

# Puso sa Puso Edukasyon Inc.

# NEWSLETTER

January – March 2015. Issue No. 4



**Matthew 25:35-40** "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'"

Contributors: **Joceline Basconcillo, Jeremie Cruz, Edwin Guevarra, Jennifer Basconcillo, Lucita Casero, Mylene Erpe, Carolyn Maches, Sr. Frances Mangabat, SDS, Sr. Mila Singap FLP**



# Contents

- Report: FIRE DISASTER (Parola).....1
- Fire Disaster Response.....4
- Intervention Plans.....10
- Road To A Better Future (Payatas) .....13
- Church Visitation (Parola).....15
- Accreditation and Equivalency Exam (Parola).....16
- Internship Activity of San Beda  
College Students (Payatas).....19
- February Monthly Friday Mass (Payatas).....21
- Financial Education Formation.....22
- Parents' and Learners' Formation on  
Children's Rights (Payatas).....23
- Outreach Program sponsored by  
Super Friends (Parola).....25
- First Monthly Mass (Parola).....27
- 2015 Junior and Senior Promenade (Payatas).....29
- Formation for UNCRC (Parola).....31
- March Monthly Friday Mass (Payatas).....34
- The Little Prince Theatrical Play.....36
- March Monthly Mass Parola.....39
- Lenten Recollection(Parola).....41
- My Cross My Strength:  
A Lenten Recollection (Payatas).....43
- Journeying Through Life with Honor and Dignity.....45





## **PUSO SA PUSO EDUKASYON INC. ALSA BUHAY PROGRAM**



### **REPORT: FIRE DISASTER**

#### **Location:**

The fire happened at the Binondo side of Parola, Barangay 275, Manila at around 6:00 o'clock in the evening of March 2, 2015. It lasted for 9 hours to extinguish the fire. The area from Gate 46 up to Gate 62 is totally consumed by the fire. At around 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon of March 3, another fire started at Gate 1 just across the ALSA BUHAY Center. Immediate help came from Fire Departments of the nearby Barangays that it did not spread that wide.

#### **Victims:**

The number of families affected is approximately 5,000 according to the information given by the Barangay Chairman. Most of the beneficiaries of the ALSA BUHAY Program and ESKWELAHAN ng BUHAY of Puso sa Puso Edukasyon Inc. are coming from the area where the fire happened. *On the list of the ones affected, there are 90 Learners (Elementary and Secondary Levels) and 60 kids handled by the German volunteers.*

The Learners find refuge in the center to be listened to of their stories of struggles during the disaster and their concerns for the future.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> day after the disaster happened, the ALSA BUHAY Staff continue their monitoring in the area including the evacuation centers in search for the Learners/beneficiaries.

Meanwhile, the men of every family stayed back in their respective properties to secure the remaining materials that still can be used in rebuilding their houses. The women especially with children stayed back in the evacuation centers.

#### **Assistance**

The immediate assistance of the Barangay Council is to bring the victims to the evacuation center located nearby. The rest of who could not anymore be accommodated was brought to Baseco evacuation center adjacent to Barangay 275. Simple foods for meals like porridge, rice with a piece of meat or fish were provided for a family which actually is not sufficient. The City Mayor is extending some assistance through the Barangay who is collaborating with the Department of Social Welfare and Development for the provision of five (5) sheets of galvanized iron for roofing of the temporary shelter that each family has to put up.

The ALSA BUHAY Staff initially arranged a plan on the "How to's of the distribution of goods to the beneficiaries when it comes. Tasking among them is already done.

Few friends of the Puso sa Puso Edukasyon Inc. started to get in contact ready to help to respond to the immediate needs of the victim learners.

#### **Immediate Needs**

Shelter is the basic need of the victims. But response to immediate needs is a great help. From the assessment, the following are most needed: mats, blankets, clothing, medicine for children, food and drinking water. Other expressed needs are housing materials like lumber, nails and plywood.

Photos:







## **PUSO SA PUSO EDUKASYON INC. ALSA BUHAY PROGRAM**



### **FIRE DISASTER RESPONSE**

Last March 3, 2015 (Tuesday) Parola staffs' together with the German volunteers conducted ocular visitation in the affected area and brief interview to the affected beneficiaries under Puso sa Puso Edukasyon Inc.

Those interviewed families who are presently enrolled under the programs of Puso sa Puso and confirmed victims of previous fire will be enlisted and will received extend of help by the organization.

Upon visitation and interview, we found out that there are 60 ALSA-Buhay learners and 65 Basic Home-Base Education beneficiaries who lost their house on the previous fire incident and presently have no safe place to stay.

Sr. Frances Mangabat, SDS and Sr. Mila Singap, FLP do coordination to Barangay 275. They consulted for best possible actions that Puso sa Puso will going to give for some of the residents/ Puso sa Puso beneficiaries under their jurisdiction.



*Photos taken during ocular visitation*

## COMING OF IN KIND DONATIONS and REPACKING of GOODS

Last March 5, 2015 (Thursday), Mr. Flomar Betonio donated 100 pieces of noodles, 30 pieces of canned goods, and 9 packs of Skyflakes(biscuits).

Last March 6, 2015 (Friday), Salvatorian brother from Amadeo headed by Fr. Hubert Kranz, SDS with Fr. Hermann donated 600 pieces of canned goods, 120 bottled of vinegar, 120 bottled of cooking Oil, 4 sacks of Rice, 120 packs of soy sauce, 120 kilos of packed sugar, 2 big boxes of biscuits. In the afternoon, the repacking of goods conducted. Parola Staffs together with the Kenyan brothers were able to divide the in kind donations from Salvatorian brother and produce 120 packs of relief goods. Each bag contains the following: 1 and half kilos of rice, 1 kilo of sugar, 5 pieces of canned goods, 1 bottled of cooking oil, 1 vinegar, 1 soy sauce and 5 pieces of biscuits. On this same date, German volunteers and Kenyan brothers brought bag of clothes for the fire victims. Last March 10, 2015 German volunteers bought 40 pieces of stuffed toys for the children under Basic Home Based Education Program.

Also, a group of young Lawyers/ SUPER FRIENDS donated hygiene kit for the affected beneficiaries of PUSO SA PUSO EDUKASYON Inc. They brought the following items: 100 pieces of packed toothpaste, 84 pieces of packed shampoos, 164 pieces of soap and 226 pieces of toothbrush. Teacher Reena (English Teacher of Salvatorian brothers) also donated 30 packs of loaf bread. Last March 11, 2015 German volunteers donated 5 bags of clothes and school supplies intended for their handles kids/children. On the same date, Father Hubert together with Father Erick of Salvatorian congregation donated 140 packed relief goods containing the following: 10 pieces of clothes, 2 kilos of rice, 1 Toothbrush, 1 Soap, 1 cup noodle, 2 canned goods, 1 pair of slippers, 2 bottles of waters and 150 pieces of Mats. Barbara Zwicknagl also donated 20 boxes of Paracetamol on the same day.



*Photos of donations coming from Salvatorian Brothers*



*Repacking of Relief Goods*

### **First WEEK RESPONSE**

Last March 9, 2015 (Monday), feeding program started. In collaboration with Parola and Payatas Staffs' (Instructional Manager's, Social Workers, Livelihood Coordinator), German volunteers and some volunteer learners from previous batch.

The Feeding program is a short term intervention of Puso sa Puso Edukasyon Inc for the fire victims in order to suffice the basic necessity of the learner/children by providing heavy lunch meals within nutritional limits for temporary maintenance. Lunch Meals are being well prepared by the ALSA-Buhay Staffs and other volunteers under Puso sa Puso Edukasyon Inc.

The distribution of relief goods also started as the organization starts to receive in kind donations from private individuals, groups and other organizations. Some of the donors directly brought their in kind donations in Livelihood center, and then the staffs will do inventory and record it. After the inventory and recording process, the staffs and other volunteers will collaboratively repack it.

The distribution of lunch meal and relief goods was conducted every Monday-Thursday. It starts around 10 in the morning and ends at 12 noon at Livelihood center. The children from Basic Home-Base Education need to be accompanied by their parents as they go in Livelihood center to get their daily food.

Friday is allocated for area visitation. It is done in order to re-assess the situation of the affected area, more especially the beneficiaries under Puso sa Puso. It is also the bases of planning for possible extend of Feeding Program and other necessary help.

On the first week of Feeding Program, majority of the beneficiaries included in the masterlist went to Livelihood center and received their lunch meals and relief goods.



*Photos while preparing food and distribution of relief goods/lunch meals  
(March 9, 2015)*

**OTHER PHOTOS**



*Distribution of Lunch Meal and Hygiene kit with German volunteers and Salvatorian Brothers*

## Second Week Response

(March 16-20, 2015)

DATE	GOODS DISTRIBUTED	NUMBER of RECIPIENTS
March 16 (Monday)	Lunch Meal (Chicken Tinola and Rice)	63 Learners/Children
March 17 (Tuesday)	Lunch Meal (Pork Sinigang and Rice)  Bag of clothes	57 Learners/Children
March 18 (Wednesday)	Lunch Meal (Pansit Bihon)	77 learners/children
March 19 (Thursday)	Lunch meal (Sautéed bean sprouts with chicken/tofu and rice)	54 learners/children
March 20 (Friday)	Lunch meal (Chicken Adobo)	23 learners/children

The number of beneficiaries under feeding Program who actively go to Livelihood center decreased due to the following reasons:

- ✚ The parents of the children under Basic Home-Base education program went to Barangay for the processing of their resettlement/ housing giving by the local government
- ✚ Some of the beneficiaries transfer residency to province.
- ✚ Some of the excess lunch packed were also given to the street families

This week, German volunteers suggested to bring the lunch meals to the temporary shelter of their handled children.

Some of the parents request medicines for fever and cough. We were able to provide PARACETAMOL for the children and adults who are having sickness while staying in the evacuation center and in their shanty house.



*Photos of Parola ALSA-BUHAY Staffs while preparing Lunch Meals*

**OTHER PHOTOS:**



Photos while repacking of Lunch Meal with 4<sup>th</sup> batch volunteer Learner



*Distribution of lunch meals*



**PUSO SA PUSO EDUKASYON INC.  
ALSA BUHAY PROGRAM**



**Intervention Plans**

<b>GOALS</b>	<b>TASK</b>	<b>ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>TARGET DATE</b>	<b>EXPECTED OUTPUT</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ To provide lunch meals within nutritional limits for temporary maintenance. Lunch Meals are being well prepared by the ALSA-Buhay Staffs and other volunteers under Puso sa Puso Edukasyon Inc./Salvatorian Family. It consists of Meat, Vegetables, Rice and Fruits.</li> <li>✓ Special consideration should again be given to the vulnerable groups. Priority care is also due to the sick and injured.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ To cooked nutritious and heavy meals to the children under Basic Home-Based Education.</li> <li>❖ To pack and distribute the prepared Lunch Meals to the affected beneficiaries with the specified time (10:00 am-12:00 nn)</li> </ul>	<p><b>FEEDING PROGRAM</b></p>	<p><b>4 weeks</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ The learners/ children intermediate needs are properly addressed and met.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ To provide basic necessities such as clothing's and hygiene kit to the affected beneficiaries under Puso sa Puso Edukasyon Inc.,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ To repack and distribute the in-kind donations from different donors.</li> </ul>	<p><b>RELIEF DISTRIBUTION</b></p>	<p>(Depend s on the donation s given by different people)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ The learners/ children intermediate needs are properly addressed and met.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ To monitor the number of families who still needs assistance, to know the other needs of the affected beneficiaries and to know the progress of the situation in the community.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Do ocular visits and interview to the beneficiaries in the community and Evacuation center.</li> </ul>	<p><b>WEEKLY ASSESSMENT</b></p>	<p>On-going</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ The affected families have concrete plans whether to stay or leave the premises and the level of assistance that they need are determined.</li> </ul>

<p>✓ To maximize the help provided by the Puso sa Puso Edukasyon Inc. through weekly distribution of rice to suffice their basic necessities and the possible provision of construction materials for those family who were not listed to be relocate by local government.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Continuous assessments to the affected learners especially for those who are possible to be relocate.</li> <li>❖ Do close coordination with the National Housing Authority as well as the local Barangay Unit to update their plan to the slum dwellers.</li> </ul>	<p><b>DISTRIBUTION OF RICE AND CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS</b></p>	<p>3 MONTHS (TENTATIVE)</p>	<p>✓ Each affected learners of Puso sa Puso together with their family received rice for their daily needs and started to build their temporary shelters with the construction materials that we provided.</p>
--	--	---	-----------------------------	--

**Puso sa Puso Edukasyon Inc.** together with the **Society of Divine Saviors Philippines** would like to express our wholehearted thanks to our sponsors who contributed to help the victims of fire:

1. **“Aktion Hoffnung”** from Augsburg
2. **Misean Cara** from Ireland
3. **Former Volunteers and their family and friends** from Germany
4. **Australian Region of the Society of the Divine Savior and Parishes and Communities** where they work
5. **Chisholm Catholic College Perth**, Australia
6. **Local Donors from Philippines**

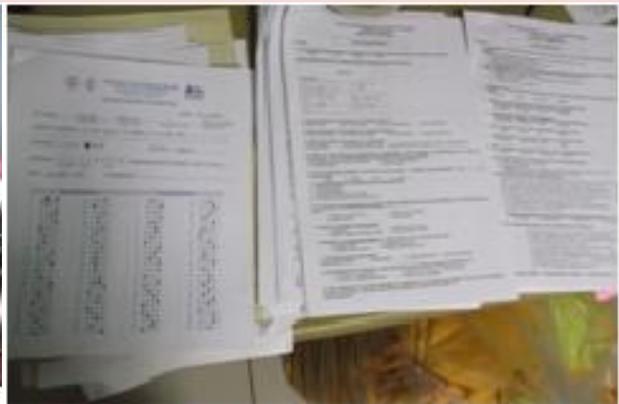
**Thank YOU!**

**“The Road To A Better Future”**  
 (January 25, 2015)

It says in one quote of Lily Tomlin, “The road to success is always under construction”. True enough, in gaining successes we should always work hard, put our passion and raise our spirits to become a good contributor of our nation. Last January 25, 2015, the ALSA-BUHAY Payatas learners took their way towards brighter future. This is the day they have all waiting for, the day that will set the conclusion of their almost one year studying and learning under the foundation – the Accreditation and Equivalency Examination.

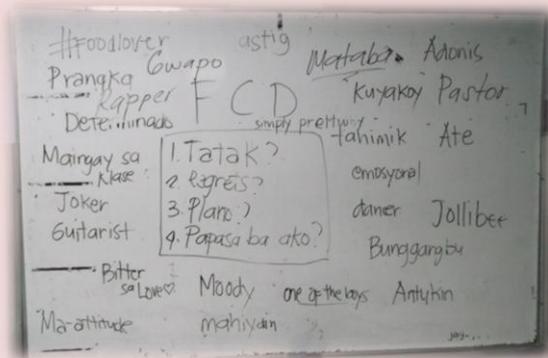


*Learners taking their mock test*



*Last set of exam for our learners*

A week before the exam, learners were undergone a series of assessment and pre-examination to help them understand more the important topics and be familiarize and oriented in answering different types of exam and question. The exams and reviewers were gathered from different resources like exams from previous batch, reviewers from DepEd and BALS and a mock test made by the Instructional Managers. They were also taught different techniques and tips for their proper conditioning during the examination. It was a bit exhausting week for them but we observed positive results on their outputs both in objective and essay part.



*Shared thoughts of the learners during the final coaching program*



*Video Presentation for the learners*

After series of examinations during the last day of our final coaching, we prepared a simple program for our learners. We tagged it as last "Focused-Class Discussion" in similar to the usual "focused-group discussion" that we give whenever we feel problems or challenges are present in



a specific learner/s. We made questions that they can be used to share their feelings and sentiments for the very last time. Questions were "what is the mark that they left to their fellow classmates?", "do they have regrets during the course of their learning under the foundation?", "what is their plan for next few weeks after the examination" and "will they pass the A&E exam?". It was filled with lot of laughter, emotions and inspiration knowing that they have gone so far from the first time that they entered in our center. The staffs also shared their personal feelings and dreams for each learner. The program ended with a video presentation that shows the memories we've all shared together and at the end of slideshow, a simple reminder to all test-takers: Aim for 100%.

On the day of examination, we gathered at the Payatas Center at 5:00 o'clock in the morning were learners took their breakfast as well. We all arrived at San Francisco High School at exactly 6:20 am which is the assigned testing center for all NGO's in Quezon City. Among the 35 learners from ALSA-BUHAY who took the examination, 3 of them belong to elementary level and the rest are secondary. The exam started at 8:00am and ended at 12:00noon. It was nice to know that most of them are really confident that they will pass the said examination. To God be the glory!



*Group photo during the A&E examination day*

**“Church Visitation”**  
(January 22, 2015)



Church Visitation was held in preparation for the Accreditation and Equivalency Examination of the learners. We gathered all the learners for them to prepare themselves physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually. Most of the learners attended this activity beside of those who are not catholic, but they also attended their spiritual fellowship in their own congregation. This was held in Sto Niño Tondo Church for it was the best and accessible church for the learners.

The mass was started at around 5:00pm and end at 6:00pm. The reading was from the book of Hebrew, chapter 8 and the message of the Priest was all about the power of Jesus Christ to healed physical and spiritual illness. Learners were focused and serious during the mass and they believed in the word of God that it will be materializing in their life through passing A&E Examination. In the end of the mass, the Priest intentionally offered a prayer to God for our learners.

We also brought them in the prayer area where they offered their personal prayer to God intimately. We went home blessed and full of hope for our life.



*Learners offering prayers and wishes to God*



*Learners feeling blessed and optimistic after the mass.*



**PUSO SA PUSO EDUKASYON INC.**  
**ALSA BUHAY PROGRAM**



**“Accreditation and Equivalency Exam”**

(January 25, 2015)

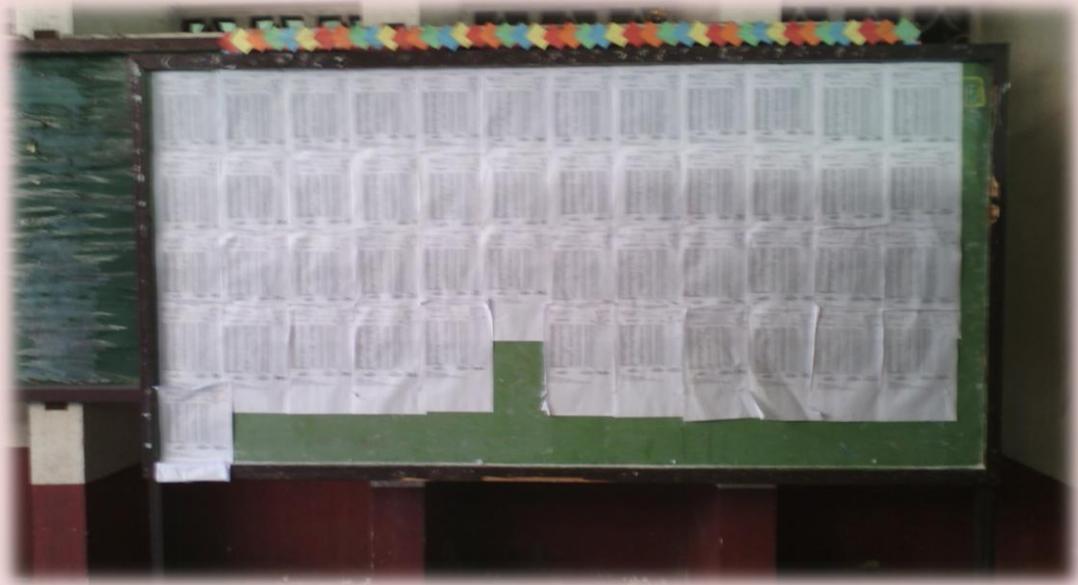


The ALS Accreditation & Equivalency Test is a multiple choice paper and pencil test. The test is designed to measure the competencies of those who have not finished either the formal elementary or secondary education and enrolled and completed the 10 months program of Alternative Learning System. Passers of this test are given a certificate/diploma (which bears the seal and the signature of the Department Secretary) certifying their competencies as comparable to graduates of the formal school system. Hence, they are qualified to enroll in high school (for elementary level passers) and to enroll in college (for secondary level passers).

The previous school year 2013-2014, the A&E Examination was moved on January 25, 2015 which was commonly given every month of October or November. This was actually moved twice from December 14, 2014 then moved again to the said date due to public demand. It has positive and negative impact to the learners. Positive in terms of the review time was given in a longer period of time and negative because most of our learners were working during Christmas season.

At around 6:00am, we were packed and prepared and went to the designated schools. Elementary was assigned in Padre Gomez Elementary School, while secondary was divided into two schools, one in Apolinario Mabini School while the other one was in Victoriano Mapa Elementary School. The numbers of the learners who took the examination was 42, 16 from elementary and 26 from secondary. The examination started at around 8:00 am, staffs were not allowed to enter the designated room for each learner. We provide food and water for each learner so that if they felt hungry they can have light snacks inside the room. We wait until 12:00 noon and finally the examination was finished.

According to the feedback of the learners the examination given to them actually the same with the reviewer we provided to them. The essay type was the same in Elementary and Secondary it was all about the effects of mobile phone in their personal life. They felt relax after the examination hoping for the positive result.



This was the sample of list of test takers were learners from different schools checked their names to noticed where there designated rooms.





Secondary learners felt relaxed after the examination



Secondary learners at the livelihood center waiting for the announcement of the next activity after they had finished the ALS classes.



## PUSO SA PUSO EDUKASYON INC. ALSA BUHAY PROGRAM



### "Orientation on Community Outreach/Exposure Activity with the students from San Beda College and their Foster Families"

(February 7, 2015)

Last February 7, 2015 (Saturday) General Orientation for the Community Outreach/ Exposure Activity conducted. It was attended by 34 junior students from San Beda College who took different courses like BS Psychology, BS Entrepreneurship and BS Human Biology. Ten (10) representatives from the chosen beneficiaries of ALSA-Buhay program also attended. The activity started around 10 in the morning. It was held in Payatas ALS center and facilitated by Payatas staffs.

The said activity was done in coordination with Professor Eric Sanchez and Sr. Frances R. Mangabat, SDS. The objectives of the activity are to provide participants the awareness, exposure and involvement in the lifestyle of the marginalized sectors of our society; to enable the participants to witness and/or experience the living conditions in depressed communities; to enable participants experience working with and being conscious of the under privileged forces of the society; to give the participants the opportunities to reflect through theological sessions on what they can possibly undertake or contribute in responding to social issues and problem and; to inculcate in them a deeper understanding of education as an important tool in social transformation.



The orientation started with a spontaneous prayer led by Mr. Edwin Guevarra, followed by the opening remarks given by our beloved Sr. Frances R. Mangabat, SDS. After the welcoming remarks, Ms. Joceline conducted the Getting to know activity in order to know the short details of the participants and their expectations towards the exposure and outreach activity. Then, Sr. Frances started the orientation proper. She discussed the brief history and the programs offered by Puso sa Puso Edukasyon Inc. Professor Eric Sanchez informed us about the duration of the said activity. Then, Mr. Jeremie Cruz, discussed the possible tasks that the interns will do; Peer facilitator who will teach Basic Literacy Learners who don't know yet how to write, to read and to count, Volunteer Teachers who will go with the German girls and teach basics to the kids ages 4-6 years old in the area. Field worker, who will do house to house interview in order to know the number of children and Out of school youth in the vicinity of ALS Center. After that, Mr. Edwin Guevarra introduced the chosen Foster Family and he also discussed their major role, and that is to accept those interns as if their own children in their home, and to assist them in conducting house to house interview. Ms. Carolyn Maches also discussed the do's and don't's when coming in the community. After that, Ms. Joceline shared some points on the previous students who undergone exposure activity last February 2014. After that, the students filled out the schedule paper wherein the day/time/task is specified. After the orientation proper, we informed them about the Child Protection Policy since we catered children. We even asked them to signed the Safeguarding policy in line with the CPP. Then, Mr. Edwin Guevarra closed the activity with a short prayer. Then the interns went and visit the home of their foster family. The students were very excited in the exposure and outreach activity as they really want to help and learn with the people in marginalized sector. We are looking forward on the positive results of the said activity.



*Sr. Frances welcoming the students of San Beda*



*Prof. Sanchez orienting the students about Payatas*



## PUSO SA PUSO EDUKASYON INC. ALSA BUHAY PROGRAM



### “February Monthly Friday Mass”

(February 13, 2015)



It's the first mass for this year here in Payatas Center. At exactly 8:30 in the morning, Father Lando Jaluag solemnized the mass. Of course, we started it with the opening song sung by ALSA-Buhay Payatas Choir. The Holy Gospel came from the book of Mark 7:31-37 when Jesus healed a deaf man with difficulty of speaking as well. From there, Fr. Lando focused his homily. He coined a term “Ephphata” which means “be opened”. He pointed out the three levels of being open especially to God. First, he said that based on the Holy Gospel, we're like a deaf man who is asking for healing and Jesus is indeed very open with His eyes and heart to our needs and especially to those in needs. Secondly, with the grace and blessings from God, we should be open to accept these blessings. Lastly, Jesus Christ is always open and never locks His heart to us. His heart, palm and arms are very much open to embrace us. He relates these three points to the learners. He said that ALSA-Buhay is a blessing of God from them and they should not waste the opportunity and chance and that, they should always open to be blessed by God with a lot of things. He also cited the lessons pointed out by Pope Francis during his visit to the Philippines. He conveyed that according to the Pope, people should not be afraid to dream. When people failed to dream, he also loses the capacity to love. The more that we dream higher, the more we love the people that surrounds us. And to not dream alone but we should share it with our loved ones. The second point is to not be afraid to cry. Tears cleanse our heart and we should internalize the reason why we cry. Again, we should not cry alone, and cry with God because He knows exactly and also experienced all of our sufferings and challenges. The last point is to not be afraid to admit that we are a child of God. Regardless of our circumstances in life, we should not forget the fact that we are children of God who have innate capacity to love and possess goodness in our soul.



**“Financial Education Formation”**



Financial education was given to 5<sup>th</sup> batch specifically the lower and advance Elementary learners last February 11 and 18, 2015. The first part of the session started with a workshop where the learners were grouped into two. Their first task was to choose a leader, secretary and a reporter. Then they were asked to make their expectation about the topic, to the other participants and to the facilitator. Furthermore, as a part of the lecture, they wrote an essay regarding their personal dreams as well as their dreams for their family and to their community. We then started the lecture by discussing the importance of budgeting, savings and the difference of necessity and luxury. Moreover, the learners were subjected to an activity where they made a computation of their family expenses. In this activity, the learners saw the importance of money and realized that spending too much on which is not needed is not a good habit. For lecture's last part, they shared things they learned on the two-part session of financial education.



**PUSO SA PUSO EDUKASYON INC.  
ALSA BUHAY PROGRAM**



**“Parents and Learners’ Formation on Children’s Rights”**  
(February 21, 2015)



The first joint formation of parents and learners for the year 2015 in Payatas was conducted at Sagrada Familia Chapel. This was facilitated by Sr. Mary Adeline Abamo, SDS.

The formation started with an introduction wherein participants were asked to introduce one another and what they like about the other person. The discussion started with identifying the age of children as well as what the bible says about children. The bible therefore says that children are symbols of God’s kingdom since they are totally dependent to God and are humble despite being hurt. It was noted that caring for children is important since they comprise the future generation.

Discussions on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and its guiding principles were conducted followed by a workshop on identifying unmet rights of children. This was participated by separate groups of learners and their parents. Both groups identified education as the primary unmet right of children in Payatas.

Parents were reminded of their big role in ensuring that their children realize and enjoy their rights while guiding them to respect the rights of others as well. Application of what was learned about the provisions of the CRC was also recommended.

Photos:



*Participants introduced and mentioned what they like about the other*



*Learners identified and wrote down their unmet rights*



*Group photo of formation attendees*



## **PUSO SA PUSO EDUKASYON INC. ALSA BUHAY PROGRAM**



### **“Outreach Program sponsored by Super Friends”** (February 21, 2015)



“Super Friends” as they called themselves are group of young lawyers who inspired to help others especially the needy children chosen us to be one of their beneficiaries. They came in their own to our center last February 21, 2015. The activity started at around 1:30pm and they facilitated the whole activity. This was attended by our Basic literacy, Lower Elementary and Advance Elementary learners. They started the activity with prayers, then different games were given to the learners that they enjoyed so much. After this, they gave learners food from Jollibee, one of fast-food in the Philippines and they gave prizes for the winners of different games. The last part was giving of school supplies and hygiene kit for the learners.

Learners were very thankful to the time and blessings they received from “Super Friends.” As a form of gratitude, they sang thank you song to the visitors who helped them.

Photos:



*Learners enjoyed so much one of the game Pinoy henyo.*



*Super friends challenged the learners to show their talents*



*Group photo of Learners and Super Friends after the events, all are happy and blessed.*



**PUSO SA PUSO EDUKASYON INC.  
ALSA BUHAY PROGRAM**



**“First Monthly Mass”**  
(February 27, 2015)



Alsa-Buhay in Parola Manila aspiring for having mass for almost a year but now it was happened. The first mass in Parola which will be continues every first friday of the Month was successfully held in the Puso sa Puso Edukasyon Inc. Livelihood Center, Delpan Binondo Manila. Father Philip, a Filipino priest from Augustinian Recollect was the master of ceremony.

The mass started at around 9:00am in the morning. The attendance of the learners from Basic Literacy, Lower and Advance Elementary were almost perfect but in the secondary level unfortunately only few attendees.

The selected staffs assigned in some ceremony of the mass while some selected learners from Lower and Advance Elementary were the one involved in choir which was headed by Mr. Bryan Gler and assisted by Mr. Darren Ilarina both Instructional Managers. The message of mass was to challenge the learners to keep the importance of education and be thankful for the opportunity given by Puso sa Puso Edukasyon Inc. for them to study again and as a gratitude, Father Philip encouraged them to study well.

The mass finished at around 10:00am. We were all thankful for these blessings, gathered together and celebrated God's presence.



*Sr. Mila introduced Father Philip to the learners as a Blessed and Kind Hearted Priest for He gave time to be with us for the mass.*



*Selected learners who involved in choir group while singing Eagles Wing.*



*Sr. Mila gave thank you message to Father Philip for the time and effort for this mass.*



**PUSO SA PUSO EDUKASYON INC.**  
**ALSA BUHAY PROGRAM**



**“2015 Junior and Senior Promenade”**  
(February 27, 2015)



It was indeed a night to remember. Last February 27, 2015, secondary learners of Payatas center from second and third batch gathered together to their much-awaited event, - The JS Prom. The theme for this year is “Starry Night”. We know that every child has innate capacity to show how good they are and like stars, it will definitely brighten up in the midst of uncertainty and darkness. They have their own unique colors that shine our soul and if we put them in the right path with one mission, they can create a beautiful constellation that can also inspire others.

The program was hosted by Ma. Theresita Sapno and Christian Terana both from third batch of learners. It was started by a prayer led by Joan Aswer, another learner from third batch. After that, Sr. Frances Mangabat SDS gave the opening remarks which remind the learners the purpose of the program. Then after, Teacher Carol together with two learners, Ma. Margarita Clores and Willie Mayormita performed a heartfelt song number with the tune of “Terrified”. Following the performance, the emcee instructed learners about the mechanics in voting for special awards among the learners. They started to vote for the best in attire for both male and female. They wrote down their votes in small pieces of paper and it will announce at the end of the program. We moved forward to the main event – The Cotillion de Honor. The second batch performed first under a very classic OPM love song, “Forevermore”. It was followed by the performance of third batch with a very popular song of Ed Sheeran, “Thinking Out Loud”. Both sets of performer dances well and gave their efforts to show audience that love is in the air. After the performances, some learners and staffs shared their thoughts about love. Some says love is unconditional, love is sacrifice and patience, love is passion and selfless, and above all, love is God. Following that, the floor was given to all learners to have a chance to dance. Small games were also prepared and given by the emcees which made the program really fun and engaging. After that, learners were instructed again to vote for their Prom King and Queen with the same mechanics. Then they took their dinner and bit of rest for a while. After a very tasteful feast of dinner, we resumed the program with more excitement and surprises. The San Beda College psychology students who are doing immersion in Payatas community joined us with a very entertaining number. One did an interpretative dance while Ivy sang beautifully with her own rendition of Bruno Mar’s “Grenade”. They also shared their thoughts about love which made the night more meaningful.

We were down to the last part of the program; the pronouncement of special awards. Ronelda Playda and Willie Mayormita from second and third batch respectively got the female and male "Best in Attire". Meanwhile, Joan Aswer and Gary Sinag both from third batch hailed the prom King and Queen. And the party continued with the dance for all.

In summary, the program was very successful. All learners leave the center with smiles in their faces. This kind of event gave the learners an avenue to uplift their confidence, a form of personality development. Also, once in awhile, they can able to dress up and feel good about themselves. Socialization and camaraderie also strengthen between learners, staffs and both batches.

**Photos:**



*Best in Male and Female Attire, and Prom King and Queen*



*Sr. Frances giving her opening remarks*



## **“Formation on UNCRC ”**

(February 28, 2015)



The first formation for 5<sup>th</sup> Batch was held last February 28, 2015. It was entitled United Nation Convention for the right of the Child (UNCRC) given by Sr. Ma. Adeline Abamo, one of the advocates of Salvatorian Pastoral Care for Children. The attendees of this formation were both parents and learners.

The venue of this formation was in Puso sa Puso Edukasyon Inc. Livelihood Center. We cannot cater a huge number of attendees, therefore, Sr. Adeline as a facilitator of this activity decided to divide the group. The morning session was assigned to the parents while afternoon session was dedicated to the learners.

The discussion was focused on enumerating the right of the child which was categorized in two rights; the survival rights and developmental rights of the child. In sharing of some parents in rearing their kids, there were realizations that some of those rights were violated and neglected instead of protecting it. While in the learners sessions, during their sharing, there were cases arises that most of them were physically abused by their parents and some relatives. This cases was recorded by Social Worker and be given an intervention as a part of their rights.

We finished the formation at around 5:00pm in the afternoon. All of the attendees were now full of knowledge about the rights of the child. And we were hoping that through this formation, we can help both parents and learners to establish safe and protective environment.



*Sr. Mila introduced Father Philip to the learners as a Blessed and Kind Hearted Priest for He gave time to be with us for the mass.*



*Tatay Pascual shared his experienced in rearing his children. According to him he neglected some of the rights of his children because of their economic situation but he was not hopeless that someday he can be a better Father to them who can provide good and safe life for his children.*



*Learners workshop during the beginning of the session where they write their name in a piece of paper in their own desired designs, and shared it to the group while justifying if they want their given names or they want to change it to new one.*



*Jeremy Lagarto one of the learner shared the group experienced where their right as a child neglected and violated by his parents and some adult.*



**PUSO SA PUSO EDUKASYON INC.  
ALSA BUHAY PROGRAM**



**March Monthly Mass 2015**  
(March 13, 2015)



It was a very good day in ALSA-Buhay Center in Payatas, Quezon City. Early in the morning, learners and staffs were busy in preparing for the mass later at 11:00am. Some learners were rehearsing for the choir and some were cleaning the center.

The mass officially started at 11:30am which was solemnized by Fr. Lando Jaluag, parish priest of Kristong Hari Parish in Commonwealth, Quezon City and also head of Commission on Youth. The opening song was sung by ALSA-Buhay Choir entitled "Sa Piging ng Panginoon". Kynitte Arabit, one the secondary learner conveyed the First Reading under the Book of Hosea 14:2-10. The responsorial psalm was lead by Honey Camille Sapno, also a secondary learner, reciting "I am the Lord your God: hear my voice. Father Lando then read the Holy Gospel that came from the Book of Mark 12:28-34 which the story about a teacher of law who listening to Jesus and came up and asked him for which commandment is the first of and above all. Jesus answered that the Lord, our God, is One Lord and you shall love the Lord, your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strengths. And after this, you shall love your neighbors as yourself. Fr. Lando relates the Holy Gospel with his Homily. He started to remind the learners that we are now on the time of lent which literally means fortieth that was started from "Ash Wednesday", preparing people to the death and resurrection of Christ. It is also the Paschal Mystery of Christ reminding the learners of three important words – Passion, Death, and Resurrection. He then asked learners if they are already prepared for lent. In order for the learners to internalize the lent, Fr. Lando made the word "lent" as an acronym to better understand it. He started with letter "L" which means "Love Jesus again" explaining that if we love Jesus again, we should follow His will. He also added that we should love others like we love ourselves. The letter "E" from the word lent means to "Enjoy praying again". He stated that if we enjoy doing other things like eating, shopping, watching movie etc., we should also enjoy praying with God. If we call Jesus, He will be there at our side with the presence of Holy Spirit. Fr. Lando also gave tips in praying that we can start talking with God about the things that happen on our daily life and eventually, we can treat him like a best friend. Moving forward, the letter "N" stands for "Now is the time to give up" elucidating that giving up means to abstain from certain foods and physical pleasures in life.

These includes vices like drinking alcohol and smoking, giving up our hatred and dissatisfactions in life and solely, to give up sins. Lastly, the letter 'T' stands for "Time to change". As we give up unnecessary things in life, it is also the start to change our life to become deserving child of God and that the things that we do in lent season should also be apply in our daily lives.

The mass ended with the recessional song "Time to Change" also sung by ALSA-Buhay choir. All were blessed and definitely received the grace from God by His words.

**Photos:**



*ALSA-Buhay Payatas Choir*



*Fr. Lando giving homily to the learners*



*Group photo together with Fr. Lando*

**“The Little Prince Theatrical Presentation”**  
 (March 25, 2015)



“And now here is my secret, a very simple secret: It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.” – This is the message that left to the minds of all people who watched this theatrical play.

Last March 25, 2015, learners of ALSA-BUHAY both in Payatas and Parola, staffs of Puso sa Puso Edukasyon Inc., English teachers and Salvatorian brothers, and other guests gathered together to watch this play at SDS office in Loyola Heights, Quezon City. Everyone seems to be excited and curious on how this most-read and most-translated book in the French language, and was voted the best book of the 20th century in France will be interpreted by some of Salvatorian brothers of English Language Development Program. This play is under the direction of Mr. Byron Barinuevo, written by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry and the novel was first published in 1943. At exactly 1:20 in the afternoon, we are all welcomed by Father Artur Chrzanowski, SDS, President of Puso sa Puso Edukasyon Inc., who also organized and made this event possible. In addition with his welcome remarks, Fr. Artur also gave us a glance on how this play will be presented and a little bit stories about it. He first asked everyone of what flower would we like us to be? According to him, the play is partly about the flower. Life is like a flower in a sense that we have to water it with good deeds and values. In a similar way, our life should be water with prayer and continuous contact with God because this is essential to our life that can change and allow us to become more beautiful. He also invited us to become part of the story and after that, he wish that we are people that can look forward and hope that something that we will discover about ourselves. And ultimately, to appreciate every single thing in our lives.

The play started with very powerful acts with which characters gave the highlights of their roles. After that, the pilot came up, and gave his ideas about grown-ups. He then met the Prince and made acquaintance with him when he crashed his plane in the desert. After some time, the pilot learned more about the prince – the place where he came, the danger of the baobabs, about the sunsets, the secret of little prince's life and his adventures. The story continues with the Prince and his flower that he eventually left it from their planet. He then traveled in the neighboring asteroids where he met different kinds of being – the king, the conceited man, the tippler, the businessman, the lamplighter, the geographer, the fox, the snake, and the merchant. The little prince also discovered a garden of roses. Going back to the present time, the pilot and the prince got thirsty and they started to look for spring in the desert. The little prince then discussed to the pilot his plan to return in his planet. In order for that to happen, he conversed with the snake, consoled to the pilot and finally returns to his planet to take care his abandoned flower. Lastly, the pilot didn't find the body of the Prince in the desert but he is confident that the Prince has returned to his asteroid. With sadness in his heart, he is also being comforted by looking up the stars and hearing the tinkling of the Prince's laughter. He is still hoping that someday, the Prince will come back again in the desert.

The play ended with a blast emphasizing the importance in life. As the fox says in the story, "You become responsible forever for what you've tamed", it leaves a message that it is rightful for us to appreciate and give importance to all things that we connected in throughout our life because these are the things that molds us for what we are right now. It also pointed out that what is important to someone may not be relevant to others and that; we should learn that we are all unique individuals. We may have physical likeness, like a garden of rose in the story, but on how we give importance to a certain things, how we interact with other living creatures, and how we make them feel is our unique capacity and exclusive to our hearts. It also reminds us especially the grown-ups that we are once became an innocent child who see the world far different from what we see now and returning to that phase allows us to discover the essential in life that is invisible to the eye but not the heart.

Most of the audience felt inspired, and had fun especially when the production managed to include the audience in the actual play. It's a heartfelt and moving story and a challenged also to the part of the Salvatorian brothers since they just learned the English language for just almost a year. We also give credits to the director who made the play more creative and engaging, to the English teachers who made a great effort in imparting the English language and to Father Artur who continuously support this kind of program. We all applauded to the performance, the story and the production.

Photos:



*Fr. Artur giving his warm welcome and orienting everyone about the much-awaited play*



*Audience became part of the play as the roses in the garden*



*The casts of the play after their performance*



**PUSO SA PUSO EDUKASYON INC.  
ALSA BUHAY PROGRAM**



**“March Monthly Mass in Parola Center”**  
(March 27, 2015)



Last March 27, 2015, we gathered our Learners and Parents for our monthly mass. This was the 2nd mass here in Parola which again held at Livelihood Center of Puso sa Puso Edukasyon Inc. Parola, Manila. This mass was actually planed every first Friday of the month but because of the tragedy happened in Binondo side of Parola when the big fire consumed thousand of houses, it was moved to the said date.

This mass was very significant to the learners and some of the parents for it served as a thanks giving to God, that although they was a fire victim and they lost material things, they still saved the most important things which are their lives and their families. Most of the learners were too excited that they arrived on the center before 8:00am and so, they helped the staffs in some preparation before the mass. We were thankful that most of our learners attended the mass; the number of secondary learners was increased. This was also the first time that we gathered for spiritual purposed together with the parents of the student of our German Volunteers who teaches on Home Based Basic Education Program

The mass was started at around 9:00am with Father Stephen, a Kenyan Father from the congregation of the Community of St. Paul, the Apostles. His homily was all about the dignity of human that we find it difficult to see in other people and instead of giving our helping hands, we laugh and humiliate them. He gave one of the examples in the usual scenario in the classroom, that when one of the learners has trouble in answering the question the class, we tend to laugh over them. Another point Father discussed was the goodness of Christ that when He was here in earth, He became a good example in honoring the God Father. And if we also walk in His will even in a simplest thing, we will acquire His image of goodness

The message of the Priest was very relevant to our learners for most of the time our problem is bullying which have tendency to offend somebody's feeling. We were all blessed and thankful to God for this opportunity to dwell in His presence and received His words as our guidance in life.

Photos:



*The Parola Choir*



*Father Stephen together with some learners*



*Fr. Stephen explaining the gospel and giving his homily*

## **LENTEN RECOLLECTION**

(March 27, 2015)



On March 27, 2015 around 11:00 in the morning, Parola staffs' conducted an annual Lenten Recollection Activity in ALSA Buhay livelihood center with the theme "AN INVITATION TO ALL TO GROW IN A DEEPER MEANING OF FAITH, LOVE AND CHARITY". It was attended by 35 learners that majority came from Elementary Level.

A welcome remark was initiated by Sr. Mila Singap, FLP, who also the supervisor of Parola Center. She also discussed the overview of Puso sa Puso Edukasyon Inc., its brief history, vision, mission, and Core values. She also did recap the Holy Gospel preached by Fr. Erick.

It was followed by an opening prayer led by Mrs. Lucita Casero with the background song entitled Come Holy Spirit. After the prayer, Mr. Bryan gave an exercise activity for the learners entitled "My Gummy Bear".

After the icebreaker, Sr. Mila Singap started to asked the learners regarding their views and opinions about Lenten. Most of the learners participated and shared their views and it was as follows:

- PAGNINILAY
- PAGBABALIK TANAW SA KARANASAN NI HESUS
- PAGHINGI NG TAWAD
- MULING PAGKABUHAY NI HESUKRISTO

After listing the views and opinions of the learners, Mr. Darren Ilarina shared some insights about the celebration of Lenten recollection. Around 12:00 in the afternoon, Parola Staffs' distributed lunch meals for the participants.

The activity resumed around 1:00 in the afternoon. Sr. Mila continued the discussion and gave a group sharing activity regarding the Parable of the lost son. After the group sharing activity, they watched the short story of the Prodigal son in connection to the Parable of the lost son.

Every group has been given the chance to perform in front of their co-learners in reflection to what they have watched.

Group 1 sang a song entitled IINGATAN KA which somehow represents the conflict arising between siblings' rivalry and jealousy in the family. Group 2 presents short entertainment show focusing on the conflict within the family. While the rest do role play in line with the story of Prodigal son.

We found out that each member of the group had been experiencing a conflict within the family and have same situation with the main character of the story. After the presentations of each group, some parents and staffs shared their own experienced of being a parent. They expressed that lots of obstacles and difficulties will arise within the family and we need to be brave, patient and more understanding in dealing with it.

After the sharing Sr, Mila leave some notes to the participants: "Tayoy naging alibughang anak sa iba't ibang paraan pero mahal parin tayo ng diyos kahit tayo ay makasalanan."

As the activity closely to end, participants were able to watch the short film entitled "father sacrifices his own son for others." This is a story of a father who sacrificed his only son for the sake of thousand lives in the train. After watching the video and moment of reflections, all the learners were given a piece of paper wherein they wrote all their sins done towards their parent, siblings, friend and other people around them while instrumental music plays. It is also a way of requesting for forgiveness and praying for changes. The activity ends through the burning of paper with their written sins. As they burned the papers, the participants were able to see a brand new hope to change things for the better and to become a better and more productive individual.

This Lenten recollection helped the learners and staffs to recall the goodness of Christ and make it significant by continue doing good things, living with faith and love of God and fellowmen.



*Learners having their group activity and sharing*



*During the closing activity*



**PUSO SA PUSO EDUKASYON INC.  
ALSA BUHAY PROGRAM**



**“My Cross, My Strength: A Lenten Recollection”  
(March 27, 2015)**



Lenten is the most important season to the lives of many Christian denominations around the world. It signifies the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ for us to achieve redemption and salvation. It's a religious observance that prepares ourselves to the light of God ascending to heaven and be the King of all kings that judge the living and the dead

Last March 27, 2015 at exactly 12 noon, we conducted a Lenten recollection to our third batch of learners that include the BLP, Elementary and Secondary level. Some of the second batch of learners also attended this event that make up to the total of 59 attendees. It was held at ALSA-Buhay Payatas Center and organized by Payatas staffs. This momentous event was made possible with our resource speaker and facilitator, Mr. Edwin Guevarra, a former Parish Youth Coordinator of Mother of Divine Providence Parish and currently one of the Instructional Manager of ALSA BUHAY Program.

The recollection was started with a Christian song “Who am I” with a video clip of the passion of Christ. It was followed by opening remarks by Sr. Frances Mangabat, SDS, reminding everyone the reason and significance of this recollection. Mr. Edwin then take over the recollection by giving brief information about lent and what are the different events during this season, particularly in a Christian life. Then, it was followed by a video presentation about a father who sacrifices his only beloved son for the lives of many people. Learners shared about their personal experiences regarding the cross they carry on their lives. They often relate the cross that they carry as the struggle, pain, problem and failure they encounter in their lives. Ate Arlyn, Charmine, Lobella and Ate Sanita are few of those learners of ALSA-BUHAY whom shared their own experiences to the other learners. They gave some advices on how they can overcome their cross in spite of the hindrances they experienced on their lives and use it as a new source of strength to start new beginning. Most of the learners shed their tears and moved by these sad yet inspiring stories. Mr. Edwin reminded the learners that each of us have cross to carry in our life not because God wanted us to experience the passion, death and resurrection but to be remind us that everything happens for a reason, and there is always a lesson to learn each time we surpassed these struggles in our life or He just wanted us to become one of his greatest army who can face everything in our mortal life in earth.

On the second part of the recollection, learners wrote down a short prayer and their crosses that they carry in a piece of paper. They were also given time to talked to God for them to share their problems and express their gratitude for the many blessings that they received each day of their lives. After a solemn rite, each of them burned the piece of paper that symbolizes that God already answered the prayers. The recollection ended with a short video presentation and prayer from Sr. Frances.

The cross that we carry each day is very personal and life changing but true enough that life can be more meaningful if there is willingness to share one's time and effort to the others. If God showered us with a lot of blessings, it is also the perfect time for us to carry other's burden in the spirit of brotherhood, camaraderie and children of God.

More Photos:





**PUSO SA PUSO EDUKASYON INC.  
ALSA BUHAY PROGRAM**



**“Journeying Through Life with Honor and Dignity”**

(March 28, 2015)



A joint formation of parents and learners of ALSA BUHAY Payatas was conducted at Sagrada Familia Chapel. Sr. Mary Adeline Abamo, SDS & Mrs. Odalie Adiao Garcia, the project officer of Talitha Kum Philippines were the speakers of the said activity.

Sr. Abamo led the group with an opening prayer, a getting -to-know activity and recap on the previous formation's theme on children's rights. Mrs. Garcia facilitated the discussions on human dignity and asked the group what it meant for them and to identify the elements of dignity. The parents and learners answered that dignity means “equality among all human beings” and the elements are religion and culture. Religion guides our values in life.

Parents and learners were divided into subgroups for a brief workshop on identifying and sharing their experiences when their human dignity was disregarded. Learners shared their experiences on physical as well as verbal abuses, poverty, lack of education & facilities, injustices, lack of services from the government, corruption and lack of affirmation from their parents. Parents also shared their experiences on lack of education and support from family, ridicule and no acceptance of their spouse by their parents. After the workshop, Mrs. Garcia thanked the group for their trust in sharing their experiences. Insights from the workshop and discussions include the essential role of family and the government in respecting and promoting human dignity. Promoting human dignity has to start from within ourselves. Learners also provided insights on loving self and others, doing good and having faith in God. Sr. Abamo summed up with a statement that we are all important in the eyes of God and on how we see ourselves.

Learners from elementary and secondary levels with outstanding performances for the months of January and February were announced and awarded with certificates. The learners' progress report cards were also distributed after the formation

Photos during the joint formation:



Learners engaged in the workshop and sharing of experiences to the big group



Parents engaged during the workshop & sharing of experiences to the big group

Photos during the awarding of certificates:



Elementary and Secondary Learners (with their guardians) of 3rd Batch awarded with certificates for their outstanding performances for the First Grading Period

May you feel the joy of the presence of Jesus. The Lord has risen to bless us this Easter. And I pray that the love of God is resurrected, reborn and renewed in your heart.

Happy Easter.

-unknown-

