

# WELCOME HOME

CONNECT WITH GOD. CONNECT WITH ONE ANOTHER.

## JESUS ISN'T JUST A FLOATING HEAD



HAVE you met people who love God but hate the church? They want to make their faith a very private matter.

One woman told me, "For me, I don't need a church. My church is my bedroom. That's where I talk to God."

I remember an old song we used to sing when I was a teenager that goes: "Walking with Jesus alone..." That song presents a picture of Jesus and a man walking on the beach, facing the beautiful sunset.

Yes, faith is a personal relationship with Jesus. But sooner or later, because Jesus is Jesus, He'll be bringing people with Him. And you'll be *walking in a crowd*. And you'll be singing, "Walking with Jesus, and Roy and Kay and Felipe and May and Gemma and Tey and John and Lei..."

*Jesus is the Head, the Church is His Body.* So, you can't have a love affair with the head and throw away His body. From what I know, Jesus has this habit of bringing along His body wherever He goes. He is never a head floating around.

Today, we'll talk about two of the most important expressions of being a family: Eucharist and Confession.

Have an awesome Feast today!

May your dreams come true,

**BO SANCHEZ**

## THIS IS REAL

WHEN I received my First Communion, I was taught that Jesus is right there in the Eucharistic host, and that we all would receive Him with utmost respect. However, as a young boy, I had a hard time wrapping my head around the idea of receiving Jesus' body and blood in the Eucharist.

Growing up attending a Catholic charismatic community, it was only then that I appreciated the reality of Jesus in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. I would see people get physical healing; families get reconciled and reunited as they are blessed by the exposition of the Holy Eucharist in retreats. These miracles concretized my belief.

But I truly believed when I felt His grace in my life. Many times, just as I was losing hope, at times when I was afraid, or I may have lost direction, I turned my eyes to Jesus and received Him through the Eucharist. Playing Christian music with a band, leading a whole congregation to worship songs, and preaching the Word could never beat the powerful moments of experiencing the Word becoming flesh and receiving Him in a physical and mystical way.

It is only in Catholic faith that we get to encounter Jesus' real presence through the Eucharist. This is why we should always look forward to each Eucharistic celebration. I thank the Lord for the Church that He Himself built. He made sure that we have everything here, and that we could make it our home.

This is the family that He has founded and this is real.

Blessing and healing,

**DIDOY LUBATON**



**TREASURES**  
**WHY REMAIN CATHOLIC?**  
**TALK 3: FAMILY**



The FEAST  
BAY AREA

THE FEAST  
BAY AREA  
**SYNC**

A Catholic prayer  
community of the  
Light of Jesus Family.

**09 17 17**  
SUNDAY

### Today's Bible Readings

- |              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1st Reading: | Si 27:30-28:7 |
| Psalm:       | Ps 103:1-12   |
| 2nd Reading: | Rm 14:7-9     |
| Gospel:      | Mt 18:21-35   |

## BLESSING BLOG

# HEARING GOD'S WORD DIFFERENTLY

FBA Sync attendee Arbizel Kristin Gonzales (RB) shares her story on how she was blessed as a Deaf attendee every Sunday.

### HOW THE FEAST CHANGED HER LIFE

RB is a solo parent raising her two children. She supports her family financially as a way of giving back to them for all the special care they provided her when she was growing up.

Growing up, she was lucky to be part of a supportive environment, and she never experienced bullying. However, she usually experiences challenge at work. Most of the time, she has difficulty giving instructions to OJTs who are hearing, thus resulting to miscommunication. But God still provides her the help she needs in the form of her co-workers who, luckily, already know sign language.

RB first heard of the Feast when her aunt invited her to attend Feast Bacoor, which is nearest to her home. She enjoyed her experience there but encountered difficulties participating since there are no interpreters available for the Deaf attendees.

Eventually, she was invited by the Ephphatha Ministry (Deaf Ministry) to attend one of the AM sessions at the Feast Bay Area. After some time, their ministry started attending FBA Sync at 9 AM, and here they found a new home. They feel the warm welcome of servants and fellow attendees, and their conscious effort to communicate with the Deaf and to include them in the community. She enjoys the experience of fully understanding the homily and talks because of the interpreters present every Sunday. Then came the time when she felt God gently calling her to step up and to serve at Sync by documenting their ministry's activities every Sunday.

### GIVING BACK TO THE LORD

She made efforts to introduce God in her workplace by teaching her co-workers basic sign language, and explaining to them that the Sync



RB (first row, second from right) with her Deaf Ministry family at Sync.

is a Catholic gathering, contrary to their belief that it is a Protestant gathering.

FBA Sync has blessed her life since she was able to offer her personal problems to the Lord and seek guidance and strength every day. She also invites her Deaf friends to attend Sync, knowing that there are interpreters who help them understand the Word of God. She shares with them how Sync gives priority and extends support to the Deaf and hard of hearing attendees. RB feels that she has been blessed by attending Sync, and it is now her turn to share the blessing to her fellow members of the Deaf community by inviting them to a place where they can mingle with the hearing without the fear of being judged.

## RECAP FROM LAST SUNDAY

Gospel Reading According to Matthew 18:15-20



### “LOVE IS RESPONSIBILITY.”

- Fr. Michael Laguardia

Responsibility is the ability to respond to the situation of our brothers and sisters. If we love someone, we should be responsible for that person. When they are having difficulty, we help them; when they are doing wrong, we correct them. We do these things to concretize the spirit of love in every aspect of our lives.

## SERIES: TREASURES

### Talk 2: Legacy

#### Big Message: “Receive the Gifts of our Catholic Faith”

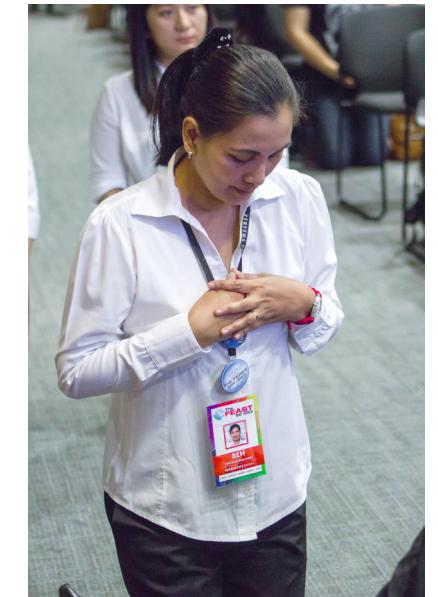
As Catholics, we believe in Purgatory, Mama Mary, and the Saints. These are just some of the many gifts God has given us, and we should not hesitate to receive them.

##### Purgatory

Purgatory perfectly represents God's mercy with us. Even as we sin, God's love sanctifies us so that we become pure when we join our Father in heaven.

##### Mama Mary and the Saints

God gifted us with Mary and the Saints who stand as our intercessors whenever we pray. As part of His heavenly family, they reflect God's glory and they will lead us closer to Jesus.



**LET GOD PURIFY AND SANCTIFY YOU SO THAT YOU WOULD BE READY TO JOIN HIM IN HIS KINGDOM.**



▲ Bro. Alvin Barcelona recalls how Mama Mary's intercession granted him God's miracle of physical healing from a terminal illness.

## RECEIVE GOD'S GIFTS AND BE CLOSER TO JESUS!



▲ Bro. Didoy reminds us to read the Bible to have a deeper understanding of our Catholic beliefs.



**AS CATHOLICS, WE SHOULD PRAY FOR EACH OTHER AND WITH EACH OTHER THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF MARY AND THE SAINTS.**

## ENHANCE YOUR FEAST BAY AREA EXPERIENCE

**Lux** *Batch 21*

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The FEAST  
BAY AREA

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## THE DOCTOR IS IN!

**Q** Dear Doc Didoy,  
I'm already 30 years old and I've been working for a decade already. Kaso, wala pa rin po akong savings or investments. I only earn a little above minimum; on top of my daily expenses and giving my share at home, I have loans to pay, and I do my best to tithe. What can I do? -Isay

**A** Hi Isay,  
You need to change your strategy. Personally, I follow Bro Bo's Abundance formula: **100-70-20-10**. Increase your **100%** income by doing something to increase your cashflow. Try to sell something, partner with some people for a business, or simply monetize your skills and gifts. Simplify your **70%** which are your expenses. Make the discipline to say **'NO'** to the extra coffee cups, dine outs, Uber rides and other ways that drain your money unnecessarily. **Invest your 20%**. Set aside a portion of your money and let that money grow. Best to educate yourself first with the different investments before you dive in. Be faithful in your **10% tithing**. This is the most important habit. Why? Because it is our way to honor God for all the blessings we have received and will be receiving. May God bless the work of your hands, and may He bless you exceedingly and abundantly! -Didoy

Send us your questions through [hello@fbasync.com](mailto:hello@fbasync.com).



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## LOVE OFFERING

Give to the Lord the glory He deserves! Bring your offering and come into His presence. Worship the Lord in all His holy splendor.  
1 CHRONICLES 16:29

### TWO CONVENIENT WAYS TO GIVE AT THE FEAST



#### CHECK

Write your checks payable to:  
**LIGHT OF JESUS FAMILY METRO MANILA INC.**



#### CASH

Include your donation in the Love Offering envelopes and fill out the contact information.

### THE FBA SYNC STAFF BOX

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