



BACLARAN SA VILLAGE

The Blessed Virgin Mary of Perpetual Help

The Origin

The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, participated intimately in the economy of salvation, especially in the mystery of Redemption realized by Christ. She cooperated with her Son in the salvation of the human race. As a result, she is, for all, Mother of Perpetual Help.

According to an old tradition, one of her images under this title was brought to Rome from the Island of Crete toward the end of the fifteenth century. It was placed in the church of St. Matthew on the via Merulana during the pontificate of Alexander VI and was venerated there for about three centuries. When this church was destroyed during the Napoleonic invasions, the icon disappeared. Providentially, it was found again in 1866. At that time Pius IX confided it to the Redemptorists who exposed it for public veneration in the Church of the Most Holy Redeemer dedicated to St. Alphonsus. From then on, the veneration of this miraculous image has continued to grow among the faithful, and is now widely known throughout the world.

The devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help is very popular to the Filipinos who are well known for its Marian spirituality. In the Philippines or abroad we brought with us our devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. We become more united in Christ through our devotion to Mary. Strength in unity is very important tool which everyone needs in order to be able to cope with the stresses and pressures in our way of life.

Baclaran sa Village

The Filipino Pastoral Ministry was officially launched on October 26, 1988, with the first Novena Mass in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help at Our Lady of Pompei church.

The Filipino Pastoral Ministry (FPM), is the first Filipino Apostolate established in New York under the auspices of the Scalabrinian Fathers.

The Novena Mass became a regular Wednesday devotion at 6:30 P.M. and evolved into what is now known as *Baclaran sa Village*. The name *Baclaran sa Village* was conceived after the famous shrine in Baclaran, Paranaque City, Philippines where the Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help is located. The word “*sa village*” denotes Greenwich village in New York City where the Church of Our Lady of Pompei, home base of the FPM, is located.

Following the lead of the FPM, many churches in the tri-state area now have this devotion especially in churches where there are many Filipino parishioners.

Today, *Baclaran sa Village* has become the Wednesday tradition for dedicated devotees of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

The feast day of Our Lady of Perpetual Help is celebrated at Our Lady of Pompei every third Wednesday of June.

Hermanidad of the Baclaran Sa Village

Baclaran sa Village did not have Hermana Mayor in the beginning until 1995. Early on the Fiesta celebrations in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help were hosted by the volunteers and staff , sponsors and donors of the Filipino Pastoral Ministry.

Hermana and Hermano Mayor

- 1995 - Josie Esguerra
- 1996 - Luz Dayao & Cely Romano
- 1997 - Erwin Royandoyan-Wolfe
- 1998 - May Salvador
- 1999 - Linda Salmorin, Ching Gasataya, Delia Gozon
- 2000 - Mike & Linda Balaga, +Nellie Garcia, +Zeny Quiros, Annie Ochotorena
- 2001 - Elvira Macaraig, Joon Go, Arlene Lacerna, Jane Wagan, Neil de Leon
- 2002 - Sandy Aguilar & Michael Ragg, Gerry Cruz & Jun Fontillas,
Bing & Doming Garcia, Yelly Gill
- 2003 - Philip & Lulu Wong
- 2004 - Lina Ocampo & Janet Rivera
- 2005 - Glenda Sakdalan & Aida Pacheco
- 2006 - Cory Reyes-Salhus
- 2007 - Corazon del Mar
- 2008 - +Lina Hilderhof, Beniamino & Angelie Pena
- 2009 - Mr. & Mrs. Mel and Lou Escobar
- 2010 - Nelia Cloma
- 2011 - Minerva Prodigalidad - Rodriguez
- 2012 - Susan Gamallo