significant challenge now. Where will this *Year of the Youth* lead us to? We revisit our mission and discern what’s the real need of our times and heed God’s desire for all of us.

Remember that we are living in what social experts label as the Fourth Industrial Revolution. How can SCA be more relevant? Create single steps into a thousand journeys. Live a life of faith, passion, and courage. Let us trust like Mary who bravely embraced her mission. Her FIAT resounds, “*Be it done to me according to your word.*” [Lk 1:38]

FROM THE
NATIONAL DESK

FRENCE M. BOISER
National Coordinator
frence@scaphilippines.org



JOHN FLOYD D. ABRICO
National Coordinator
jabrico@scaphilippines.org



JONEL BRYAN M. REYES
National Coordinator
joneb@scaphilippines.org



ATTY. ALMA E. APARECE
National Director



+LEOPOLDO C. JAUCIAN, SVD, DD
National Chaplain



#SCAPYOTY

COORDINATOR'S THOUGHTS

by John Floyd Abrico

The world has been growling with noise intensely. Technology has evolved significantly. It made so much change in the way we live and with the way we interact with each other. It allowed us to communicate seamlessly and get answers almost instantly. However, the same technology creates concern in most of us. The emergence of fake news, troll accounts, and negativity slowly consume us. It divides more than it connects us.

We continued to ask questions and find answers. We challenged ourselves on how to remain relevant in the movement and still be heard by our youth today. In our quest for solutions, we took a step back and reframed our questions. We then asked- how do we find God in the middle of this? How do we evangelize using technology and social media? The answers did not surface as

quickly as we thought it would. But it is apparent that in SCA, there's no need for complicated solutions, our members are already aware and are creating solutions in their own ways. However, we needed to do something big.

To a man on the street, it's hard to find positive news without imposing judgment on the intention of the writer or to appreciate the images without crediting filters or the lack of. In the movement, where we were formed to live in a community of peace and trust, we cultivate a culture that is very far from what the society aspires. We try to build up each other and celebrate successes together. Our challenge now is how to marry these things and come up with a common ground. How do we become a positive influence and bring people closer to Our Lord each time we post?

“We started to introduce digital spaces to connect members...each one creates ripples of inspiration...”

Recently, we started to introduce digital spaces to connect members in the clusters and discuss issues that matter. By far, we noticed how we are improving in delivering updates and news among our members. It is easier now to get updates and learn from each other. We were moved by how SCA communities are thriving in their work, how each one creates ripples of inspiration for each other.

In our gatherings, we introduced the practices of Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) to encourage nonjudgement and safe environment among the participants. We used the concept of stopping and awareness to be present at the moment. We used *play and circles* to cultivate genuine connection among each other. Our observation is that there's so much power in the relationship made when there's no judgment and when there's awareness. We hope to be able to see more of this in the society. It might take a while, but surely it is a journey that is worth to consider.

Continue on next page >>>



COORDINATOR'S THOUGHTS

>>> Continuation

We are closing the year with memorable encounters with different people who journeyed with us. We have rekindled ties with new friends and built stronger connections with the old ones. The spirit of the movement has never ceased to amaze us. Amidst the scarcity of our resources, we have never felt alone in continuing our mission. We were inspired by all of the volunteers who selflessly committed their lives to serve the movement and our Lord.

Entering 2019 with the Year of the Youth, we are excited about how the youth will step up and maximize their time and energy in the mission entrusted to us.

“Draw strength from Our Lady in her *Fiat* to serve without ceasing... ”

We draw strength from Our Lady in her “Fiat” to serve without ceasing and to plant seeds without fanfare. May she reminds us of her humility and perseverance in following the way.



John (first from right) facilitates a round session with SCA National Coordinating Council Student Leaders at SCAP headquarters.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR | JOHN FLOYD ABRICO is the National Coordinator for Visayas. He is an alumnus SCA leader from the University of Negros Occidental-Recoletos, Bacolod City.

ACROSS
SCA CLUSTERS

CENTRAL LUZON

FAITH FOR THE MISSION

By Edison P. Cruz

I can still remember those days when the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) of the 5th SCAP Luzon Regional Leadership Conference was trying to resolve the logo of the conference. After it was finalized, I wrote its interpretation. I based my interpretation on that year's theme, *"Upgrade Your Signal to Remain Online: Strengthening the Faith for the Mission."* I wrote that the conference would strengthen our faith with God for our mission. Little did I know that it was not only about my faith with God. There was something else for me.

Being part of the LOC of the conference was a big responsibility. I struggled on being a working student and at the same time, head of the liturgy and communication committee. Yes, I struggled to cope with my reports and lessons while doing my tasks for the conference.

It is still clear in my mind how I let myself be left in the school just to finish all the letters needed to be sent for the other dioceses. Time came when I had to approach my professor for me to have an extension for the papers I had to pass. Good thing that professor of mine was part of the LOC. I also remember those sleepless nights at the school because of the certificates needed to be done even if I had to go to the office early the next morning.

[Continue on next page >>>](#)



ACROSS
SCA CLUSTERS

CENTRAL LUZON

>>> Continuation

Maybe due to lack of rest and sleep, I even got sick the night before the business meeting on which I had to represent our diocese. I worried that I might not be able to go through. Fortunately, the next morning I got a little better and I made it.

My most unforgettable experience in the conference is when we had an evaluation after the *Prayer in the Way of Taize*. I almost cried when I shared that I thought I had failed on organizing the prayer. One of my mentors said, “If you think you failed, maybe you failed in the eyes of other people but in the eyes of God, you will never fail.” When I heard those words, it was as if all my worries and regrets were gone.

“If you think you failed, maybe you failed in the eyes of other people but in the eyes of God, you will never fail.”

I am sure that with that event, we strengthened our faith with God but for me, it was not only about my faith in Him. With the many responsibilities and works I had to do during the conference, it was as if I will not finish anything, but look! Almost three months had passed after the conference and we finished everything successfully; that increased my faith with my co-SCAns and most especially, with myself.

I had worries and problems before, during and even after the conference but I made it through. Those problems and worries made me stronger. With my increased faith with God, others and myself, I know that just like the conference, I can finish the mission together with my co-SCAns that will be entrusted to me, that will be entrusted to CIC-SCA.

To Christ the King, Our Love and Loyalty!

The Diocese of Cabanatuan, through the College of the Immaculate Conception, hosted the 5th Luzon Regional Leadership Conference last 25th to 28th of October 2018. It was a student-led activity offering leadership opportunities for SCA student leaders like Edison to handle ground work from organizing, implementing, and monitoring many aspects of the event. The conference focused on the importance of faith even amidst the digital culture of young people today.

**ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR:**

Edison Cruz is an active college leader of the College of the Immaculate Conception Student Catholic Action in Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija. He is pursuing a course on Secondary Education.

ACROSS
SCA CLUSTERS

5 Units get SCAfe

By Kim Karlo A. Pablo

The NCR Cluster held the Students Chaplains and Animators Formation Exchange (SCAfe) last December 8-9, 2018 at the Ven. Maria Antonia Paris Retreat House in Tandang Sora, Quezon City. Five active units participated in the said program consisting of college units from the University of the Philippines Diliman (UPSCA), De La Salle University (DLSU-SCA), Far Eastern University (FEUSCA), and the newest unit of the cluster, the Far Eastern University-Nicanor Reyes Medical Foundation. Claret School of Quezon City was the sole high school unit present.

The participants shared their best practices. They collaborate through SCAfe workshops to help other units strengthen further their programs and sustain member-involvement. UPSCA introduced how they implement the cell formation meeting as a regular activity. Facilitators from the national secretariat also conducted the 7-Step Gospel Sharing. They offered ways on how to run this type of formation meeting.

Rev. Fr. Sergio C. Maniba, Asian Chaplain of the International Young Christian Students (IYCS) and SCAP Board Member commissioned five new full-fledge members from DLSU-SCA and CSQC-SCA at the concluding part of SCAfe. The NCR Cluster hopes to invite more member-schools in receiving SCAfe in the future. This national initiative is a step forward to train members, animators, and even alumni alike in accompanying young people in the ministry most especially in campuses.



SCAfe participants practicing silence in one of the major sessions. (Photo courtesy of Kim Pablo)



ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR:

Kim Karlo Pablo is a full-time educator at Claret School of Quezon City. He is the SCA Animator of the said school and also the present coordinator of SCA NCR.

WHITE & BLUE

THE OFFICIAL E-NEWSLETTER OF THE STUDENT CATHOLIC ACTION OF THE PHILIPPINES

ACROSS
SCA CLUSTERS

VISAYAS

SCA Alumni treat 50 kids, gather for a cause

By Steven Nelson Segura



SCA Bacolod Alumni pose before their Alma Mater's Main Entrance (Photo by Beah Marie Ganarias)

BACOLOD CITY - The Student Catholic Action Alumni Association (SCAAA) of the University of Negros Occidental-Recoletos (UNOR) celebrated its annual alumni homecoming and outreach last December 29, 2018. The group chose a community and kicked off a children's apostolate as a way of sharing the blessings of SCAP Alumni.

This year, 50 kids from RESOURCE Handumanan were the recipients of Christmas treats. Kids, together with their families, were filled with joy and laughter during a short program and after they received toys and meals to share. Alumnus SCAN, Fr. Ronel Gealon, OAR, offered a meaningful reflection time for all. SCA undergrads performed an energetic dance and the SCAP alumni serenaded heartwarming Christmas songs.

The alumni from the 70's up to the recent ones gathered in cheerful exchange of hugs and greetings. SCANs congregated for the Holy Eucharistic Celebration at the UNOR Main Lobby and a plenteous lunch followed. UNOR current SCANs recognized each batch of alumni through rendering them with Christmas Carols. The alumni, in turn, offered their financial support to sustain the program and activities of the SCAP unit for another year ahead.

Concluding the gathering was the election of the next set of officers of the alumni association. As we welcome another year, a set of 15 SCA alumni were chosen to lead another fruitful period for the apostolate of SCA and SCAAA.



ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR:

Steven Nelson Segura is the present coordinator of SCA in the Diocese of Bacolod. He was the former National Coordinating Council College Chairperson of the Student Catholic Action. He is an alumnus of UNOR SCA College Unit.

WHITE & BLUE

THE OFFICIAL E-NEWSLETTER OF THE STUDENT CATHOLIC ACTION OF THE PHILIPPINES



Growing up with "Manay"

A TRIBUTE TO MYRNA "MANAY" BAYNOSA



She is remembered as *Manay*. And she will be the forever *Manay* for them.

SCA Bacolod paid tribute to the passing of one of the pioneer animators of SCA. Myrna "Manay" Baynosa held her last breath on the 31st of December 2018. She was even able to join the SCA alumni Christmas gathering before her final moments - a meaningful activity for all.

Angelo "To Angel" Escosio from UNOR SCA Batch 1995 recalls: "Joining in SCA was one of the defining moments of my life. For about eight years in the College of Engineering (University of Negros Occidental-Recoletos) I was about to quit yet discerned to do something else when Manay came and told me words of rescue and upliftment - *"To Angel, grow up. Hindi ka nag-grow eh!"* (You did not grow). Don't blame anybody or yourself. You just have to do your best everyday. Everything will fall into place." The words were very striking but she said it softly and lovingly. I've changed my mind. I continued engineering and I was able to graduate. Spiritually, psychologically, and even financially, Manay Myrna was a formator at my most vulnerable times. She helped me smoothen my perceptions and decisions. She strengthened my faith. UNOR SCA is truly grateful for her."

Manay fully committed herself as an SCA Animator in UNOR SCA. She was instrumental in connecting SCA Bacolod to SCA Philippines during the revival of the national coordination in the late 90's. She served more than a hundred high school and college student leaders already. They are now successful in their chosen fields and careers from all over the country but still congregate yearly for alumni apostolates.

Manay is just one among many SCA "heroes." SCA prays for all animators who have offered selflessly their time, skills and even their personal resources just to sustain the values formation programs of SCA. SCA animators are vital persons in the process of accompanying young people in the campuses. They are key people who can nurture the balance of a Christian student life. Salute to SCA Animators!

ACROSS
SCA CLUSTERS

MINDANAO

SCA CDO, Tandag commission new units, to host 2019 regional confab



CAGAYAN DE ORO - SCA Mindanao raised its bar in growing SCA membership in 2018. Eight out of ten schools that received SCAfe last February and March 2018 successfully completed the basic national program and are about to commission full-fledged SCAs in the first quarter of 2019. The national formation team extended a recollection activity last December 9, 2018 for SCA members from: Liceo de Cagayan University, Lourdes College, St Mary's Academy, Xavier Academy of Initao, Sto. Nino HS of Gitagum, St. Joseph HS of El Salvador. Two more extension units are to receive the same program in Butuan City.

Meanwhile, the national coordinating council coordinators, Melvin Pedrosa and Emerick Quevedo from (Cebu) Visayas and (Tandag) Mindanao Clusters, respectively, together with May Mendero (NCC Mindanao High School Rep) and Julie-boy Revilleza (NCC Mindanao College Rep) unanimously agreed with the core team of SCA aCDO to co-host the 5th Visayas-Mindanao Regional Leadership Conference on 26th to 28th of October in the Archdiocese of Cagayan de Oro. Archbishop Antonio Ledesma verbally assured SCA for its hosting. The local organizing committee formation and planning will commence on the 26th of January in Cagayan de Oro City.

SCA BLOOD

Earthkeeper for Peace

SHANAINE DAAN, SCA USJ-R VP for Internal Affairs and a working scholar immerses in Pati, Java, Indonesia for more than two weeks. She joins the 9th Annual International peace Training at the Peace Place from the 10th to 24th of January 2019. The program is focusing Earth Care and People Care highlighting the benefits of permaculture as a practice of working with rather than against nature. Thanks to the Friends Peace Teams in Asia West Pacific (FPT-AWP) for the full program grant. Let's read about Shanaine's interest in joining the program:

I am Shanaine and I am a working scholar at the University of San Jose-Recoletos Cebu City. I am assigned in the Environmental and Disaster Management office of the university from which I have learned the various realities, concerns and issues in the society. I understand the urgency to respond

to local and global issues especially that of ecology. I felt the desire to do something and become part of the solution. At first, I did not know what to do, where to start and how to do it. Then, I found myself in a dynamic, socio-civic-oriented organization, the Student Catholic Action of the Philippines (SCAP). SCAP raised me to overcome my fears, turned my weaknesses into strengths, and aided me in recognizing my capabilities as a student leader. I was able to immerse myself in various volunteer works and projects – catechesis, tree-growing and mangrove growing activities, Issue-based theater workshop in the grassroots, community-building activities, issue-based leadership conferences, and other socio-civic-oriented projects and programs.

Continue on next page >>>

PHOTO: Shanaine does the peace sign with Muslim co-participants.



SCA BLOOD

>>> Continuation

I experienced my first Basic Workshop for Alternatives to Violence Project. The training inspired and motivated me to start dreaming and working for a peaceful and just society. Since then, we were able to integrate AVP approaches in most of our trainings and meetings in our local movement.

Having heard about the International Peace Training in Indonesia, I value it as an opportunity to deepen my understanding and equip myself more in the peace-building initiatives of SCAP. Since this is also my first time to go international, I am very much excited to see the world outside of my comfort zone and to be able to see the global peace situation. Moreover, I would also like to deepen my understanding of the new approaches in attaining peace both in micro and macro levels and improve my professional competencies in working with people across cultures and faiths, and in conflict transformation by means of peace education. I am also excited as a student to engage myself in listening to varied perspectives from different backgrounds, cultures, orientations and experiences. Making dialogues from people of different countries will be an eye-opener for me. It may widen my perception and be able to discover more of what peace is all about, how peace is attained and why talks about peace are meaningful to us.

I believe people find it difficult to achieve genuine peace because of pride, indifference, selfishness and greed. Peace starts from within. It starts from acknowledging our inner capacity to listen and to love. Peace is an essential prerequisite to solving other critical issues in the world because without it, it will be impossible to achieve level of trust, cooperation, inclusiveness and mutual understanding among peoples and organizations.



“Peace starts from within. It starts from acknowledging our inner capacity to listen and to love.”

My dream of working towards a peaceful world is to address conflicts non-violently. One that upholds human rights and equality by means of initiating a genuine understanding of peace building, peace education, and empowering young people to actively participate in the transformative processes which will bring humanity to self conversion.

Continue on next page >>>

SCA BLOOD

>>> Continuation

One practice in AVP is to choose and to insert a powerful adjective prefix that starts or sounds like the first letter of a name. Call me, Smiling Shanaine, because I commit to bring positivity in offering myself in the service of peace. I thank AVP for the full package of training and workshop in which I was able to gain knowledge on how to practice peace from within and how to deal with conflicts inside and out. Thank you for recognizing my potential and capabilities. May the transforming power I have inside continue to inspire me to be a more responsive and peace loving person.



Shanaine (Lady in a handshake) is warmly welcomed by Indonesian Educators at Pati, Java (Photo courtesy of FPT-AWP)

SCAP maintains two of its five areas of advocacy dealing on social justice and eco-spirituality/sustainability. The Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP)-Philippines is one among its few partners training and introducing non-conflict and peaceful ways in a person's everyday life both personal and public. Contact the national secretariat if you are interested to conduct a session in your local community.

Do you have an SCA Story to tell?

Transform a personal narrative into written notes highlighting an account that truly runs in the SCA BLOOD. We may be able to feature your story in one of our issues.

Email us at mail@scaphilippines.org

NATIONAL UPDATES IN BITS

PROGRAM MILESTONES & REPRESENTATION FROM SEP TO DEC 2018

National Conference for Youth Ministers | 11-14 September 2018

Two from the national secretariat and four more coordinators and animators from NCR, Visayas and Southern Luzon Clusters represented SCA Philippines for NCYM in the Diocese of San Pablo. NCYM is a regular event organized by the CBCP-Episcopal Commission on Youth. It is a "venue for formation and fellowship and an occasion for youth ministers to understand their roles and enhance their skills in the youth ministry." NCYM also announced preparations for the Year of the Youth and the review for the Youth Ministry Benchmarking.



IYCS Global Training Session-Rome, Italy | 10-20th September 2018

Jan Ver Dominic Edra, SCA President from De La Salle University and at the same time the SCA National Coordinating Council College Chair represented SCA Philippines to the Global Training Session in Rome, Italy. Jan Ver presented the campus safety situation of the Philippines in front of up to 50 selected student leaders across 7 regions of the International Young Christian Students. GTS 2018 was under the patronage of the UNESCO.



Bacolod Visit and SCAfe | 17-21 October 2018

The National Secretariat conducted unit visits in University of Negros Occidental-Recoletos, Bago City College and Ramon Torres National High School. The Student Chaplain and Animator Formation Exchange (SCAfe) took place at the Good Shepherd Retreat House in Bacolod City with 15 animators and students represented from the visited schools.



NATIONAL UPDATES IN BITS

PROGRAM MILESTONES & REPRESENTATION FROM SEP TO DEC 2018

5th SCAP Luzon Regional Leadership Conference | 25-28 October 2018

The Diocese of Cabanatuan hosted the 5th SCAP Luzon Regional Leadership Conference at the College of the Immaculate Conception. The national team accompanied the local organizing committees in the management, implementation, and assessment of activities that went through the four-day event. The program was enriched with community exposure, workshops on peace, resiliency and nurturing of faith, reflections and prayer sessions. The conference or business meeting day resolved agreements for sustaining SCA Luzon memberships across the four clusters. A separate document for these resolutions is available in the national office.



National Solidarity Month | 1-30 November 2019

SCAP announced and released a document for the month-long annual celebration of the National Solidarity Month and Prayer Month for Peace. The program highlights the birthday commemoration of Cardinal Joseph Cardijn (Nov 12), See-Judge-Act inspiration and the Feast Day of Christ the King (3rd week of November). Simultaneous activities were conducted on the 25th of November in the Dioceses of Cabanatuan, Tarlac, Cebu, Talibon, Tagbilaran, Bacolod, Cagayan de Oro and Tandag. SCAP led also the announcement of the opening of the Year of the Youth broadcasted live at Radio Veritas Studio in Quezon City. Two animators and one SCA college leader anchored the radio program.



NCR SCAfe | 8-9 December 2018

The national team gathered key units in NCR to experience the Students Chaplains and Animators Formation Exchange (SCAfe) in Quezon City. Best practices regarding membership involvement were shared by participating units coming from the UPSCA, DLSU-SCA, FEUSCA, FEU-Nicanor Reyes Medical Foundation and Claret School of Quezon City.



NATIONAL UPDATES IN BITS

PROGRAM MILESTONES & REPRESENTATION FROM SEP TO DEC 2018

Mindanao Cluster Visit and Meeting | 8-9 December 2018

The Bishop Residence in the Archdiocese of Cagayan de Oro welcomed the national team, together with the National Coordinating Council (NCC) Visayas Coordinator, Mindanao Coordinator, Mindanao College and High School representatives. Eight new units in CDO gathered for a day to prepare the commissioning of new batch of SCAnS. The national secretariat also visited the Diocese of Malaybalay to reconnect San Isidro Parish Unit within Central Mindanao University.



FNYO Day | 15 December 2018

The national secretariat, together with SCAnS from Pasig Catholic College, Claret School of Quezon City, and FEU Nicanor Reyes Medical Foundation (Fairview), attended and represented SCAP for the annual Federation of National Youth Organizations Day at the Lord's Flock in Quezon City. FNYO launched the Year of the Youth as one region. SCAP also renewed its three-year membership as one among the 20 recognized youth organizations in the country.



NATIONAL UPDATES
ADVOCACY ON SOCIAL JUSTICE & PEACE

SCAP partners with DLSU LSPO, PCID, ACP3 for Muslim-Christian Dialogue

By Frence M. Boiser



Jonel Bryan Reyes (2nd from left) and Frence Boiser (6th from right), from the National Secretariat, join key people for SCAP partnership with DLSU LSPO, ACP3 Foundation Inc. and PCID to the Muslim-Christian Dialogue and Peace program dubbed as "Maryam in our Midst."

De La Salle University - More than 150 students gathered to listen to the Muslim-Christian Dialogue at the Verdure, Henry Sy Building last 8th of November 2018. It capped the week-long interfaith program on religious freedom and peace which commenced a launching of a Muslim-Christian Art Exhibit on the 5th of November. SCAP partnered with the Lasallian Pastoral Office of De La Salle University, Angel C. Palanca Peace Program Foundation, Inc., and the Philippine Center for Islam and Democracy (PCID) focusing a common devotion to Mary or Maryam shared in both religions.

The world is continually besieged with divisions. Some atrocities and abuses created social constructs strangled to religious fanaticism due to intolerance of differences in belief systems. The interfaith dialogue hoped to enlighten people through sharing a common faith tradition.

There is a beautiful line that bridges Christians and Muslims. The Christians' devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary has been unfailing over the years. Mary maintains a formidable character and role in the history of the Church. The Holy Scriptures reveals her as the "Chosen Mother of God" that she is "blessed...among women..." [Lk 1:42]. It is notable that Quran mentions also the name Maryam yet more frequently than the New Testament. Its 19th chapter's title is even named after her. Muslims venerate Mary and is considered the most important and righteous among women. Quran states that Allah has purified and chosen Mary "...above the women of all nations." [Quran, Sura 3 (Al Imran), ayah 42].

Maryam in the midst of Christianity and Islam can hold a key of understanding her venerating representation to both communities of believers in order to form "sentiments of friendship," collaboration, and solidarity.

[Continue on next page >>>](#)

NATIONAL UPDATES

ADVOCACY ON SOCIAL JUSTICE & PEACE

>>> Continuation

Moreover, the dialogue offered to see a perspective of Marian devotees towards the active role of young women in our society today.

Another highlight of the program was Dr. Tandis Taghavi's mini workshop and lecture session of Persian Calligraphy. Through the Office of the Iranian Embassy and PCID, Dr. Taghavi was able to present her Nastalliq style characterized by downward slopes of letters. She featured all writings dedicated to Maryam's story in the 19th chapter of *Quran*. The same artworks were exhibited during the 117th Plenary Assembly of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines last July 2018 at St. Pius XII Catholic Center in Manila. She hopes to bring the artworks to Rome for the Holy Father to see it.

The Muslim-Christian Dialogue and Peace Program invited Luqman Bin Usman Imam from the University of the Philippines Institute of Islamic Studies and Dr. Wilson Chua from Angel C. Palanca Peace Program as discussants for Muslim and Christian perspectives, respectively.



Left Photo: Dr. Taghavi teaches participants how to do calligraphy; Center Photo: Muslim-Christian Art Exhibit at the Verdure in DLSU; Right Photo: Ms. Amina Rasul from the Office of the PCID addresses to participants for the art exhibit launching.

SCAP 2019 CALENDAR

YEAR OF THE YOUTH

*Letters in blue are to be organized directly by SCAP. Letters in black are mirrored from CBCP-ECY YOTY Calendar. Dates may be subject for changes.

JANUARY

26-27

5th SCAP VMRLC LOC Formation
Archdiocese of CDO

Kabataang Bayani (Eleksyon 2019)
Formation Module Release

FEBRUARY

Mission L (Love for the Least, Lost, and Last)

MARCH

YOTY Retreat for Youth Ministers

APRIL

23-28

National Youth Day
Archdiocese of Cebu

MAY

4-5

13th SCAP NLC LOC Formation
Diocese of Bacolod

12

Candle for H.O.P.E (Eve of Elections)

JUNE

Brigada Eskwela

SEPTEMBER

Youth Ministers' Exchange Program

Season of Creation

OCTOBER

26-29

5th Visayas-Mindanao Regional Leadership Conference
Archdiocese of CDO

NOVEMBER

National Solidarity Month

13

Cardinal Joseph Cardijn Commemoration

22

Philippine Catholic Youth Ministry Awards
Closing of the Year of the Youth

24

Christ the King Feast Day

TBA

The Catholic Digital Youth Culture Summit

500 Faces of Christianity (Info Campaign)



ANNOUNCEMENTS



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SOLIDARITY DUE

We are reminding all member-units for the annual membership contribution of **Php 1,200/unit**. Kindly deposit to the National Secretariat Account **on or before March 1, 2019**.

What can a unit get after the contribution?

- * Certificate of Membership to the Student Catholic Action of the Philippines
- * Soft copy of revised SCAP Operations Manual
- * Service Award Certificates for Graduating SCAns (Upon Request)
- * Microsoft Office 365 Grant for New SCAns (Upon Request)
- * International and Local Programs Priority Invitation (via email)

Where will the funds go?

Your membership contribution will be used for the National Coordinating Council formation and training. NCC bridges local units to the national movement. NCC leaders are the voices of SCA clusters they represent.

Contact directly the National Secretariat for more details and information.

Thank you!

SEP-DEC 2018 DONORS

CRUSPERO, ELIRIE J.

ICM SISTERS

IBM PHILIPPINES

NATIVIDAD, SR. ASUNCION, ICM

PROJECT PANANAGUTAN

ABDELLATIF, CB GIRLIE P.

ACOJEDO, LORENA

ALLADO, CINDELYN

CARTAS, JOHANA M.

COROZA, IMELDA

DELA CRUZ, ULLYSESS

DELENA, IRENE

ELAURIA, PAULA PIERA

JUGANAS, BALADEVA J.

JUGANAS, FERDINAND & ELLEN

LEYSON, MARIA JAYCEL

MARTINEZ, VAN

MENGUITO, LIEZEL ANAR

MIRAM, TRISTAN JEORGE & DANIELA ROSE

MUNOZ, POL

PEREZ, JOHN CARLO

5th SCAP LRLC

ABRICO, JOHN FLOYD D.

CANETE, APRIL MAE

CETOY, KRIZIA KATE

LACBA, HESSALYN B.

LARA, SHEAREL MARIE P.

BOISER, FRENCE M.

REYES, JONEL BRYAN M.

**DONATE
&
SUPPORT US.**



Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI)

Peso Savings: 0973-1774-94

Dollar Savings: 0974-0299-01

Account Name:

**Student Catholic Action of the Philippines
National Secretariat, Inc.**



20 January 2019

"White & Blue" is published three times a year by the
Student Catholic Action of the Philippines
National Secretariat

Unit A1 L1 B9 Foggy Heights Village, Brgy. San Jose , Tagaytay City 4120 Philippines

Tel. No. (046) 404 2376

Email: mail@scaphilippines.org

website: www.scaphilippines.org

WHITE & BLUE

THE OFFICIAL E-NEWSLETTER OF THE STUDENT CATHOLIC ACTION OF THE PHILIPPINES