

Heart Beats



Newsletter Of The International Community Of Sacred Heart Cathedral

January 2014

**“May the words of our mouths (and those we write) and the meditations of our hearts,
be pleasing in Thy sight, O Lord, our Rock and our Redeemer” - Psalm 19:14**



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are blessed to start the first Sunday of this New Year with the celebration of the Epiphany of our Lord. The feast of the Epiphany is the celebration of Jesus' revelation to all humanity. He comes as the Lord and Saviour to all peoples and to all nations. This is highlighted by the story of the three kings who came from a very far country to honour the

child Jesus. With the guidance of a radiant new star, they travelled a path that they did not know because they believed that it was worth it for a king far greater than them was born.

That is why this New Year, we are again invited to follow the three kings in their faith and worship our Lord Jesus who is king of all the nations of the world. Unlike the three kings,

- ★ We may not have gold to offer but we can offer our love.
- ★ We may not have the frankincense to bring but we can lift up each other in prayer as a fragrant prayer offering.
- ★ We may not have the myrrh to give but we can give of ourselves in humility, without counting the cost, to serve our Lord and our Church.

So let us continue to make Sacred Heart Cathedral a place where God truly reveals Himself for all through each other without prejudice. This is an ongoing mission for all of us - to work together in harmony and become one international community guided by one faith in the one Saviour and Lord! Happy New Year and Happy Epiphany!

Fr. Roed Desamparado, CM

Bishop of the Diocese	: Most Rev. Raphael Umemura, DD
Administrator	: Fr. Ignacio Masahiko Iino
Assistants	: Fr. Ha Minh Tu, Fr. Roed Desamparado, CM
Mass Schedule (Japanese)	: Daily Mass at 07:00 on weekdays : Sunday Mass at 07:00, 08:15 & 12:00 : Sunday Mass at 18:00 on Saturdays
Mass Schedule (English)	: Sunday Mass at 10:00
Mass Schedule (Spanish)	: Sunday Mass at 14:00 on the second Sunday of every month (except August)
Confessions (English)	: Every first Friday and Saturday of the month, from 16:00 ~ 18:00.



Christmas Eve Mass at Futaba High School



Bishop Raphael Umemura lauded the joy of Christ's birth as he celebrated Christmas Eve Mass in Futaba High School at 8 pm. Before the mass, there was carol singing by a joint choir comprising parishioners belonging to the Japanese congregation and those belonging to the international congregation.

In the present day scenario, the Bishop said, "Commercialism has stolen the true meaning of Christmas and in the darkness of deception and of the times we live in, we need the light of Christ to guide us... we decorate the Cathedral with lights as a symbol of Christ in our lives."

"Christ, our Savior, came into the world as a light to guide us", the bishop continued. "To bring light means to also bring peace, to work for peace, for the poor, for the suffering... we also pray for all of them, especially the typhoon victims in the Philippines, for those separated from loved ones, for those in pain and in darkness, we must pray for them. Similarly as Christians, we are called to be lights in the world", concluded the bishop as he delivered his homily in the auditorium packed to capacity with the faithful.

Israel De Ocampo

Formal and Official

On January 5, 2013, Mr. Cecil Baclay, a long time volunteer and worker for the foreigners' welfare here at Sacred Heart Cathedral formally informed the Parish Council that the Yamate Church International Community Council is established to bring together the different guilds and ministries of the Catholic foreigners' here at Sacred Heart Cathedral. The YCICC will also be known as the ICC Guild for the Japanese Community. This new community takes over the different roles of previous guilds and will spearhead the activities for the foreigners. This new development aims to better the relationship amongst the different communities and work for the church as one community. Thanks to Mr. Baclay for officially and formally presenting the YCICC to the parish council as the new face of the Foreign Guild and Filipino Guild.

Dates For Your Diary

- 12 January** : Sunday Bible School at 9.00 am
- 19 January** : International Community Council (ICC) meeting at 11:15 am
- 19 January** : Parish New Year Celebration with *mochitsuki* (pounding of *mochi*)
- 26 January** : Lectors and Commentators Group (LCG) meeting from 11:15 am ~ 12:00 pm
- 26 January** : Rosary from 4.00 pm ~ 7.00 pm
- 02 February** : Bible Study at 11.30 am
- 09 February** : Parishioner's Gathering (*shinto taikai*)
- 09 February** : International Community Lenten Retreat with Fr. Alfred Burke, OSA at 2:00 pm

Update of Cash Donations for Typhoon Haiyan Survivors:

1,372,068 yen

Amount	From	Recipient Agency
1. 408,478	Yamate Int'l Community	CFC Global Mission (208,478) Vincian Social Ministry (200,000)
2. 130,000	Yamate Parishioners	Vincian Social Ministry
3. 119,819	Konan Parishioners	Vincian Social Ministry
4. 86,000	Mrs. Ost (Germany)	Vincian Social Ministry
5. 30,000	Yamate Parishioner	for shipment of goods c/o Ohta san
6. 441,444	Futamatagawa Parishioners	Vincian Social Ministry
7. 56,327	Isogo Parishioners	Vincian Social Ministry
8. 100,000	ヨセフ会	Panay Area - c/o Fr. Oscar Samson

This issue is a brief one due to the holiday season :)

Editor : Karen Gomez

Designer : Savio Gomez

heartbeatssacredheartcathedral@gmail.com

