

HCC keeps Crucians safe from COVID-19

BY BIANCA MARIELLE V. TADEO

Prior to the abrupt cancellation of classes due to the Luzon-Wide Enhanced Community Quarantine, Holy Cross College had implemented several precautionary measures to protect the entire institution from the deadly Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19).

Since news about COVID-19 was aired January 2020, HCC was one with the government's efforts to fight the said disease.

Alcohols were stationed on the entrance gates of the school to ensure that the hands of the school goers were sanitized prior to their entry. More so, the HCC Health Officers conducted classroom demonstration of proper hand washing and proper usage of face masks. Hand soaps were also placed in every restroom inside the campus.

The school also purchased two thermal scanners to ensure that closed monitoring of the body temperature of the students, employees, parents, visitors and among others will be observed. Consequently, campus-wide disinfecting activities were also conducted.

In the same manner, the academic council also made an aggressive move to prepare for the cancellation of the classes. Several activities and unfinished tasks were already cancelled.

In the message posted in the official Facebook page of HCC, the academic council reiterated the use of online strategies such as E-learning and online instructions thru various online classroom management sites as a measure to keep its employees and students safe.



In the quest of decreasing coronavirus risk, the school guard sanitizes the hands of the student prior to entering classes.
PHOTO COURTESY: HCC FB PAGE

ADCPC on RFID: 'The Flagship of my Administration'

Holy Cross College President Atty. Dennis C. Pangan pronounced that by next school year, HCC is geared to implement the use of Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) system. According to Atty. Pangan, with RFID, as flagship of his administration, the school will be managed in the easiest possible way.

RFID system would pave the way for the effective and efficient way of managing, recording, monitoring and tracking the attendance of the students and employees as well.

With this new system, parents will

be automatically notified through SMS on their children's log records—the moment that the student's ID is tapped to card reader located at the school entrance and exit gates.

The proposal of RFID garnered numerous comments from the parents. Many claimed that they are in favour of the implementation of RFID since it will make them feel the comfort about the everyday school attendance of their children.

Grade 11 Assistant Principal, Girly Sigua said, "This is good news. It will lessen the worry on the end of the parents,

since they will be informed that their children safely arrive to school." Sigua further emphasized that the system will also function as an attendance monitoring tool for both teachers and parents.

In the same way, Perry Manapul, grade 12 student also agreed with the implementation of RFID for the advancement of the attendance monitoring system among HCC students. Manapul stated, "This is a step to lessen the number of students who do cutting classes. It is also for the assurance of the parents that their children are truly attending their school."

Meanwhile, during the interview with Atty. Pangan, Crux Magna journalists presented possible problems that may set in during the implementation of the said system. Pangan was asked with

regards to the students who will cut their classes and use their ID's to go out of the school premises. He then, replied that the system will also identify the specific time-out of the students and that they will only be sent outside the school premises following their respective class schedule. "If you commit such related case, you will be facing disciplinary actions," Pangan ended.

As per Atty. Pangan, this new system will go through a long process; nonetheless, he assured that this will be implemented and effective by the next school year 2020-2021.

BY JUSTIN CONRAD LLENAS



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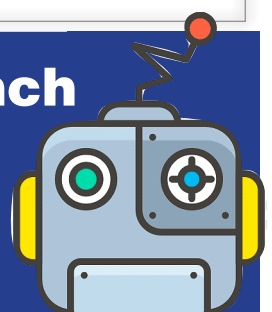


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Crucian welcomed Virgen delos Remedios during the one-day visit of the holy image in HCC.

PHOTO COURTESY: JERWIN RECITAS



Kapampangan Religious Zeal VDLR, SCDP visit Holy Cross

BY: CARREN REYES

Crucians welcomed the images of Virgen Delos Remedios, also known as 'Indu ning Kapampangan' and Sto. Cristo Del Pedron as they stayed for one day in Holy Cross College, October 17.

The visit was made possible through the effort of the school's spiritual director, Rev. Fr. Reynaldo Cruz (Sta. Ana Parish) and the coordination of Student Formation and Praxis Division (SFPD) under the Student Affairs and Services Department (SASD).

Above event included the traditional Ritu Ning Pamandakit (a procession held to fetch the holy images from Sta. Ana Parish

to HCC). As a follow through of the one-day event, students and teachers participated in the Ritu ning Pamananggap (a program held as a gesture of reception and welcoming the holy images), recitation of the Holy Rosary, hourly prayer vigil and religious education.

The day was capped with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist prior to the conduct of Ritu Ning Pamanatad (a procession held to bring back the images to the parish church).

In a statement, SFPD chief, Emmanuel Ricafrente exclaimed, "The visit of holy images is a blessing and the experience is humbling!" He stated that the

event was significant for the entire HCC community to make and keep its faith even stronger, and to help people as well through the so-called lamac (a form of donation).

Meanwhile, Wilson Gaddi, a grade 12 student, shared his insight about the event, "As a Crucian, the visit of Virgen Delos Remedios and Sto. Cristo Del Perdon is such a big blessing." Gaddi narrated that as Kapampangan devotees it was a big honor, and that HCC was fortunate to have been visited by the holy images. "It made us realized that in our school, strong faith in God is really well taken care of," he concluded.

HCC, Hytec Launch First Robotics Competition

BY: NICA YUSORES

Holy Cross College in partnership with Hytec Power Inc. conducted the first VEX robotics competition embedded in a seminar-workshop hosted and organized by the College of Engineering and Criminology (CEC), February 19 at HCC Learning Resource Center.

Above event with the theme, "Inspiring Future Generation of Engineers with Best Crucian Engineering Education," was attended by high school students from the towns of Arayat, Bacolor, Candaba, Sta. Ana, and San Luis. It aimed to nurture young students' in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) by providing interactive competition platform with designable and programmable robots.

According to Marvin O. Mallari, Dean of CEC, the seminar-workshop with competition also hoped to reinforce students' real-case solving skills and teamwork

spirit through hands-on experience and idea-sharing community.

In the course of the event, students were introduced and taught on how to build and program robots. It was succeeded by the contest proper where students competed on how best to solve the challenge.

In the end, the group of students from Pasig National High School bested the other 7 participating schools and was hailed champion. San Carlos San Luis National High School brought home the 1st runner-up, Bacolor High School secured the 2nd runner-up and Holy Cross College was the 3rd runner-up.

It could be recalled that Vex Robotics was already introduced in HCC sometimes in August 2019 in a seminar-workshop participated by STEM and TVL-ICT students of HCC-SHS.



Participants of the Robotics competition critically and creatively planned their moves during the face-off of their robots.

PHOTO COURTESY: MARK JOSHUA LANGSANGAN

FACULTY OF ACCOUNTANCY TO TEACH IN ABM STRAND

BY: ACEL FERNANDO

HCC Institute of Accountancy will have its faculty on the roster of teachers for the students taking the Accountancy, Business and Management (ABM) Strand in Senior High.

"Having the faculty of Institute of Accountancy as their teachers will be beneficial to them," HCC President Dennis C. Pangan claimed.

He explained that if the subjects related to accountancy will be taught by qualified and competent teachers, the students will get to have the fundamental knowledge and skills to ace accountancy course. "It will serve as a bridge for their college education and they will be more confident when

entering college," Atty. Pangan added.

The president highlighted that he wanted to prepare the students who have the interest of taking accountancy as their college course to be well equipped with the right aptitude and attitude prior to entering higher education.

He recalled that he was in dismay knowing that the previous sets of accountancy students were not able to do well with their CPA board examination. Moving on, the president affirmed that he will give a good passing rate, for the first time after 5 years of drought in taking the CPA Board Exam.

"For now, that I am the president of HCC, I promised

that there will be no more zero's for the CPA board exam," Atty. Pangan said.

On the other hand, Senior High School Principal Maria Teresa Edejer expressed her excitement upon knowing that the Faculty of Accountancy will teach some ABM subjects. Edejer said, "The institute got some of the best Certified Public Accountants and lawyers."

Furthermore, Edejer assured that the students will surely get the best education, and that they will be readied to the real deal of accounting.

Meanwhile, initial information about this matter was out through an announcement made in the official Facebook page of HCC.

Crucian Faith strengthened in Reflection 2020

BY: JANEH BULUAN

Living true to the essence of Fides (Faith), one of HCC's core values, Crucians once anew convened for the annual recollection.

Emmanuel Ricafrente, Student Formation and Praxis Division Chief emphasized that strong faith should be part of being one in Holy Cross College Community especially among its learners. He said, "The recollection is an avenue for students to renew, recollect and discern how they are doing in their lives."

Furthermore, he reiterated

that the activity was for the holistic growth of the students. "It is a time-out to break the monotony of the students," he added.

This year, the recollection included collaborative activity which was performed by the students, lectures which focused on God, faith, love and self-worth, and praise and worship which capped the activity.

When asked about her view for attending the said activity, Marlyn Guevarra, Grade-11 student uttered, "It is indeed of great help

among us to know God better, revisit our faith, appreciate love and recognize our self-worth."

Moreover, Guevarra said, "It also allowed all of us to see how things went over the past months, and how should things go in the coming days ahead."

Recollection is an annual activity spearheaded by the SFPD with the very aim of helping every Crucian learner strengthens their faith.

HCC to install aircon units in classrooms

BY: ROLAND PAULO MABANTA AND CARL DARM I LIWANAG

HCC President Dennis C. Pangan already made an announcement that by school year 2020-2021, Holy Cross College will have its classrooms built with air-conditioning units.

Pangan recognized that a classroom should be conducive for learning, and so the need for proper ventilation according to him must be given attention. "It is hard to concentrate when the place you are studying has a hot temperature," Pangan uttered. During the interview, an alumnus himself, Atty. Pangan narrated that the time he was studying in HCC before was quiet different to the time of today. He cited many reasons why he came up with the decision of having the classrooms air-conditioned for the next coming school year.

In the meantime, Atty. Pangan proudly shared that the preparation for installation had already started.

On the other hand, the move to install air conditioning units had drawn many remarks from the entire HCC community.

"It is helpful for our comfort while we are having our classes," Keo Aldrin Dizon, a grade 12 student said. He also claimed that improvement in facilities will be beneficial too for the school to attract more students.

In addition, Jean Claud Lapira, a college student said, "It will give better feeling especially when working throughout the day and class hours." Lapira emphasized too that the installation of aircon will be better if it will not mean increase on tuition fee.

Essential for the students and parents to know, HCC president guaranteed that for the next coming school year, there will be no increase in tuition fee. However, he asserted that a minimal amount will be tapped to every student as a monthly energy fee.



HCC started installing the air-conditioning units in the classrooms.

PHOTO COURTESY: MARK JOSHUA LANSAAN

Debate on Same Sex Marriage Senior High studes voice out their sides

Part of the celebration of Gender and Development week of Holy Cross College, the Guidance Counseling Services Division hosted a Debate contest among the Senior High School students, October 2019.

Representatives from various strands stood firm with their own respective views about the issue of same-sex marriage. The point of views of the students were supported by case studies and related researches.

In the end, the representatives from the strands of Humanities and Social Sciences (HUMSS) and Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) were proclaimed winners.

According to the panel of judges they both did well in presenting and defending their particular sides.

BY: JOSHUA JAYCO

PROJECT SALAC 2019 held Limpio, Dela Cruz get tickets to RSPC

BY: ZYRIL BATI

Division-level winning journalists of HCC qualified and joined the Division of Pampanga's first Project Sustained Achievement Level in Academic Competition (SALAC), October 21-24.

The program coined 'Project SALAC' was a brainchild of the Division of Tarlac. This year, SDO Pampanga adopted it with the goal of meticulously filtering and selecting the ones who will move to represent Pampanga province in the Regional Schools Press Conference.

HCC was represented by the individual category participant for copy-reading and the groups of Desktop Publishing-English and TV Broadcasting-English.

The four-day long activity which was held in a separate venue, Teachers' Training Center in SDO Pampanga and San Matias High School, Sto. Tomas, Pampanga provided the student-participants a series of workshop-contests that identified the RSPC qualifiers.

In the end, two Crusaders secured their tickets to RSPC. Janalou Limpio and Eli Dela Cruz both from the group of TV broadcasting continued their journey to the regional level.



"It was rough and challenging. The constant failure almost drained me, but in the end it was memorable, it pushed me to be better member of my team, to hone my skills and make them better ones," Dela Cruz shared after being

announced as a regional qualifier.

On the other hand, Limpio told that Project SALAC was a great experience. She highlighted that the event brought so much excitement, nervousness and learning on her end.

Crucian journalists in full smile as they received the Over-all Champion Award during the 2019 CSPC.

PHOTO COURTESY: JERWIN RECITAS

Journos secure 2019 CSPC over-all champ HCC claims Hall of Fame



With serious efforts and hard work coupled with eagerness, HCC journalists successfully defended their fifth time over-all championship in the Cluster Schools Press Conference (CSPC) 2019 held September 12-14.

For five long years, HCC had been the consistent, highest point-earner in the above

journalistic competition and that paved the way, this year, for HCC to be declared as the Hall of Famer.

Crusaders bested 300 student-journalists from the 18 participating schools of Cluster IX in the three-day competitions that were held in separate venues—individual categories were done at Bloomingfields Academy

Foundation Inc. (BAFI) and the group categories held at Holy Cross College.

"After hearing that we won the overall championship, we were so happy because this is another milestone. More so, credits are also due to our coaches, who brought out the best in us that contributed to who we are right now as journalists," Zyril Bati, a Radio Broadcaster-Filipino shared in an interview after the awarding ceremony.

She added, "Bagging the title made me proud as a journalist and of course as a Crusader."

The winning journalists underwent rigid and comprehensive trainings with Jerwin C. Recitas and Cristine M. Yabes, HCC School Paper Advisers.

According to Recitas, they really worked hard to defend the most coveted championship. Series of intensive trainings was given to make the journalists ready for the said competition.

In an interview, he revealed, "This coming summer time, the school will stage a seminar workshop for the campus journalists to empower their journalistic aptitude and attitude. This is also part of our preparation for the Schools Press Conferences in 2020."

BY: JANALOU LIMPIO



Junior High School Students enjoyed the second month of the school's freedom day.

PHOTO COURTESY: NICOLE ANNE MAUN

STUDES LAUD MONTHLY FREEDOM DAY

BY JOHN ELMO MANGUNE

Students from grade school up to college departments were happy in an announcement made by the HCC president, Atty. Dennis C. Pangan declaring every first Friday of the month as Freedom day.

During the monthly observance of the said event, which officially started last February 7, students are allowed to come to school in their comfortable dignified attire.

The declaration earned numerous commendations from the thrilled students, parents and teachers.

A student from the Junior High School, Andrei Jacob Barbosa said,

"Freedom day promotes individuality. It gives us the opportunity to express ourselves through our own style of clothing and that is something we really enjoy."

"At least once a month, we get to wear something that makes us comfortable aside from school uniforms," Mark Louie Alih, Senior High Student added.

Taking the perspective of a teacher, Jona Balmores of SHS quipped, "This makes every first Friday of the month something for all to look forward to, because everybody is really preparing so

much for their outfits."

On the other hand, the office of the Prefect of Discipline (POD) had tied up with the school security guards to make sure that students would conform to the prescribed 'dignified attire.'

HCC POD, Christine Concepcion uttered, "We have to make sure that the students will be compliant to what is imperative during the observance of Freedom day." Furthermore, she reiterated that responsibility should come as part of this monthly event.

‘HCC improves!’—Crusaders on new admin

BY JERWIN RECITAS



The students posed with Atty. Dennis C. Pangan, HCC President and expressed their satisfaction with the improvements in HCC.
PHOTO COURTESY: MARK JOSHUA LANANGAN

The entire Holy Cross College lauded the new administration for the numerous concrete and immediate improvements and developments in the institution.

As the new president, Atty. Dennis C. Pangan assumed office; he spearheaded and instigated the implementation of the necessary changes towards the school’s improved quality service. He considered and looked into the various aspects of the school’s operation—the students, the employees, the services, the facilities, and the school itself. Conspicuously, Atty. Pangan focused to cater the needs of the entire HCC community. Some of his brain-child projects and programs are as follows:

SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
The newly constructed school gymnasium, situated at the 3rd floor of the newly constructed SHS Building, recently opened in time with the conduct of the intramurals of the Basic Education Departments. According to Atty. Pangan, the Crusaders will no longer feel the heat of the sun while having their different academic and athletic related activities and

programs.

SCHOOL LIBRARY IMPROVEMENT
Considered as the heart of the school, President Pangan made sure too, that the school library will be given significance. He ordered the transformation of the entire fourth floor of the LRC as the new library with 250 seating capacity. Atty. Pangan shared that the improved library houses the newly acquired books and selections for the needs of both basic and higher education departments. Also, it is considered as the school’s Instructional Media Center.

SCHOOL CHAPEL RENOVATION
Atty. Pangan stressed the renovation of the school chapel. He believed that part of promoting one of HCC’s core values, Fides (Faith), is the strong faith and spirituality of every Crusader. Within three-days, he was able to facilitate the renovation and the instalment of air-conditioning units in the entire chapel. According to the president, with safety and comfort, the students and teachers could now use the chapel during recollection and

spiritual gathering.

SCHOOL’S PHOTO STUDIO
With the idea of Atty. Pangan, the establishment of the school’s very own photo studio had taken place. President during the interview jested, “If the photo is not good in quality, who would want to see it?” He added that he wanted to produce good quality photos as sort of memorabilia of student’s captured memories. True enough, the students from all departments were all satisfied with the outputs of the HCC photo studio.

GENDER NEUTRAL RESTROOM
Valuing diversity, the Office of the President ordered to have Gender Neutral Restrooms. According to Atty. Pangan, in Holy Cross College every individual’s sexual

a specific restroom for the use of the LGBT people to attend to their basic needs while they are in the school premises.

INSTALMENT OF RESTROOM BIDETS
Being particular when it comes to proper hygiene and cleanliness in HCC, Atty. Pangan ordered to install bidets in every rest room of the buildings in HCC. President emphasized the significance of having and maintaining clean restrooms for the use of both students and faculty members. According to him, these contribute to create a safe and healthy physical learning institution. Living true to the mantra, ‘The School with a Heart,’ HCC committed itself to continue in providing quality services for the learning success of every Crusader.

preference is respected. He cited the needs to set up



ENTREP DAYS, BUSINESS ENTERPRISE SIMULATION 2020 CRUCIANS TURN ENTREPRENEURS

BY MARIELLE KYLA RUEDA AND JERICK PAUL NICOLAS

Part of the culminating activity in the Entrepreneurship subject, grade 12 students convened for the conduct of the Entrep days, February 24 & 26. Subsequent to this, as compliance with the requirement for grade 12 ABM students, Business Enterprise Simulation days were held March 5 & 6.

Alfred Maniago, coordinator of the said activities pointed out the significance of the above events. "The students have the chance to put their learning into practice," Manigo said. He further added that the activities also served as platforms to showcase the entrepreneurial skills of the students.

The activities, according to Manigo opened the opportunity for the students

to be abreast in the real-life activities in a business cycle that included business opportunity search, product/service development, business formation and organization, business implementation and control, business wind-up, and relevant management reporting in the context of ethical standard and social responsibility.

In the end, the sections that have shown exceptional talents through creative ideas in formulating and presenting their products were recognized and received awards and certificates.

The participating students claimed that the activities were full of fun aside from learning and the actual work experience.



HUMSS students sold their products to the grade schoolers.



President Pangan bought food products from the booth of the STEM students.



STEM students did sales talk to their customers.



Atty. Pangan as he shared his message to the young entrepreneurs of HCC-SHS.

PHOTO COURTESY: JERWIN RECITAS AND MARK JOSHUA LANSANGAN

NO FEE HIKE IN HCC NEXT SY

BY ROWELL CORDOVA

Holy Cross College announced that there will be no hike on the students' tuition fee as the school year 2020-2021 open this June.

Despite of the numerous improvements in the entire HCC, the tuition fee of the students from the Basic Education Department (Elementary, Junior High School, Senior High School) up to the Higher Education Department (College) will remain the same.

During the consultation meetings, the parents commended this matter. Subsequently, they expressed their positive views about the new and upcoming developments in HCC.

According to Atty. Dennis C. Pangan, HCC president, this was made through the efforts also of the Board of Directors who all aimed to

really offer quality education without causing any additional amount on the tuition fee of the students.

Meanwhile, early week of March, HCC made an announcement that it is giving 20% discount on tuition fees to all transferees from other schools in the grades 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 in the Elementary and in the grades 8, 9, and 10 in the Junior High School.

However, as per the installation of the air conditioning units in the classrooms, the president discussed that there would be a minimal amount to be tapped for each student as monthly energy fee.

In the end, Pangan reiterated before the parents, "Holy Cross lang po ang may puso sa lahat ng eskwelahang pupuntahan ninyo."

PTA CONTINUES ITS BOOK SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Another set of students received subsidy for their book fees after the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) officers pushed through with the continuation of the Book Subsidy program this school year 2019-2020.

This year, almost 30 students from various strands were enlisted and benefited from the said program.

In a statement, Virginia Muldong, PTA president reiterated that the project was launched by the association to help those students who were considered financially challenged.

"We really make sure that deserving students would be the ones to benefit from this benevolent program," Muldong added.

Meanwhile, with regards to how one qualifies to be part of the said program, Jerwin Recitas, PTA secretary explained that the student-applicants would undergo

rigid selection that includes personal information checking, and interview, facilitated by the PTA officers.

"The applicants were also scrutinized in terms of family income and academic performance," Recitas said.

On the other hand, Camilo Lacanlale, PTA vice president shared that the continuation of the book subsidy was unanimously agreed on by his fellow officers knowing that many of the students were really struggling on paying books.

"This year, we just lifted the budget for this program from our funds. We were not able to stage any fund-generating project, but as promised, we are always ready to fulfill our role of helping our students in the best possible ways," Lacanlale concluded.

BY MARK GELO MALLARI

CRUSADERS GIVE AID, FORM 'CARITAS FOR BATANGAS'

BY RICA SANTOS

Crusaders organized 'Caritas For Batangas' wherein they gathered donations and reliefs intended for the affected people of Taal Volcano eruption.

Living true to the essence of Caritas, one of the HCC's goals, different departments formed and responded positively to provide assistance and support through cash and in-kind.

A week-long gathering of donations was staged in HCC and was spearheaded by Benjie B. Nolasco, Dean of Students Affairs and Services Department.

Grade School Department contributed toiletries and sanitary kits including toothpaste, bath soap, laundry soap, and other cleaning materials. The Junior High and Senior High School Departments gathered ready-to-eat foods, canned goods, noodles, coffee, milk, and biscuits. On the other hand, the school itself, the College Department and all the other employees both teaching and non-teaching including alumni, accumulated a total cash of

Php 50,000.

The support operation was launched last January 13-18. On January 19, truckload of goods and employees flee straight to the Information Center of Lipa Archdiocesan Social Action Commission, Inc. (LASAC) in Lipa City, Batangas. From there, boons were distributed to different parishes that accommodated victims of the said eruption.

Above operation was also made possible through the partnership of the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council with its chief, Marites S. Franco who also happened to be the President of HCC Alumni Association.

People from LASAC were glad to know that HCC came up with its own way of extending its helping hands to the needy.

In a statement, Atty. Dennis C. Pangan, HCC President uttered, "I am so proud of the HCC Community. The relief operation was successful and overwhelming."



HCC personnel unloaded the food packs for the victims of Taal eruption at the Information Center of Lipa Archdiocesan Social Action Commission, Inc. (LASAC) in Lipa City, Batangas. Insets show the preparation of the students at HCC and the team that headed to Lipa City, Batangas.

PHOTO COURTESY: JERWIN RECITAS AND MARK JOSHUA LANSANGAN

President Pangan led the distribution of the first set of smartphones for the teachers of the basic education departments.

PHOTO COURTESY: MARK JOSHUA LANSANGAN



HCC GIVES SMARTPHONES TO TEACHERS, FREE WI-FI TO STUDENTS

BY LALAINE DIZON

Keeping itself abreast with the integration of technology for effective delivery of learning, Holy Cross College distributed new smart phones to all teachers in the basic education departments, February 14.

It primarily aimed to ensure that there would be a good communication line between and among students, parents, and fellow employees.

Part of the school's computerization program, the new management under the leadership of HCC president, Atty. Dennis C. Pangan believed that a good working community will be built if there will be an efficient and effective means of communication.

Through the use of smart phones with post-paid plan of Php 1000, the teachers of grade school, junior high school and senior high school departments will be able to capably deliver their school-related works and concerns.

Meanwhile, the students lauded the current administration for providing free Wi-Fi connection in the Learning Resource Center (LRC) area.

Earlier than the expected period of its availability, President Pangan announced that students could access the school's free Wi-Fi connection, March 6.

The project was intended to provide internet connection to the

students and let them be able to use the modern technology for better learning experience.

On the other hand, the school administration reminded that the use of free internet connection is limited to pure learning purposes. The admin reiterated that it could not be used for cyber-bullying, cyber-libel and other forms of cyber-crimes that are against the law of the land.

Furthermore, the internet connection could not be used by the students in accessing pornographic and subversive sites.

Above programs were just some of the steps of the new management in establishing proficient and innovative delivery of teaching-learning process.



Region III Bureau of Fire Protection-Special Response Unit (BFP-SRU) demonstrated rescue operation as a highlight feature of the disaster and emergency drills.

PHOTO COURTESY: JERWIN RECITAS

SDRRMC cites importance of disaster, emergency preparedness

BY MA. LOURDES ZOBEL SAGUM

Holy Cross College's School Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (SDRRMC) reiterated the significance of strengthening the capacity of the entire institution to respond in the event of disasters and emergencies.

"We need to prepare the HCC community for possible occurrence of man-made and natural disasters," said Jeffrey Lansangan, SDRRMC Head during the observance of the fire and earthquake drills held last March 3.

According to Lansangan the drills will of be help to better prepare Crucians to respond in the event of disasters and emergencies, that in effect will save more lives and ensure resilience.

In addition, Richard Magat III, member of SDRRMC stated, "Disaster and emergency drills make people more aware and prepared of the possible disasters that might happen." Magat also cited that through drills disaster plans will be polished and panic will be minimized.

Present during the conduct of the said drills were members of the HCC SDRRMC consisted of selected teachers, students and employees, Bureau of Fire Protection-Special Response Unit (BFP-SRU) Region III, Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) Sta. Ana, and HCC blue guards.

Said activities were carried out with the participation of the students, teachers, employees, and parents who were also in great awe as every part of the event unfolded. Equally important features of the above event were

earthquake drill, rope and rappelling rescue drills, demonstration of rescue operation, controlling the fire using a fire extinguisher and fire prevention symposium.

Above event, an annual practice of HCC, primarily aimed to evaluate the response preparedness of the HCC community and provide necessary knowledge and skills on basic life support and first aid.

In the end, SDRRMC stimulated the entire HCC community to be more knowledgeable and conscious of the things that must be observed before, during and after the disaster.

"Having sufficient equipment and necessary precautions are advised. Most importantly, every one of us must have presence of mind and must take a quick and sensible action," Magat ended.

The elected student-leaders were proclaimed held immediately after the official election results were out.

PHOTO COURTESY: CAMILO LACANLALE

Miting de Avance, Election cap CSC Execs '20-'21

BY JUSTINE MAE CATA CUTAN

Senior High witnessed the different aspiring Central Student Council student-leaders in their department during the Miting de Avance held on March 2-3. Subsequently, an election was conducted on March 4-5.

Miting de Avance paved the way for the three parties namely ABE, Alliance of Students for Excellence and Change (ASEC) and Modern Learners (ML) to give the students their brief background, present their platforms and aspirations, share thoughts on leadership-related topics, answer questions and show-off their

talents and skills.

In the end, Denise Arzen Cunanan of ABE (G11-HUMSS-Yves) was proclaimed as the President.

In a statement, Cunanan uttered, "I will make sure that all our platforms will be implemented." She also cited that she wanted to instill among her fellow students the importance of discovering themselves towards their full potential.

Meanwhile, other elected student-leaders were Mark Gelo Mallari of ASEC (Vice President), Alaica Pineda of ABE (Secretary), Marjolette



Pangilinan of ASEC (Treasurer), Yeshuwa Blessing Avendano of ASEC (Auditor), Marlyn Guevarra of ASEC (Press Realltion Officer) and Jexfer Cantor of ABE (Business Manager).

What to do during an earthquake



Quickly drop, cover and hold.

- Drop to the ground (to avoid falling).
- Take cover under something strong. Like a study desk or table.
- Hold on to it until the shaking stops.
- Don't try to run in an earthquake.
- Your generally safer inside than outside.

HCC KICKS OFF EARLY ENROLMENT FOR SY 2020-2021

BY RHONETTE TIM LIMJOCO AND INAH BALAGTAS

Admission desks in Holy Cross College officially opened February 3 as the scheduled Early Enrolment for School Year 2020-2021 pushed through.

HCC opted to stage the early enrolment to have a peek of the possible new entrants and transferees for the Basic Education (Elementary, Junior High School and Senior High School) and Higher Education (College) Departments before the opening of the new school year.

For incoming Grade 11 Senior High School, those who will enrol must be Grade 10 completers. The following documents must be submitted upon enrolment or on or before the start of classes for the school year 2020-2021: a copy of Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) certified birth certificate, original Grade 10 report card with Learner's Reference Number (LRN), photocopy of certificate of Junior High School (JHS) completion, original certificate of good moral, 2x2 (3pcs) pictures in white background with name tag and ESC with E-SID certification (for private JHS completers ONLY).

For Grade 12 students, they would be required to submit their report card and clearance. Meanwhile for the transferees, an assessment will be done in the office of the principal and the following documents will be submitted, PSA certified birth certificate, original report card, certificate of Honorable Dismissal, original certificate of good moral (from the previous school), and 2x2 (3pcs) pictures in white background with name tag.



Grade 10 students of Camba High School had their names listed as early enrollees of SHS for the school year 2020-2021.

PHOTO COURTESY: MARK JOSHUA LANGSANGAN

Meanwhile, Camilo Lacanlale, CSC Adviser made mention, "The election, as the school year closes, is an annual practice meant to fill in the posts of the executive officers."

He added, "By the month of June, through another election, we will name the officers from various strands under Recognized Student Organizations (RSO)."

According to Lacanlale, CSC and RSO will be working hand-in-hand in the promotion and advancement of students' rights and interests.

This year's election was facilitated by the Commission on Student Election (COMSTUDELEC), a group composed of student-volunteers with its adviser Joselito Macapagal.

PJRC recognizes HCC for community journalism

BY TRISHA MAE MANALOTO

Holy Cross College was awarded a special recognition for contributing to the development of community journalism.

Above recognition was conferred during the conduct of the Philippine Journalism Research Conference 2020 on March 6 at Cine Adarna, University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City.

HCC sent its student-journalists from Senior High School and College departments to attend the program. This year's theme, "Journalism in Dangerous Times" paved the way for the attendees to hear enlightening and moving words from the journalism industry experts who graced the one-day national confab.

Conspicuously present during the open forum were Tress Reyes of CNN Philippines, Fernando Sepe Jr. of ABS-CBN, Danilo Arao of UP Journalism Department/Media Asia, and Christian Esguerra of ANC who also delivered the keynote speech.

Furthermore, several parallel-sessions and competitions about academic research, special projects, investigative journalism, photo essay and special presentations were held as a follow through of the above event.

The national conference, which was attended by student-journalists and communication students from various



colleges and universities around the Philippines, was also graced by the former chancellor of UP-Diliman, Dr. Michael Tan and Kara David of GMA.

In an interview, when asked about his message to HCC journalists, Esguerra said, "Sa mga students ng Holy Cross College, try to be

Mark Joshua Lansangan and Jerwin Recitas received the recognition of HCC for community journalism.

PHOTO COURTESY: JERWIN RECITAS AND MARK JOSHUA LANGSANGAN

good at your craft, hone your craft, galingan nyo.

The ANC anchor highlighted, "Eventually, (you) try to develop the right character and values to become good journalists."

On the other hand, Rica Santos, SHS journalist, on her attendance to PJRC 2020 shared, "It is a great privilege and as a student journalist, it made me realize the true value of journalism in the society, especially on dangerous times."

PJRC 2020 was organized by the UP College of Mass Communication Department of Journalism with University of Santo Tomas, Polytechnic University of the Philippines and Asian Institute of Journalism and Communication.



Brave Soul

By: Zobel

You deserve more.
It's just an illusion
So don't dare tell me that--
You are enough
You are loved
You matter
All the pain will be all worth it
The truth is--
You are not worth pursuing
You are not worth fighting for
You are not worth praying for
You are not worth loving
It's a lie when they say
You are priceless
You are beautiful with all your scars and pain
Believe me,
You are a trash
Don't ever think that --
It's brave because you still choose to fight
It's brave to forgive others
It's brave to let go the things that are not meant for
you.



Whalien 52

By: Justine

I screamed for help.
My throat almost burst.
Everyone can see me but--
No one can hear me.

I swam across every ocean,
Trying to figure out, trying to find it.
Seems like I lost grasp of it,
Or maybe I never had it.



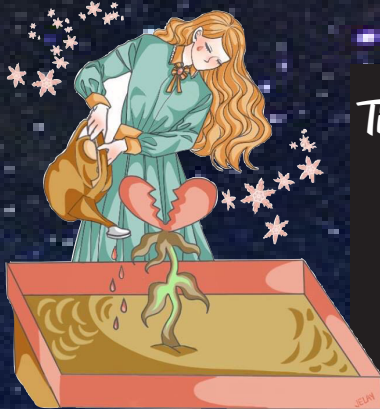
Are We Going to Ride the Same Dream We Both Build?

By: Conrad

Isn't it funny?
We are both confused if we will ride on the same car or not,
You want to take risk, but I don't like commitments,
You are brave enough to engage in a relationship,
But I'm a coward, thinking that it is just a distraction.

Maybe diverse questions are running onto your mind,
Am I going to let go or I'll just keep holding on?
But the chances of being love are still unpredictable.
It seems that we are blindfolded while watching a horror movie,
If we both removed our blindfolds, dreadfulness will rush onto our eyes.

But I want to ask you,
Do you love me because you need me?
Or do you need me because you love me?
Please answer me with bare truth,
Because truth can hurt you but it will always set you free.



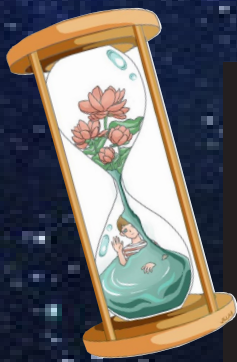
Till the Next Rendezvous

By: Zobel

It's not you anymore.
It's a lie when I said that
I still love you.
Believe me,
I don't wanna see you again.
I don't wanna love you and
Don't ever think that
I'm still into you.
When we meet again
Remember that--
I wanted to forget everything about you.
I made the right decision to leave you and
It is foolish to say that
I'm giving all my endeavor
Just to meet you again.

Echoes of the Heart

LITERARY



Someday

By: Conrad

Someday you will run to me, like how I run to you,
Someday you will cry bucket of tears like I do,
Someday you will realize my worth,
Someday you will be back on my arms to feel my
comfort,
Someday you will crawl back to me to say sorry,
And someday you will give chocolates again to
gain my apology.

But it seems like that someday will never happen,
I see you happy with that boy, and it seems that
you've found the real heaven,
I'm a liar if I say that I don't want you back,
So I look for someone to caress my back,
But I failed because I can't feel the same love,
I can't see myself being with someone I don't
really love.

So here I am, looking at our old photo,
Begging to take another one or maybe two,
I really want you back but I can't be selfish,
Take me back in time where everything is at
peace.
I just want to give love but I receive pain,
The moment that you turned your back, I know we
already ended.

Slough of Despond

By: Belle

All that ever happened to you
Is just stumble and fall
From January to December
Rainy days or summer.

On an empty and long tunnel,
With your tiny courage acting as your candle,
It's a journey longer than a migrant's flight,
Did giving up never cross your sight?

The night you've gone sleepless,
Trying hard to be the best,
They say it leads you to a beautiful life,
How come you'd always strive?

In the end, you feel like nothing's going your way,
Everything is so hard to accomplish,
It's different from start to finish.
Ask. Do you still want to keep the fight?



Missing You

By: Ella Myka

You've never changed,
As I still see the person,
I sincerely loved in you,
You're still sweet like fructose,
You're still clingy like a baby,
You're still caring like a mother,
You're still protective like a father,
You're always there through ups and downs,
You always prove how in love you are,
You consistently show effort,
With your pleasing hand written letters,
And your freshly-picked flowers,
Clearly, you've never changed,
As I still see the person,
I sincerely loved in you,
Consistently doing those things,
FOR HER.



My Best Friend since Birth

By: Ella Myka

She is good at everything,
She's always there, when I come needy,
Her warm embrace every night,
Her unconditional love on us.

The sunshine in my day,
The moon that lights my darkest night,
The one who makes me strong,
The greatest best friend I know.

The one who taught me life,
How to fight for what is right,
The one who cares for me,
The eyes that help me see.

The one who knows the best for me,
The one who helped me to fulfill my dreams and to attain my
goals,
My inspiration to study well,
The strongest and ravishing as well.

I am truly blessed to have a mother like her,
Not just only a mother,
But my very own best friend since birth.

EDITORIAL

Fate After Confidants

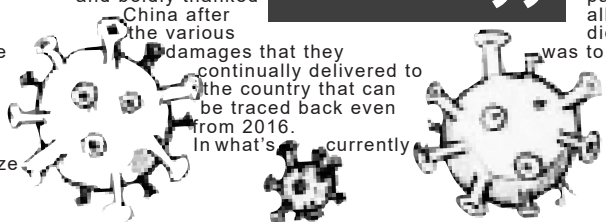
weighing the fate of million citizens over the relationship with the provenance of the current pandemic Corona Virus Disease-2019 (COVID-19), President Rodrigo Duterte seems to itemize his relationship with his best-est confidant, China, first over the fortune of the vulnerable Filipinos.

Passing over the seven thousand mark of positive cases within the country, and reaching more than sixty days after the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) was initiated in Luzon, the risk and danger against the country's handling against the pandemic is visibly getting worse and worse every day. Aside from the 'We Heal as One Act of 2020' that the President had approved, no concrete plans and actions were assured to the people and nothing from the late night talk show with PRRD was bore fruitful.

On the contrary, the palace believes that China may prioritize us when their institutions have

successfully created a vaccine that helps prevent further infection against COVID-19 as Philippines treats China as our 'BFF'.

Despite various studies that the pandemic may have biologically engineered by China, the administration trust the country over the voice and suggestions of the citizens on what they want and what they need which were all turned down by the Duterte admin, and boldly thanked



occurring within the country's fight against the pandemic, the administration obviously made themselves as pro-relation over pro-people and pro-common sense.

Siding over the Chinese government, and China itself, is a blatant move that shows how ignorant and incompetent is the government in handling a serious matter, and instead of reassuring concrete actions and plan for the people in order to conquer the war against the pandemic, all they did

“ The risk and danger against the country's handling against the pandemic is visibly getting worse and worse everyday. ”



reassure the people that they had successfully made a pact with China, and be unmistakably grateful about it.

In conclusion, if President Duterte will weigh down his decision on where he may side, the position with his confidant, China, will be much more significant, alongside with his unbearable ignorance on what is really needed and what is really important. The fate of the agonizing battle of the Filipinos against COVID-19, and even against the government itself, will only weigh as much as a light feather, compared to the weight to the one-sided relation of the country with the roots of what gave the world a freeze, and countless death and created a curve that is fatal, and therefore, lured the government to pick fate after confidants.

For truth for accuracy

CRUX MAGNA

The Official Student Publication of Holy Cross College Senior High School Department

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Immature ENOUGH

Growing up in the culture of valuing school works will probably trigger you on thinking that removing homework will decrease the burden to students. But, the reality of treating homework as a stepping stone to success is quiet hard for the Filipino youth.

Deputy Speaker Eveline Escudero seeks to eliminate homework because it is the culprit that causes family problems and poor social interaction. Through her proposed House Bill No. 3611, she seeks for a better student. A similar bill by Quezon City Rep. Alfred Vargas, the House Bill No. 3883, which aims to stop teachers from assigning homework for weekends. A foreign study has suggested that homework does impact family ties, in some cases, in a negative way. In general, it is positively associated with the prestige of having an academic achievement.

The reality of having this

bill is music to the ears of students specially those who are cramming with their school works. Though, the paradigm of an active and productive student is characterized by having ample knowledge with perseverance and dedication

“
Having homework will aid them to think critically and be responsible.
”

to his or her work.

However, there should be valid bases for this bill to pass the taste of critics. Looking at the values behind this bill, it promotes better family connections by providing sufficient time in bonding and doing activities. However, having no homework to be

accomplished will not soothe the pain points of a student. What makes the scholars scowl is the potential degradation of productive students and as well as professionals in the near future.

The central demand in this No Homework Bill deals with the macabre, as reflected by majority of student's desires, like reducing homework to be done that consumes their sleeping time for 2-3 hours.

However, it is just a matter of letting kids feel what the world has to offer. It is part of training how harsh life is. Having homework will aid them to think critically and be responsible. The real cost on focusing on worthless things rather than the urgent ones impact everyone!

Will this No Homework Bill be implemented? In reality, the bill is immature enough. Complains and vague information are present. This can be a student's heaven and nightmare as well.



JUSTICE FOR THE FALLEN

Filipinos would find it difficult to forget the brutal encounter during Benigno Aquino III's time as president of the deaths of 44 Special Action Forces commandos known as the Mamasapano clash.

Oplan Exodus, a police operation, by Special Action Force (SAF) of the Philippine National Police (PNP) contra Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) happened at Tukanalipao, Mamasapano, Maguindanao on Sunday, January 25, 2015 where the incident of Mamasapano clash occurred.

The operation involves the arrest of top Malaysian terrorist Zulkifli bin Hir also known as Marwan, who has a \$5-M bounty on his head. He attempted to replicate the Bali bombings in Cagayan De

Oro by planting two bombs around the city. One bomb killed two police officers and the other was found in time and was detonated in a safe place.

The operation caught the attention of the public for the relatively high

“
The clash has been dubbed as the biggest loss of government elite force in history.
”

number of police officers killed. The clash has been dubbed as the biggest loss of government elite force in history.

Families left behind by the police commandos

that were slain in an inept anti-terror offense in Mamasapano, Maguindanao trooped to Padre Faura in Manila to call on the Supreme Court to act on the case.

Instead of reckless imprudence resulting in homicide raps against former President Benigno Aquino III, former Police Chief Alan Purisima and former SAF Chief Getulio Napeñas, Office of the Ombudsman filed graft and usurpation of authority charges.

On January 22, 2020 at the Ifugao Park, The Manor at Camp John Hay, Baguio City, and the Cordillera police will open divulge the SAF Memorial.

We cannot bring back the life of the fallen 44 soldiers. Its investigation should not lead to white washing. Former President Aquino should face the consequences and the accountability should be made. Peace must be chosen over war.

Playing the Cards RIGHT

@aljhon_tolentino

The fear of terrorist threats risen up once again as New People's Army (NPA), a renowned terrorist group in the Philippines, initiated an ambush in Negros Oriental that perished lives of 21 people.

In a statement released by Philippine National Police, 21 people died in the said ambush including 17 civilians and 4 intelligence police officers naming Corporal Relebert Beronio, Patrolman Raffy Callao, Ruel Cabellon and Marquino de Leon, who were part of the 704 Mobile Force Army Company of Regional Mobile Force Battalion in Central Visayas. Ambushed by men from NPA, most victims were in their homes when armed men attacked them in the wee hours of the day.

The killings initiated by the said terrorists continued up until August last year, ending 4 more innocent lives. The carnage in Negros province was just set after a string of shooting incidents in Negros Oriental in a span of 2 weeks, from July 18 to 28 last year.

What makes the townfolk of this province cower in fear is that the security in their vicinity isn't enough to protect them in times of unpredictable incidents. The terrorists doesn't choose time when they will attack, so in response, our military should play their cards right.

Now that Duterte administration solely focuses their attention to sovereignty and eliminating terrorists in our country, the military forces must increase their security force, provide more strategic plans, and plant their forces on weak points. Our high-tech drones and surveillance cameras are one of the aces of our government against any suspicious movements from the enemy. In addition, different military forces should fuse together to devise plans to eliminate terrorist groups in our country that hinders peace. It's time to discard all possible aces the enemies may have.

Our government, with the latest military equipment and gadgets, must play the cards that our government has right. Because with one wrong move, the table will turn upside down, in favor of the terrorist groups that lurks behind the shadows in our nation.



FARMER'S LAMENTATION

In the verge of unpredictable price of palay in our country, our farmers are begging for more help. Their fields are still barren; they beg for justice.

Signed by President Rodrigo Duterte last February 2019, the Republic Act No. 11203, also known as the Rice Tariffication Law opened the country's doors to the unimpeded importation of rice. The impact of the shift in import policy on the heavily burdened rice farmers has been swift and painful, deep enough to their bones.

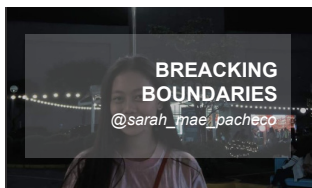
Farmers are groaning that since the start of tariffication, palay prices have plummeted to as low as P7 per kilo, and no more than P12 per kilo; from the

pre-tariffication prices of P17 to P20.

Palay prices were pushed down because rice tariffication law gives no restrictions to importing of rice that's why it resulted to greater supply of rice that makes the palay prices lower.

Rice tariffication supposed to help local farmers produce better products, help them from unfair trading and export palay or rice. However, it seems that none of these intentions are happening.

The Government should stop importing palay or rice from other countries so that the palay of our local farmers can be sold at higher prices and save local rice production from depression.



BREACKING BOUNDARIES

HALL OF FAME, Sweet long-lasting Victory

Holy Cross College, the renowned home of the champions, claimed their five-peat overall championship last year, September 14. Being labeled as the Hall of Famer, a savory fruit of the efforts and perseverance of each and every journalist and their guides, their hardworking coaches; they finally achieved the sweetest victory.

This fruit is, by no means,

easy to get. Months of training, seminars, workshops and even weekend meetings have been done to enhance and make sure that the Crucian journalists will obtain levels of skills worthy to be qualified as champions. Repeating processes and steps over and over again just to make sure that everything will end perfectly.

Such efforts made most of the journalists of HCC qualify as one of the

representatives of our Cluster, Cluster IX, on the 58th Division of Secondary Schools Press Conference (DSSPC); which escalated to representing for the Regional Schools Press Conference.

Holy Cross College has been creating milestones with the students and the faculty through tough experience and labor that will make the best out of everyone. Our school, our pride!



State of the school's security: OPEN GATE

Schools are the second homes of every student as they spend much of their time in those four-sided rooms. Therefore, it must provide safety and security in every individual residing within that vicinity.

Here at Holy Cross College, security is quite strict when it comes to entering and leaving the school's property. The personnel check all the details before you can leave the vicinity. Same goes when entering the school's premises, as it follows the "No Id, No entry" policy and observance of proper school uniform during school days.

Their security doesn't end with that; there are also appointed personnel that constantly roam around the school to check onto the students. The school really caters strict quality of security for the safety of the students.

Different departments here in HCC have specific rules and guidelines in security. The College department specifically, where the implementation of the "open gate" policy was made possible where students could enter and also leave the school's premises any time.

It is good to think that they are letting their students to decide freely and explore what could be the results of their certain actions. Yet there are still some students who will surely take advantage and grab that opportunity to skip classes and leave the school during class hours which means that it's still the school's obligation if something bad happens to the student. It's too risky for the school and for the students, but the school would not approve this policy if this doesn't agreed by the heads. They surely thought about the possible outcomes if the school implements the "open gate" system.

Letting their students to freely enter and leave the school at any times would be very favorable for the learners yet it could not be good for the school and for the students themselves. It's better to have an iron-fisted policy that can assure the safety and security of the students than to have an easy-going bylaw. Along with crafting programs to improve student's academic experience, they also must prioritize the security and safety of every individual residing in the campus.



MAN OF LETTERS

The POLITICIAN can be the VILLAIN

They say that milks are like drops of gold as they give nutrients that every child needs. But what if this liquid literally turns into gold, that no mother can avail it anymore?

This issue run in the thoughts of Senator Cynthia Villar as she claimed that Filipino children at modern days lack intelligence caused by the country's low milk production. This statement was supported by the statistics released by Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development where Philippines performed the poorest out of 79 countries in the reading literacy assessment.

But that issue is far beyond my concern, let's focus on Senator Villar. Isn't it a bit ironic that she's putting the blame towards the producers of the milk, where in fact she's the root cause of this issue. Why? She's the owner of Camella, the housing company that bought hundreds of agricultural lands and

converted them into skyscrapers. Those agricultural lands are places to establish farms or ranch for cows to supply dairy products like milk. Also with that, Filipinos don't need to import goods anymore.

If Cynthia didn't build houses on these lands, Philippines might have been a good source of dairy goods. But today, only

benefit the Philippines and the local farmers. However, did it really benefit the Filipinos or just became another monetary source for the politician?

This law inflicted havoc in Filipino farmers; they almost sold their harvested crops for free. They didn't even get their principal money and just gained debts from the planting process and materials. This will be the worst possible case scenario; farmers would likely to sell their farmlands due to unpaid debts and who will buy these properties? It could be the underlings of Cynthia or Villar herself.

She benefited from this law the most! Isn't it enough evidence to consider her a criminal?

As time passes by, it seems that Philippines – mostly the corrupt politicians – showed diverse signs of tumor, not a brain tumor but a nescience tumor. It is alarming so we must do something to resolve this dilemma.

“ It is alarming so we must do something to resolve this dilemma. ”

1% of the dairy supplies are produced and sold here in the Philippines, with the remaining 99% as imported products. She's at fault!

Adding onto the worst, she proposed the Rice Tariffication Law, also known as Republic Act No. 11203. She stated that this newly implemented act would



Crucians: KEEP IT LOW!

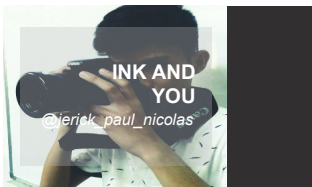
Students, at any rate, are constantly bombarded with various school works making them puzzled and exhausted every time they enter the school premises. In line with this, it is just right to have a school which offers low and affordable tuition fees to lessen stress problems among the students and also to their parents and guardians.

Given the fact that there are huge numbers of students studying at Holy Cross College, it is easy to conclude that they enroll in the school because the tuition fee is accessible. The tuition fee is based on what school you came from, whether the student is from a public or private institution. If you came from a public school, you will only pay 700 pesos and it is good for the whole year. When you are from private, the tuition

fee is just 3, 500 pesos – the students pay 350 pesos per month. The students and parents as well are hoping that the tuition in Holy Cross College will not increase anymore.

Having a low and accessible tuition fee is good and right as long as the quality of education is high. If the school has low fees, the parents will surely enroll their children and there is a low chance that the students will stop amidst the school year. Also, this will lessen the expenses of many families.

In this post-industrial society, it is hard to earn money and supply all the necessities in our daily lives. So, it is just and right to not let the tuition fee increase and to listen to the students and parents voices.



INK AND YOU

PAYBACK TIME!

Province of Pampanga assured to support Batangas as it recovers from the destruction made by the eruption of Taal Volcano. This is the perfect time for Pampanga to return the help and support given when it was devastated by the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo.

The Governor of Pampanga, Gov. Delta Pineda, prepared 8,500 food packs to be distributed to the evacuation centers. The provincial team

brought a total of 241 volunteers from the provincial government and private sectors. He also provided 50-vehicle convoys carrying medical teams, social workers, search and rescue personnel, and equipments to help the affected residents.

When Pampanga was severely damaged by the Mt. Pinatubo's eruption, the province also received support and donations from various provinces and cities in the country

like Batangas. This is the time for Kapampangans to pay back the Batangeños, to inspire, support and give something from their hearts to recover the beauty and life in Batangas.

Helping other people is an important part of living a good life. A kind gesture can reach a wound that only compassion can heal. In order to live a good life, one just needs to be kind, to love and to help those who are in need.



Shining through the years

HCC'S MAJESTIC AND VIBRANT KRUS FESTIVAL.

by: Rhandol Nixon Lapuz



Photo courtesy: HCC FB Page

"And I'll cherish the old rugged cross Till my trophies at last I lay down..."

PRISMATIC COSTUMES. SUPERB CHOREOGRAPHY. EMBLEMATIC PROPS.

With a same goal -- to glorify God and the Holy Cross, every year, the whole Crucian community unites to dedicate a dance in celebration of the school's founding anniversary.

This majestic tradition started in 2014, with the collective effort of students and officials, they established this colorful festival of hope, love and faith. Today, Krus Festival still remains alive and unfazed and continued growing through the years.

PRISMATIC COSTUMES. With colorful designs, beaming beads and intricate headpieces, participants showcases their creativity and originality with their wonderful costumes. Their costumes and headdresses also displays the symbolic cross where our savior Jesus

redeemed our sins. Throughout the years, the costumes of every dancers became more vibrant and festive to raise the bar even higher and make the event more enthusiastic.

SUPERB CHOREOGRAPHY. Krus Festival is a form of "panata" or devotion to the Holy Cross. It is a way for the devotees to articulate their wishes and petitions in the form of dancing. The choreography is paired with the chosen song to depict the scene where Constantine found the cross and presented it to her mother, Queen Helena. Today, the dance steps of each participant leveled up and now paired with the festival's theme song. They became more flamboyant and creative to flaunt their uniqueness and how spirited they are.

EMBLEMATIC PROPS. Rarely big and extravagant, but always symbolic and unique. Every year, the props used by contestants became more intricate and detailed to make their "panata" dance more meaningful. Krus Festival dancers usually uses the cross and bible as props, but the competition became more tight as dancers now uses glow in the dark lights, painted balaos, tarpaulins, and even tall bamboo sticks with

colorful decors on top. These props added more accents to their respective performances and showed that Crucians are blessed with creativity and craftsmanship.

Through the years, the participants became more competitive to bring home the elusive title as Krus Festival champions, but the festival itself tells us to put aside the competition and start fostering camaraderie, unity and good sportsmanship. We should start living up to our school's core values, Fides, Caritas and Libertas.

Holy Cross College's Krus Festival remains the brightest event in every Crucian's life. We are blessed enough to have this thriving and triumphant occasion in our community, so we should uphold this event and make it even more memorable in the succeeding years.

ONE BEAT, ONE DANCE, ONE GOAL.
For God, For the Crucian community and For the Holy Cross.

Dance with pride, joy and faith!
"And I will cling to the old rugged cross
And exchange it someday for a crown"

TRANSCENDING ALL ODDS: The Cross is on its way back home

by: Janeh Martinito

They say that what you are doing shows what you are. Having a filthy school environment shows that we don't care about others. The waste we throw impacts not only us but also our world. Remember, for every action there is consequences.

Waste disposal is the removal and degradation or storage of destroyed, used or other unwanted domestic, agricultural or industrial goods and substances. This is when a person throws some garbage in a proper or inappropriate manner. It is called waste reduction, as well.

Recycling and cleaning activities must be strengthened in order to reduce waste at Holy Cross College and sustainable recycling and cleaning programs must be provided. Mrs. Christine J. Concepcion, the chairperson of HCC, come up with the idea of doing the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 or the Republic Act 9003.

Crucians did the 'Oplan Linis' as a first step to achieve their goal-- sustainable environmental protection. Crucians want to bring back the cleanliness of Holy Cross

College which tidiness was absent for the past few years.

Crucians were tasked to bring their own food and water container as an alternative to plastic bottles, plastic cups and paper plates. Everyone did not hesitate to cooperate because the action that we are doing right now will affect the future generation.

Students, faculty and staff need to be educated adequately on appropriate waste management practices. Therefore, a seminar happened last year. Everyone should be aware because protecting our planet is our moral obligation as a human.

We can do as student is to do what we can to solve these problems. Simple acts like cleaning, recycling and planting trees are always a good start.

There is also a need to educate discipline to people. Let us help rebuild our nation and our world. Let us save our Mother Earth, Let us use proper waste disposal before it is too late. But if you can't clean your surrounding then do not make it dirty.

Upgraded Library, Updated Knowledge, Educated Crucians

by: Carmela Miranda

A study haven, space of solace, and learning environment for students is a library where they find comfort amidst a distressful day in school.

With the on-going constructional improvements of Holy Cross College, with the leadership of former HCC president, Engr. Gervacio Alfredo N. Balatbat and new President Atty. Dennis C. Pangan, for November 2019, Crucians got to witness and experience for the first time, the enhanced library space of the school.

Located at the Learning Resource Center, library had shared the floor's space with classrooms designated for the College Department but with the upgrade that took place, the fourth floor was made into a whole library setting.

Enhancement that included freshly donated and purchased books, desktop units and newly installed air conditioners. Extension of space that made a reception and lobby area compromising of comfortable couches, and a storage for bags where students can relax and stay.

Another important update crafted to help the Crucians learning possibilities and capacities, STARBOOKS or Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosk Station, the first digital science library in the Philippines which can run without Internet connection. A digital library developed by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) through the Science and Technology Information Institute (STII).

With HCC's aim to provide quality education and create competitive learners, the institutional, constructional and educational improvements dedicated for the students will pave way for the goal. An upgraded library space providing extended knowledge and solace, a learning and encouraging sanctuary for educated Crucians.



Embracing the Crucian Culture

by: Trisha Mae G. Manaloto



Fides

Fides or Faith is the foremost core value of Holy Cross College. As a Catholic school, it teaches its students the value of having a strong faith in God. From the time where teachers enter the classroom and tell their students to pray, faith is given importance and shows that Holy Cross College is hands-on in bringing a faithful Crucian community. This practice can also be seen during mass that is being done by the students, teachers and other school officials every month. Recollections are also present as one way to strengthen the faith of the Crucian students.

Caritas Libertas

Caritas or Charity focus on social responsibility and service-responsive leadership. It is already a Crucian culture to help and share their blessings to the community. During December, Crucians prepare Noche Buena packages to share the spirit of Christmas to those who are in great need for them to seize the season. Also, in a recent calamity in Batangas, the Taal volcano eruption, Crucians never failed to help those who got affected by the eruption. Crucians from Grade School to College and even the alumni gathered together in bringing goods that will give hope to the townsmen of Batangas.



Known for delivering quality education and the home of the best not just in sports but also in the academic field, Holy Cross College is truly the pride of the East. Holy Cross College is not just a training ground for the mind and body of the Crucians, it is also a place where one can develop holistically as can be seen by its core values.

Libertas or Liberty is a stand for genuineness, honesty and excellence as Crucians accomplish their mission. This is being portrayed on how dignified are they in holding the torch that symbolizes their vying for excellence with the accompaniment of fair play and truthfulness on whatever they do. This is also their way of showing that Holy Cross College is credible enough in making responsible and productive citizens.



Holy Cross College is indeed full-packaged. As they develop the totality of the Crucians, they never forget to center the values Crucians also embrace as their culture — Fides, Caritas and Libertas.

FUELED WITH HOPE, LOVE AND PRIDE:

HCC trailblazes new beginnings

by: Trisha Mae G. Manaloto

With the election of the new board of directors of Holy Cross College last October 2019, they did not waste even a single second in implementing their plans for the betterment of the school. Attorney Dennis C. Pangan, an alumni of Holy Cross College and former board member now president of the school is very hands-on for the enhancement of his alma mater. Upon the start of the second semester, these changes were put into action. Below are the changes made by the leadership of our very own President.

Oplan Linis and Ecological Solid Waste Management. To maintain cleanliness, students, teachers and other school personnel unite as one in cleaning the school surrounding. The implementation of having three trash cans that corresponds to biodegradable, non-biodegradable and recyclable was proposed for every classroom so that they can maintain cleanliness in and even outside the room. Bringing of own food canister and tumblers also helped in reducing the waste brought by the disposable utensils commonly used by the students.

STARBOOKS or Science and Technology Academic and Research Based Openly Operated Kiosks. STARBOOKS is a digital-based library by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) through the help of STII or the Science and Technology Information Institute. This was also made possible at Holy Cross College by the effort of Engineer Marvin O. Mallari, dean of College of Engineering and Criminology.

No noon break for frontline services of HCC. In order to serve better services with the students and parents, offices were following the no noon break policy which means students and parents can take care

of their records or payments during lunch time without worrying about the closure of these offices.

New Library. The new library which became possible by the collaboration of Engineer Gervacio Alfredo N. Balatbat and Attorney Dennis C. Pangan, is located at the fourth floor of the College building. It was fully air-conditioned and was made more convenient for the students to review their lessons and do their assigned tasks well.

New Waiting Room for Parents. The reconstruction of the waiting shed or waiting room for the parents of the elementary students was made by the alumni of batch '85 and the president for the parents to feel more comfortable while waiting for their child.

Renovated Chapel. The chapel was fully air-conditioned for convenience and maintaining its essence not just during mass or recollection but also in times of strengthening the Crucians' faith in God.

HCC Photo Studio. This was made to deliver high quality standard pictures for the Crucian community. This is to make every Crucian stand out in their pictures.

Advanced Services. As one way of coping with the world right now, Holy Cross College will soon apply advanced services regarding online registration, school management system and Radio Frequency ID. This is to make things accessible for the students.

The changes made were just part of the new beginning. With the enthusiasm of the HCC president, Attorney Dennis Pangan, there's a big possibility that more changes will happen at Holy Cross College sooner or later.

Let Heaven Come

by: Yra Ishi Suarez

You are terrified... You... You don't know anything yet. You are in the aisle of the pandemonium.

It was just like the good old days, I am sitting with a book waiting for our lunch break so that I could take a nap. It was just a nap, a nap with a peek of chaos. My classmate shouted and it caught my attention not because of her voice but because of what she said. Mount Arayat, will you also make us suffer?

It became a trend in social media when Haiy "Mamu" Cruz predicted the explosion of the Mount Arayat that is actually said inactive volcano for more than decades. Mamu said that she has no intention to upset Filipinos, she is just emphasizing that we should be careful and alert. And I believed you were frightened.

"TULAD NG MAKISIG NA TAGA BANTAY NG BUNDOK NA ITO, MAGPAPARAMDAM LANG NAMAN SIYA NG PAG INAT SA MATAGAL NG PAG KAKATULOG NITO..." said in her post. Now I can feel that you startled. So as I was thinking if I should continue my nap time, a thought popped out in my mind. That actually, it's not the Mount Arayat that's sleeping for a long period of time. That actually it is not the one who felt being ignored, it's not that created beauty will be our next distress. People you are sleeping, you are much movable by the predictions, you are so much weak by faith and the One who created the mountain in Arayat and the one who breathed life to Mamu who is now predicting things to be happened was being ignored.

But all of these is truly just a glimpse of the heaven. A heaven that formed by people. A pleasure that made our

land suffer. You took advantage, you took life, you took good care of your own benefits that the nature felt petty. You are so awakened about how you can build a heaven in this world when actually God created an unexplainable paradise already.

If I could be Mamu, I will be telling you my prediction in a way that you will realized you are more than blessed that all of the creations were given to you, you have all the authority to rule those but your faith was built just like a sand, it is so light that it can be moved by the wind. But I'm glad that sand can actually be formed as a stone into rock. You just need to acknowledge that heaven is truly coming and this will not bow down in you. A little prayer with humbleness, a little sin submitting and a little thanksgiving is what you do now. Calamities are uncontrollable and these are the giants we are facing. Now there is another new eruption being predicted and for me it is happening for a reason of this time it's not the little prayer anymore but a devoted faith.

I don't think so that the Mount Arayat would actually make you suffer because in the very first place you had put yourself to that situation. You are very unstable. Maybe when the volcanoes roar you'll see how faith moves mountain.

Walk in the path where you will meet peace. Listen to what our surroundings say, but remember you still have the authority to rule, because it was given to you. Love not your own intentions only but the whole life breathed around you.

... if truly heaven is coming, I believe it meant heaven in your heart.



Dizon and Musñgi: Inspirations to Crucian Athletes

BY: LALAINE DIZON

Wearing his grey shorts and No. 4 jersey, he's ready to make a statement as one of the spikers of Lyceum of the Philippines.

A natural born athlete who wears a blue shorts and No. 16 jersey made her mark as one of the spikers of Colegio De San Juan De Letran.

Harvie Salazar with all the confidence Dizon and Edma Ann Musñgi stepped onto the court of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

Dizon lately realized his abilities in volleyball as he started playing at the age of 16 at Holy Cross College. His career then bloomed because after his journey as a Crucian, he stepped up to another big opportunity playing at

NCAA for the school of LPU.

"Don't give up until you get what you want," that was his motivation that made him strive more to become a successful and a good example athlete. Along his journey, there were a lot of struggles that came along his way. He admitted that he was not good enough when he was just starting but as time went by – because of his dedication in training and passion for the game – he managed to become a strong athlete that possesses the right mindset.

There were also times that the people around him told that he was weak, unlucky, and unreliable, but he always welcomes the



DIZON AND MUSNGI SHOWING OFF THEIR SKILLS INSIDE THE COURT.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED BY: HARVIE DIZON AND EDMA MUSNGI



HARVIE SALAZAR DIZON



EDMA ANN MUSNGI

negative ones into a motivation to continue improving his ability.

"Never give up and serve the Lord with gladness," are the exact words that Edma Ann Musñgi bears in her mind. She is a woman who's gifted athletically and oozing with confidence while playing on the court.

At a young age of 8 years old, Musñgi knew that her passion will bloom in the field of volleyball. Watching her classmates played volleyball when she's still in elementary, her love for this sport started to glow. Despite having several sports played, she knew that in the end, her heart would still belong to volleyball.

But before being a successful volleyball player, she first found her way in playing basketball throughout her high school days because at that time, volleyball was not yet played in her school. It was Coach Alfredo Dizon who saw her undeniable skills in volleyball and encouraged her to join some barangay league.

For her, as a former athlete who experienced playing in Holy Cross College, she perceived that being an athlete is not easy. Having a discipline within yourself and having perseverance

for everything you want to achieve are just some of the keys to become a prosperous athlete. She experienced failures along with her journey: she got tired of training and playing, being scolded many times, being downed by other people, but because of her passion and by putting God in everything she does, little by little, she overcame all of these hindrances and for every adversity, she had learned a lot of meaningful lessons.

And one of her motivations to continue fighting for her career in volleyball is her father who passed away but in spite of that she believed that she makes her father proud because of her determination and passion as an athlete.

For the both of them – Musñgi and Dizon – to play at NCAA is one of their greatest achievements in their sports career. Being an athlete who exhibits a good sportsmanship and passion for every game makes them a better example worth emulating by the budding athletes.

As part of the family of Holy Cross College, they are proud that once in their life they experienced to become a Crucian.



EIGHT CRUSADERS TO CONTEND FOR CLRAA 2020

by: Lalaine Dizon

With their toughness and strong dedication, Crucian Warriors managed to claw their way up, bring Holy Cross College for this year's Central Luzon Regional Athletic Meet and step an inch closer for making an entry for Palarong Pambasa.

After competing for the Pampanga Schools Division Athletic Meet, they will now continue their journey for CLRAA 2020.

First in the line of the qualifiers is John Miles Kabigting, an 11-year old Crusader who started to represent his school when he was in Grade 4 and constantly qualifies for CLRAA. Despite his shy personality, his evasiveness in swimming will make his foe shrink in fear.

A Grade 7 student-athlete named Kenneth Cortez managed to smash his way in his field of sport, Lawn Tennis. He began playing his cherished sport when he was in Grade 4 and frequently qualifies for CLRAA up to now. He was hoping to bag a ticket for Palrong Pambansa.

No matter how tough the situation of being a student athlete, Maria Joanna Lynn Mina believed that having a great sense of time management will help an athlete to overcome any circumstances that will come in their way. She is also a Lawn Tennis player who started playing at the age of 13 years old and qualifies to play CLRAA for 3 consecutive years.

Another Crusader who almost have his entry for Palarong Pambansa when he was in Grade 5, settling as a 2nd placer for CLRAA in that year. Thed Vincent Galang who began playing Badminton at his 3rd Grade, and become a triumphant athlete when he was on Grade 5 up to

this current year.

Meanwhile, four Crusaders from the Senior High School Department have managed to take part in this year's CLRAA. First in the line is the 16-year old swimmer, Ramir Barbeyto Jr., who began his career in swimming when he was in Grade 5 and consistently qualifies for CLRAA up to present time. After being just a PASDAM participant last year, she managed to claw her way for this year's CLRAA. Mary Rose Dizon, a volleyball player, also hope to pocket a ticket for Palrong Pambansa despite of being her first time in this prestigious event.

For the field of Athletics specifically in Track and Field, Flores Bernardo Joshua dashed his way for making an entrance for CLRAA. He began contending at his 6th grade and up to now, he persistently qualifies for this event.

Last but definitely not the least was the Track and Field athlete, Anthonette Balingit, who won a 4th place for Palarong Pambansa when she was on Grade 6. She started to showcase her lightning-like speed at the age of 9 and her goal for this year is to regain an opportunity to play for Palrong Pambansa.

All the eight Crusaders hopes to bring home the bacon, not just for themselves, but also for their Alma Matter. They will compete for the CLRAA 2020 this upcoming February 22 – 28 that will be held at Iba, Zambales.

Lastly, Holy Cross College supports them by providing their necessities and giving them moral support to boost their confidence in every game they will face.



The Crusaders who qualified for the Central Luzon Regional Athletic Association (CLRAA) Meet were congratulated by the HCC President, Atty. Dennis C. Pangan.

PHOTO COURTESY: MARK JOSHUA LANSANGAN

Crusaders wrap up this year as EZAAM Over-All Champ

by: Lalaine Dizon

Holy Cross College' dominance came as no surprise as they marked their title as the Over-All Champion for the 2019 East Zone Annual Athletic Meet. By bagging number of winnings, Crusaders show off their prowess anew by ruling in different sports category.

In the field of volleyball, both men and women pocketed the championship after out dueling their foes through giving off their grim spikes and with their undeniable passion for the game.

Another championship was brought by the Basketball Girls line up in 5x5 and 3x3 while a bronze medal was awarded for the men's basketball team.

Sepak Takraw's men and women's team both settled in seizing the silver medal.

Ramir Barbeyto spearheaded the

swimming competition by tallying a total of 5 gold medals out of the 10, also another 6 silver and 4 bronze medals was attained by the Crusader swimmers.

For the discipline of Taekwondo and Arnis, Holy Cross tallied a total of 13 gold, 10 for silver and 3 bronze medals.

Meanwhile, in Badminton field, 3 gold and 2 silver medals have been tallied and 2 gold, 1 for silver and bronze for the Table Tennis category. Numerous medals have been pocketed in the Athletics, chipping in a total of 24 golds, 16 silver and 5 bronze medals.

EZAAM 2019 have finished into a successful one and the Holy Cross College family showed their support and a great bliss for the Crusaders who exhibited their commendable performances.



Volleyball Team.



Basketball Team.



Holy Cross College



Swimming Team.

The Crusaders during the opening program of EZAAM 2019.

PHOTO COURTESY: HCC FB PAGE

Sports Trivia



Teofilo Yldefonso

He became the only Filipino to ever win multiple medals in Olympics. Ildfonso is a three-time Olympian, he won his first bronze medal in the 200-meter breast stroke event at the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics while the second one came during the 1932 Los Angeles edition. His third and final appearance saw him to be a seventh placer at the 1936 Olympics held in Nazi Germany.