



ASSUMPTA

October 2014

THE OFFICIAL NEWS MAGAZINE OF ASSUMPTION ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

The Spirit of the Assumption Lives On!



“By joyful detachment, the spirit of the Assumption sets aside sighs and lamentations and seeks what God wishes us to do to make the best of things for His service and glory.”

– St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus



The Spirit of the Assumption

Just last month, during a regular board meeting of the Assumption Alumnae Association (AAA) there was some discussion about an issue on hand. As in every occasion when there are at least three or more Old Girls gathered, everyone talks at the same time and yet, things get done. The topic was nothing extraordinary but what was quite telling was the reaction of one member who argued, *"but it's the Assumption spirit!"* With that statement, there was a collective pause – a very brief moment of concurrence.

The Assumption Spirit – it can be a catchall reply to why and how we do things but what it actually is can be a little harder to articulate. What exactly is the spirit of the Assumption?

St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus herself reflected on the Assumption Spirit as gleaned from her writings. In one passage she says:

The spirit of the Assumption is characterized by straightforwardness, openness, thoughtfulness, simplicity, honor, kindness and courage.

This quote mirrors the values and virtues that the Assumption education has impressed on the thousands of alumnae who, to this day, continue to practice them in their personal and professional lives. These are not just words; they are guideposts that we follow anywhere we go. This is why an Assumption girl – no matter where she eventually ends up residing in the world – will always have the Assumption Spirit as her life's compass.

The spirit of the Assumption, therefore, transcends space and time. It is alive in whatever it is we do, be it as a mother, sister, daughter, student, teacher, religious, professional or retiree. This is the reason why on Old Girls' Day, we all feel united regardless of when we graduated from school. There is this indescribable and invisible but potent force that binds us together.

The Assumption Spirit cannot be anything but good because it inspires us; and this inspiration is a gift from God. Again, St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus verbalizes this in her thoughts:

Another aspect of the Assumption is the spirit of zeal and fervor for the coming reign of Our Lord on earth. The spirit of zeal must show itself by our loving work for Our Lord, and in the desire for all that can most glorify Our Lord Jesus Christ and increase His reign in souls.

There are terms that try to capture this spirit of the Assumption – fidelity to duty... noblesse oblige...transformative education...humility...service...mission...generosity...love of simplicity. The list can include all the lyrics of the school song, all the words in our penmanship models, and all the lessons we learned from our beloved teachers. It is the totality of all these – and our personal affirmations – that determine the Assumption Spirit.

And the spirit will live on because we are the Assumption.



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St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says:

"It is a priceless moment in our lives when we begin to understand that we can do nothing by ourselves, but that we can do all with God."



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October 2014

Very dear "Old Girls"

I send you warm greetings from the Mother House where the weather is beginning to change but where the eternal Assumption warmth persists.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to be with you as you celebrate the gift of the ASSUMPTION SPIRIT that you have the privilege of living.

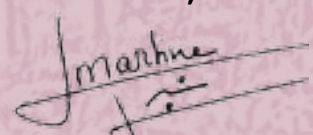
So much has been written and said about the Assumption Spirit — but let me share one of the things that our very own Mother Foundress, Saint Marie Eugenie of Jesus calls – *"the spirit which marked our beginnings... an openheartedness, a simple kindness among us."*

Later in 1844 she would say – *"Looking back to those first days and seeing all that Our Lord has done for us, I was struck by one thought that I would like to share with you. It is that in our work all comes from Jesus Christ, all belongs to Jesus Christ, all must be for Jesus Christ."*

I feel this is the fundamental spirit of the Assumption – the spirit that recognizes that we owe everything to Christ and that we have the privilege and the joy of sharing Christ with others. All our joy and our zeal for the mission comes from Christ and is lived in a COMMUNITY characterized by love, openheartedness and kindness.

In our world today where the order of the day is marked by division, fighting and violence, the Assumption Spirit is a beacon of light, a voice of hope, a presence of life in the seemingly dark, doomed, world of death.

Let me invite you to continue to be our partners and sisters...as ASSUMPTION TOGETHER let us live and spread the Assumption Spirit there where we are and do our part in making this earth a little better — a place of glory for God! You have the assurance of my prayers and fondest affection,


Sr. Martine Tapsoba, r.a.
Superior General



Our very dear Alumnae,

Our heartfelt congratulations to you as you celebrate this year's Old Girls' day! All roads led you back *home* again to your *beloved Assumption*, after 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55 and 60 years!

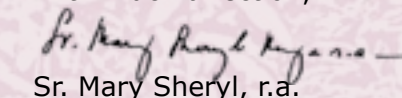
It is a mystery to many as to what makes you come *home* for this special day... We believe it is the spirit of the Assumption that has marked our beginnings and is lived until today in your hearts that gives you the reason to do so. It is the spirit of warmth, joy, friendliness, and communion; the 'family' spirit that

impels every one to come home, to celebrate, to remember and give thanks! It is the same spirit that leads you to respond to God's grace that calls you to communion with one another and enables you to make a continuous choice to think of the good of others, to make conscious acts of sacrifices, solidarity and sharing, especially for those in need.

Let this *homecoming* deepen even more the values, wisdom and learning that you have received. Let the Spirit of the Assumption continue to enkindle your faith, love, and hope – 'for God and for our native land!'

God bless you.

With much affection,



Sr. Mary Sheryl, r.a.
and the Sisters of the Province of South East Asia
Provincial Superior



Welcome home to all our Old Girls from near and far! A special welcome to all the jubilarians of this year's velada!

On this year of the Laity when as the Church in the Philippines, turn our focus on the vocation of the laity, we are INSPIRED by this great challenge - "Called to be Saints... Sent Forth as Heroes: Laity in the Mission of the Church leading to the great jubilee of **2021!**"

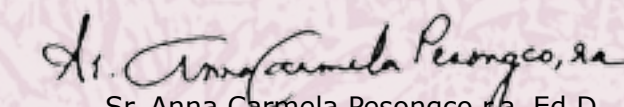
In the midst of many exciting events – the ASEAN 2015, the K-12 Transition Program, we look forward to the visit of our beloved Holy Father, Pope Francis in January, Sr. Martine Tapsoba, r.a. our Mother General together with her Council next month. Indeed, "Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord!"

In 2004, the Assumption College underwent a discernment process where it received a mandate "to make itself faithful, relevant and sustainable." It also affirmed that the college is a potential and distinct venue to express the sisters' fidelity to the charism of EDUCATION FOR SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION.

This year, we announce with thanksgiving that Assumption College, Higher Education Division is the only College awarded the PAASCU Level 4 and the Institutional Accreditation status! With the strong partnership of the Religious and the Lay, we shall continue to RISE! (Relevance, Integrity, Sustainability, Excellence) in making Assumption education our legacy to this generation and the next. We give our full support to BED (Basic Education Division) as they prepare for the PAASCU Visit this December 1-2, 2014.

May we all be continually INSPIRED so we can be a source of inspiration to one another especially to the young our future Assumption old girls!

Have a GRACE-full homecoming!


Sr. Anna Carmela Pesongco, r.a., Ed.D.
President/College Dean



In the Year of the Laity, we, the alumnae and lay partners of the Religious of the Assumption, continue to be called as authentic witnesses of our faith, especially to the young. One way to meet this challenge and fulfill our mission as daughters of St. Marie Eugenie is to actively and proudly live the Spirit of the Assumption, founded on the charism of our Mother Foundress.

This Spirit is very much alive in all our Assumption communities in the Philippines and Thailand, as well as in Vietnam, our new partner in the Province.

The Assumption Spirit lives on –

In the welcoming atmosphere and joy in every community that makes you feel you truly belong;

In the passion to know, love and serve Jesus Christ and to make Him known, loved and served through prayer circles, Adoration, and the Eucharist;

In the generosity of the hearts that quickly respond to the cries of our less fortunate neighbors and victims of calamity;

In the understanding and openness to choose a lifestyle of inter-religious and inter-cultural dialogue; and,

In the humility of recognizing our gifts and placing them at the service of others, as well as recognizing our weaknesses so that we can work with others in order to make the reign of God a reality.

The Spirit of the Assumption is a mark carried not just by the Sisters but by every student, alumna, teacher, staff, Community of Lay Assumption (CLAY) member and even friends of the Assumption. Through each one of us, *"the vision of St. Marie Eugenie of a society transformed by the gospel is sustained... her sense of responsibility, her tireless love for the Kingdom, and her habit of giving all her strength to extend it is still being experienced..."* and lived.

(Quotation from Marie Eugenie Milleret, *A Woman's Spiritual Search in the 19th Century France* by Helen Marie Borjes, RA)

Baby Herrera
Provincial Lay Representative



Very dear Alumnae,

As I look forward to celebrate Old Girls' Day on the 19th, I visualize each and all relishing precious moments when once again we will be school girls as we were 25, 50, 60 years ago and beyond.

Yes, the Assumption Spirit lives on in each one of us, as we live our every day life in this world and in our country where St. Marie Eugenie's vision of MAKING THIS EARTH A PLACE OF GLORY FOR GOD is dimmed by natural calamities, violence, wars, family disintegration, political inconsistencies, PDAF, DAP, etc. In the midst of this chaos, Alumnae seen and unseen are responding to calls for help. ASSUMPTION CARES is one living example of this indefatigable spirit.

What is it that impels you to respond to any situation? I believe that the ASSUMPTION SPIRIT that lives on in each one of you is rooted in what our Mother Foundress unconditionally stated:

"I come from God,
I belong to God,
I live for God."

Assurance of daily prayers that we keep this conviction all the days of our life.

Affectionately,

Sr. Maria Estela Infante, r.a.
AAA Moderator

All hail to our beloved Assumption!



With the Advent Season just around the corner, we in the AAA Board and our members send you our warmest greetings for a Blessed Christmas filled with peace, happiness, love and a New Year of prosperity with lots of HOPE.

Time and again, we are constantly being told that we are "living in trying times." This situation conjures images of great challenges and, to some extent, suffering. Yet many perceive otherwise and choose to see the other side of the coin – that this is the dawning of a new age. We take our cue from our very good fortune of being gifted with a new Vicar of Christ in the person of Pope Francis. He is the very personification of HOPE; he heralds the signs of the times. How incredibly lucky we all are in the Philippines that the Holy Father will visit us in January 2015. His presence in our country will undoubtedly help all of us start the year right.

But before we prepare for what it yet to come, let us take a step back to see how we fared in the last 12 months.

The past year brought calamities of epic proportions that, to this day, the country still reels from its aftermath. But the combination of resiliency of survivors and the generosity of donors spelled HOPE. This we saw in the unprecedented response of the Assumption to the tragedy caused by typhoon Yolanda.

The values instilled by St. Marie Eugenie galvanized the call of Christianity to her daughters. The call resulted in the birth of the Assumption Cares project. Our alumnae from all over the world heeded the call for help. Ever so generously and selflessly, our Old Girls gave and continue to give HOPE and heart to countless displaced communities affected by typhoon Yolanda.

Moving forward, we await with much joy the visit of our Superior General, Sr. Martine Tapsoba, r.a. this coming November 2014. Her visit will give us alumnae the blessed opportunity to translate and communicate the mission of the AAA.

It is with grateful appreciation that we express our best wishes to our jubilarians this year who are all InspiRED to reignite the Assumption spirit. Thank you to the Silver, Pearl, Jade, Ruby, Sapphire, Golden, Emerald, Diamond, Blue Sapphire and Platinum Jubilarians for your enthusiasm and continued love for the Assumption. Congratulations on your milestone celebrations!

Last but not the least, it is with excitement that we announce that preparations are underway for the 50th Anniversary of the AAA in 2017. It is our hope that all AAA chapters here and abroad will come and join us for the festivities. Please feel free to contribute your ideas to help make this event truly memorable.

Our motto lifts us with gladness!

Marilyn Ledesma, HS'73
AAA President 2014



The Assumption Alumnae Association

Keeping the Assumption Spirit Alive Through Generations

The **Assumption Alumnae Association** (AAA) is an affiliation of highly motivated and involved graduates of Assumption College. The AAA coordinates social action projects, reunions, spiritual talks and other activities which strengthen ties among the alumnae, the sisters of the congregation, and friends of the Assumption. It makes sure that all alumnae activities are aligned with the objectives of the Religious of the Assumption. The AAA helps to keep alive the Assumption Spirit and spread the teachings of our Mother Foundress, St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus.

In 1924, the "Old Girls," a unique name for Assumption alumnae derived from the French translation of "a former student," kept close contact with the Assumption community through the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary. They were also encouraged to be active members of various lay groups like The Catholic Women's League (CWL), the Young Ladies' Association of Charity (YLAC), the White Cross Orphanage (founded by alumnae Victoria Lopez-Araneta and Mercedes Zobel McMicking), the Cruzada founded by Esperanza CuUnjieng (who later became the legendary Mother Esperanza), and the "Damas de la Caridad de San Vicente de Paul."

In succeeding years, annual homecomings, fondly called "Old Girls' Day" provided a venue for alumnae reports on social action activities, *veladas* (a Spanish term for evening party), news about the Congregation of the Assumption, and a chance to once again wear the "old uniform" complete with black shoes and white socks. Assumption meat, Assumption cottage pie, "sotanghon", and memory-nudging Assumption tarts soon became traditional lunch menu for Old Girls' Day.

It was in the late 1950s when an organization of Assumption alumnae was formed. There were two groups: Senior Alumnae (with 8 board members) and Junior Alumnae (comprising post-World War II graduates). Their activities continued to be focused on social services. There were visits to orphanages, hospitals and prisons. The alumnae also sponsored annual retreats.

By the mid-1960s, the younger alumnae felt a need to organize themselves more formally. The "Assumption Alumnae Association" came into being with Mother Milagros Dayrit, r.a. as its first moderator. Remedios Sunico Rufino (HS'24) was appointed president of the senior alumnae

Seated from left: Judy Araneta Roxas (2002-2004), Angelita Barrera (1975-1976); Sr. Estela Infante, r.a. (AAA Moderator); Ma. Zenaida Quezon Avanceña (1967-1969); Cecilia Hernaez Magsaysay (1973-1974); Gloria Litton del Rio (1965-1966). *Standing from left:* Jacqueline Cheryl Cancio Vega (1999); Ma. Milagros Tañada Ocampo (2009); Ma. Bernadette Valmores Olivares (2000-2001); Regina Gabaldon Hechanova (2010-2012); Ana Josefina Pedrosa Manahan (1983-1987); Conchita Gallaga Castillo (1990); Mercedes Corazon Diaz (2013) and Ma. Luisa de Castro Ledesma (present). *Not in the photo:* Ma. Lourdes Goyena Herrera (2005-2008).



St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says:
"Love places us at the service of God."



and Gloria Litton del Rio (HS'46) was president for the junior alumnae. Gloria del Rio, together with Aurora Silayan Go, (HS'51) wrote the first constitution of the AAA, thereby unifying the senior and junior alumnae. Elections were held under the supervision of Conchita Sunico, (HS'32), and Zenaida "Nini" Quezon-Avancena, (HS'37), was elected first President.

Gloria recalls, "My task was to get the Assumption Alumnae Association organized. We prepared the Constitution and By-Laws and we got a copy from the Ateneo constitution. We were busy locating members. We formed a telephone brigade. I could not have done it alone. We were taught to be ladies. We were taught how to behave. Our motto then was, 'Get it organized!'"

On being an Old Girl, Nini narrates, "Although I was in Assumption for only 5 years, I consider it a great grace that the Lord has given me an Assumption education. I have tried to live up to be the best that I should be. I have done my best not to disgrace the school that has given me so much." She that when she graduated from high school when she was 16, "I was excited that I was already known as an Old Girl."

In 1965, Mother Rosa Maria of the Infant Jesus, the French nun who dedicated 65 years in the Philippines educating generations of Assumption girls, passed away. The alumnae and friends of the Assumption established the Mother Rosa Memorial Foundation (MRMF) to perpetuate the memory of "Notre Mere," as she was fondly called, with the vision of community development and education of the people in San Simon, Pampanga.

In 1969, a group of alumnae founded the San Juan Nepomuceno (SJNS) mission school in Malibay, Pasay City, to uplift the former garbage dumpsite locality. Thereafter, the Maryville Urban Development Foundation (MUDF) was created in 1992 to oversee the SJNS operations. In 2004, the Pusong Assumptionista project was born to relocate Malibay families at a housing site in Imus, Cavite, under a Gawad Kalinga scheme.

By 1971, a Greater Manila Chapter of the AAA was organized. In 1972, the Negros and Iloilo chapters were formed followed by Cebu and Davao in 1973.

The AAA established the Marie Eugenie Institute (MEI) in 1992. The Institute provides the learning modules on the life, vision and spirituality of our



Mother Foundress, a requirement for all faculty and staff in all Assumption schools.

Widening its reach and true to its vision, the AAA established the Marie Eugenie Institute (MEI) in 1992 with Mother Carmen Reyes, r.a. and Ma. Stella "Chinit" Delgado-Rufino as Co-Executive Directors. The Institute provides the learning modules on the life and vision of Mother Foundress, a requirement for all faculty and staff in all Assumption schools.

Today, the annual "Old Girls Day" is a stronghold tradition, where celebrating jubilarians give back to the school by raising funds for the Assumption mission schools and AAA projects. Other annual AAA activities are the Assumption bazaar and golf tournament participated in by alumnae and friends of the Assumption.

To date, the AAA has been led by 28 women of faith and action supported by their respective Boards of Trustees, moderators and advisers. As we look forward the 50th year of the AAA in 2017, we take a step back to recognize the enthusiasm, energy and wisdom of our Old Girls who have kept the Assumption spirit alive through the AAA.

AAA Vision Statement

A Christ-centered community of women grounded on the teachings and spirituality of the Foundress of the Religious of the Assumption, St. Marie Eugenie, and creating a significant contribution to social transformation and national development.

AAA Mission

To strengthen community with fellow alumnae and their families as well as friends of the Assumption;

To assist in the continuing spiritual growth, maturity and personal development of our alumnae;

To live "Assumption Together" where the lay and religious share resources and talents and collaborates in promoting the teachings of St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus for the transformation of society.

(Sources: Assumpta Magazine, October 2009; AAA website)

The Assumption Mission Schools:

Sharing the Assumption Spirit through Education

Sharing the Assumption education helps transform communities. Providing exemplary Christian education to the less fortunate members of society is embedded in the mission of the Assumption. It is a mission that most Old Girls carry on even after they have graduated.

There are 8 Assumption Mission Schools throughout the Philippines that provide basic education and livelihood to their surrounding communities. These programs can make a big difference in the lives of the children and their families, bringing hope and self-reliance.



From North to South, the Assumption Mission Schools are spreading the Assumption spirit!

• **St. Martin's School, Baguio City** – Serves the children of the Mountain Province cultural minorities. The curriculum instills in their students the value of their indigenous culture and history.

• **Assumpta Technical High School, San Simon, Pampanga** – Provides secondary technical education to children of farmers. Courses include training in integrated farming, carpentry, electronics, sewing and tailoring, food trade and entrepreneurship.

• **San Juan Nepomuceno School, Malibay, Pasay City** – Provides elementary education for the children of informal settlers near the Malibay garbage dump. Its curriculum is designed particularly for street children.

• **Assumption School, Passi, Iloilo** – The first Assumption school managed by a lay administrative team. Located 70 km from Iloilo City, the students are residents of an agro-industrial town.

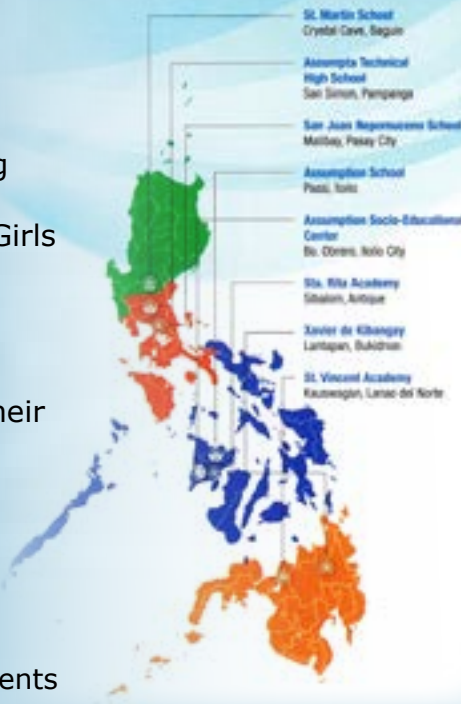
• **Assumption Socio-Educational Center, Barrio Oberero, Iloilo City** – Caters to children in the "Workingman's Village," a piece of government land reclaimed from swamps for hundreds of families left homeless by the great fire in 1951 in the Iloilo City.

• **St. Rita Academy, Sibalom, Antique** – The only private Catholic school in a predominantly Aglipayan community.

• **Xavier de Kibangay High School, Lantapan, Bukidnon** – Located in a remote area of the province and serves children of farmers who mostly belong to the Talaandig Tribe. About 95% of the students are "lumads."

• **St. Vincent's Academy, Kauswagan, Lanao del Norte** – Found 21 km away from Iligan City. Children of Christian and Muslim farmers and fishermen attend the school. Its curriculum integrates peace education.

St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says: "To educate is to set a person free. To educate is to transform the world."



Mission School in Focus: Assumpta Technical High School



"A Business Icon is a Man for Others"

by Irma P. Medina, ATHS Principal

It was a touching way for me to start an ordinary school week witnessing the thanksgiving mass for the 68th birthday of the business icon Mr. Manny V. Pangilinan (MVP). The man, whom I would only see on television, was joined by prominent people in Pampanga, Angeles City and our Assumption friends as he rejoiced for the gift of life.



The event allowed me to have a glimpse of a man who is idolized for his excellent entrepreneurial skills. But more than his business acumen, I was especially moved by how he was made an instrument for us to recover from the fire that hit the school in March 2011.

Jaenelle Laquindanum, our Assumpta Student Board President, expressed in her birthday greetings:

This day, we thank God for allowing us to be with you in the birthday celebration of one of the persons who became a concrete answer to our prayers, a person who held us in the middle of a difficult circumstance. Sir Manny, dakal a dakal pung salamat (thank you very much). On this day of your birthday, we would like to give you the "The Assumption Holding Cross" as our gift. May God through the help of our Mother Mary hold you close in his arms as you continue to share your gift of person to many people. Happy, happy birthday po!

May all of us young people look up to people who are like him, honing giftedness and sharing this with other people. Indeed, rising with the people filled the atmosphere of Assumpta atmosphere as his plans to unlock hope in Pampanga were uncovered, making the province a doorway of economic development in Central Luzon.

We continuously beseech God and our Mother Mary to bless people like Sir Manny, a business icon, a man for others.



MVP with Lito Tayag, Marixi Prieto, and Vicky Cruz



MVP with the MRMF Board of Trustees.

Front row: Sr. Mary Francis, Salie Naguiat, MVP, Sr. Sheryl Reyes, Amb. Bienvenido Tan, Vicky Cruz, Asun Zubiri, Erlinda Velasco, Mariane Pratte. Second row: Gina Hechanova, Lito Tayag, Marily Ledesma, and Baby Herrera

ASSUMPTION EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT FUND

Organized in 1997, the Assumption Education Development (AEDEV) provides material and spiritual resources to Assumption mission schools throughout the country.

Funds generated by jubilarians during the yearly "Old Girls' Day" are donated to AEDEV, to help mission schools become schools of choice in their location. This is done by raising the schools' standards and systems and upgrading salaries of teachers and staff.

An AEDEV Scholarship Fund is provided to deserving and financially strapped students. It is the objective of AEDEV to have a mix of scholars and paying students for an enriched student interaction.

Mercedes: In Tragedy and Despair, the Assumption Spirit Comes Alive!

November 8, 2013 will live long in our nation's memory. Yolanda pummelled through the Visayas wreaking devastation the likes of which our storm-tossed country had never seen...communities, families, lives forever changed.

We waited for our leaders, waited for their words of reassurance, for some vision to be articulated. We wondered at their silence. We needed words to make sense of the images filtering in from Tacloban and Samar and all the familiar and not so familiar places Yolanda claimed for its own. For days there would only be silence.



An Assumption girl is moved by the plight of neighbor and friend. The call for help was sounded and the response from alumnae here and around the world, most specially Spain, was immediate and generous.

Archbishop Soc Villegas in Dagupan gave us a signpost when he announced his archdiocese was adopting Guiuan in Eastern Samar, the site of Yolanda's first landfall. We followed the Archbishop in our search for a community to help. Through the Internet we found the municipality of Mercedes, 8 km away from Guiuan whose parish was dedicated to St. Francis of Assisi. The parish name coincidentally, like our beloved Holy Father's name Pope Francis, affirmed our choice.

It was no small miracle that in the terrible aftermath of the storm, we were able to contact the parish priest on his cell phone. Fr. Moises Campo had never met an Assumption girl in his life, but there in the midst of a blackout came a promise, a promise not only for immediate relief but also a promise to rebuild and rehabilitate Mercedes.

"Fidelity to duty" - words of our school song that an Assumption girl, in time, come to live by. Yolanda was a duty to our fellowmen. In Mercedes, we see the flowering of the Assumption Spirit - faith, fortitude, determination and unparalleled social network harnessed for transformation of a Community. In Mercedes, we see a promise fulfilled.



Once in a lifetime we are faced with a challenge, daunting to accept yet unconscionable to turn away. Yolanda was such a challenge.

It led us to a place far from the beaten tracks to encounter people whose concerns were so different from our own. The storm took away all their material goods but dignity and hope, the best of the human spirit remained undimmed. By rebuilding their lives our lives were transformed.

So what is it to be an Assumption girl?

We are more than a script and an accent. We are more than just the virtues and sins of one politician. Our Foundress St Marie Eugenie said "every duty God requires of us is a mark of his love and mercy".

Mercedes is our act of fidelity to duty. Mercedes is a mark of God's love and mercy.



Assumption Cares: Mission Statement

Assumption Cares, through our Assumption Alumnae, endeavors to rebuild the Mercedes Community. In partnership with government, church and the local community, we aim to provide them with their basic needs: shelter, education, and evacuation/ community/health centers; and we hope to enable the rehabilitation of the town by giving opportunities for alternative livelihood, for self-sufficiency and sustainability.

Assumption Cares: Vision

Assumption Cares aspires to transform the devastated homes, livelihood and lives of 1,400 households or 9,000 people in Mercedes, Eastern Samar into a prosperous, healthy, eco-friendly, empowered, dignified and Christian-centered community.

St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says:
"A person filled with love of God and love of neighbor reflects something of heaven."



Mercedes Timeline (2013-2014)

- 9 November** – AAA call for help is sent through social media
- 10 November** – Alumnae from all over the world and in the Philippines begin to respond generously with cash donations
- 15 November** – AAA lays out a detailed action plan: Relief, Rebuild, Rehabilitate
- 22 November** – Assumption Cares T-shirts are sold in the Annual AAA Bazaar to help raise funds
- 30 November** – AAA sends relief goods to Guiuan, Samar through HS'87
- 3 December** – Assumption Cares and AAF Spain (represented by Mielle Esteban) delivers relief goods to Tacloban and Samar through Sandy Prieto-Romualdez and Philippine Daily Inquirer
- 5-12 December** – Meetings with Habitat for Humanity, Gawad Kalinga and Fr. Moises Campo
- 10 December** – AAF, through Sandra Escat, remits 2,000 Euro for relief goods in Coron, Palawan
- 13 December** – Assumption Cares donates P200,000 to the Daughters of Charity for the orphans of Yolanda in Tacloban
- 15 December** – Ocular tour of Mercedes, Samar
- 23 December** – Meeting with International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- 7 January** – Private sector with Senator Ping Lacson of PARR; AAA signs letter of intent to adopt Mercedes, Samar
- 31 January** – Meeting with Minguita Padilla, PARR consultant; Government participation in Mercedes is resolved
- 5 February** – Meeting with Mercedes Mayor Cabos; confirmed LGU participation in the rebuilding of houses and community centers.
- 21 February** – Signing of agreement among AAA (President Marily Ledesma), Assumption Cares (Chair Gina Hechanova) and IOM (Chief of Missions in the Philippines Marco Boasso).
- 26 February** – Assumption Cares and IOM seal their partnership to build 156 houses in 5 baranggays and one parish hall.
- 10 March** – Groundbreaking ceremonies were held in Mercedes
- 1 April** – IOM and Baranggay Busay begin building houses with the assistance of major donors AAF Spain and Gina Aboitiz and family
- 1 May** – Partnership with Habitat for Humanity for the construction of 49 houses on land purchased by AAA for resettled families
- 2-4 July** – Turnover of 30 houses in Baranggay Busay
- 9-11 August** – Turnover of next 76 houses in Baranggay Busay and Poblacion 1 & 2
- September to December** – Turnover of 100 more houses, 6 community centers, one parish hall; provision for livelihood assistance, teacher training, and repair/rebuilding of 12 chapels.



St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says:
"In exchange for sacrifices as small as ourselves, God gives us graces as great as Himself!"



Noblesse Oblige

Some people wonder at the speed by which Assumption alumnae respond to a call for help when calamity strikes, such as the rebuilding of Yolanda-devastated Mercedes town in Eastern Samar, or how alumnae are able to establish schools such as Assumpta Technical School in San Simon, and San Juan Nepomuceno School in Malibay, on top of supporting mission schools in Baguio, Iloilo, Antique, and Mindanao?

Trace it to ***noblesse oblige***, a French phrase literally meaning "nobility obliges," an ideal that is deeply embedded in the spirit of Assumption. It refers to the responsibility of privileged people to act with generosity and nobility toward those less privileged, not for gain or recognition, but simply because it is the right thing to do.

The term *noblesse oblige* became popular in post-revolution France when Honoré de Balzac published *Le Lys dans la Vallée*, in 1836, where certain standards of behaviour were recommended to a young man of high rank: "Everything I have just told you can be summarized by an old word: *noblesse oblige*!"

St. Marie Eugenie experienced the impact of the French revolution, whose root cause was the insensitivity of French nobility to the plight of the poor, igniting them to rebel against the establishment as we have seen in *Les Misérables*.

Hence, in founding the congregation, her goal was to transform society by educating the daughters of the nobility as they would be the wives and mothers of future leaders. She aimed at character formation, to shape them into leaders: "Mothers of the Poor".

To this end, we were steeped in Gospel exhortations:

To whom much is given much is expected.

Freely we receive. Freely we give.

When you do these for the least of my Brethren, you do it to ME.

Formation towards the culture of giving was fostered in various practices.

When I was in high school, we visited poor families on Saturdays, giving them packages of food. We taught catechism at nearby public schools. Assumption Herran had a free Adult School, where some of us taught English and Math.

When our five daughters were in high school, students were encouraged to save and drop their savings in a box labelled "Sacrifice Tuesday". The "Alay Kapwa" program awakened social awareness and formed their social conscience. But it was the "Immersion Program" which really generated in students a deep sense of social responsibility. It started with taking a jeepney ride to visit Malibay, then gradually progressed to a trip to the farmers homes in San Simon, then living with families in Antique, and Barrio Asin in Baguio. They experienced living conditions of the less privileged, eating their one-dish meals, working with them as they till the soil or harvest potatoes. My daughters returned happy, their paradigms of life transformed. Two of them saved to provide scholarship to their "immersion sister." One of them opted to celebrate her 18th birthday by treating 50 poor children to a party, together with her friends.

In recent years, some graduating classes have opted for an "alternative prom" where instead of spending for their prom, they donate their budget as a class to a worthy cause.

Hence, here we see that St. Marie Eugenie's vision of forming the young into leaders who care for others is actually happening today—true to her ideal of instilling in our students the reality that *"all comes from Jesus, all belongs to Jesus, and all must be for Him"*.

- Lirio Ongpin Mapa



Silver and InspiRED!

INSPIRED (in'spīrd)

Dictionary.com defines it as an adjective:

1. aroused, animated, or imbued with the spirit to do something, by or as if by supernatural or divine influence: an inspired poet.
2. resulting from such inspiration: an inspired poem; an inspired plan.



Class of 1989

The evolution of a theme

Our batch came of age in the years 1985 to 1989 – a truly volatile period in our country's history. Political turmoil embraced us, as we embarked on our first year as full-blown teenagers. Snap elections, the People Power revolution, and all the ardor that came with it, swept the campus. Along with the music of Madonna, The Gogo's, and Spandau Ballet. Amidst the 1989 coup d'état, we struggled through our final year, swooned to Tom Cruise and Duran Duran, and yet ended with a batch song entitled "Because I Love, I Serve." The paradox was undeniable and this has defined us as ebullient and diverse women of action.

It is with this passion that our mantra was born. We, as a batch and as unique individuals, are constantly INSPIRED. By our surroundings, by our relationships, by purpose and by Assumption education.

Building up momentum

In 1999, ten years after we had bade farewell to the hallowed halls of our beloved high school, a group of about 40 diehards gathered together for some chatter, food and tipple at the now defunct TriBeCa bar in Shangrila Edsa Plaza. At the time, only a handful were married, even a smaller minority were new mothers and the majority were finding their ways in the world. It was a time of re-bonding, where laughter reverberated amidst sharing, reminiscing and trivia games. In 2004, a larger group of about 60 convened at the Milky Way function room. We realized, at this time, that while the silver jubilee loomed ten years ahead, there was a need to slowly plot a roadmap towards velada realization. In 2009, the most organized and fervent of our batch orchestrated a 20-year reunion at the Makati Sports Club, to kick start the fundraising for what seemed like a daunting task ahead – of giving to the Assumption mission schools and to perpetuate the tradition we were all familiar with and wanted to be a part of.



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Since that time, various groups from Batch '89 banded together to execute on a plan that included a whirl of activities. This included a rock show at Strumm's Makati, sponsorship of one night of the play "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," sales of original naughty-and-nice "Keep Calm" bags, Assumption logo pendants, one-of-a-kind Ovvian Castrillo (Batch '89) tabletop sculptures, batch shirts and a number of other unique items. Items were sold online, at Christmas bazaars and even via garage sales.

However, in 2013, at the cusp of our "veladi-fication," Typhoon Yolanda struck the country. Aside from the mission schools, beneficiaries of our rockeaoke-thon at Chivz Bar in Greenhills included projects for victims of this typhoon. More than just including Yolanda typhoon victims to our list of beneficiaries however, the devastation of our fellowmen in the South called for a re-examination of priorities and a resolve to make our show a reflection of these.

Crunch time

Defined by the shared experience of Typhoon Yolanda, we wanted to put on a show that was true to who we are. A show about us, about the times we lived in, our hopes for the future and gratefulness for our years at the Assumption – many times exciting, sometimes riotous and stormy too, but always inspiring.

We sought to conceptualize a show that had simplicity at its core, but was fraught with meaning. This is the narrative which sets the tone of the production; that touches on every significant aspect of our time at the Assumption. We wanted to express our gratitude to those who have molded and changed us; hence, we made sure to honor our beloved teachers during the show. We wanted to resurrect the 80s vibe; hence, we chose Maribeth Bicharra as choreographer. We wanted to stay true to our Assumption musical roots; hence we chose Vicky Salvador as our vocal coach and conductress (who also happens to be the writer of our much-loved batch song). To remain current, we selected our contemporaries as director, lighting associates, production designers, etc. In many ways, getting the production off the ground and coordinating a large group of 40+ year-old women might have been far more laborious than convening a UN general assembly. It began with a slow start and a small group burning the midnight oil to craft themes, generating idea decks, assigning individuals to key roles, managing finances and setting project deadlines. Many grumbled at having



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to attend meetings and carving up timeslots in their busy schedules. A few were disheartened at the formidable task of raising a considerable amount of money. There were differences of opinions in fundraising, choices of musical numbers, scheduling conflicts, etc. Gratefully, there were those who persevered and before we knew it, velada fever spread and the excitement was infectious.



What began as a rather slow-moving process quickly escalated into a flurry of activity. Meetings became more frequent and the attendees swelled with each one. Rehearsals for dancing and singing were scheduled with regularity; dance halls and music studios were booked; scripts were tightened; costume fittings finalized; and production was underway. Amid all the logistics, the generosity exhibited by many in the batch was incomparable. Food was overflowing, carpools were volunteered, and everyone helped out where they excelled. There were those who conducted remedial lessons for those whose dancing skills were less than stellar. Others made numerous trips to Divisoria scouting for costume accoutrements. There was also a tireless group who efficiently planned the very memorable Teacher's Day, which saw a good number of our batch mates and teachers from both grade school and high school reconnecting over lunch at Conti's. Even classmates from abroad contributed substantially by offering up meeting and dance venues, donating much needed funds and contributing their share to the production.



The best parts of every get-together, every rehearsal, every meal shared and every glass of sangria toasted, were the cacophony of laughter, connections forged, old memories rehashed and new ones made.

Coming home

After almost five years of inception, one year of solid planning, two months of rigorous rehearsals and many late night meetings, all roads led back to the red plaid home we call Assumption. To perform for family, friends and the community. To celebrate this wonderful sorority. To give thanks for lifelong bonds. To show appreciation for the gift of education. To give back to a community and pay it forward. To honor the school whose teachings have moved us to action.

We are Batch '89, comprised of mothers, wives, working women, trailblazers, homemakers, everyday warriors. With this joyous event that is our velada, we celebrate friendships, memories and the Assumption education that has and continues to INSPIRE.



St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says:
"It is necessary to form strength of character with particular attention to uprightness, honesty, loyalty, honor, generosity and dedication."

Blue Sapphire: Faith Afire!

It is truly amazing that we now find ourselves facing you not as your sixteen year old high school graduates but still "sprightly octogenarians" who wish to accept your gracious congratulations.

And we remember that long, long, time ago, we once committed ourselves to our high school motto *religio official* or "fidelity to duty." It seemed so long ago, and yet, that seemed just like yesterday when after school we opened ourselves to the real world. Just one moment of eternity.

We grew into many kinds of women... wife and mother, just keeper of home and children, artist, politician, teacher, lawyer, entrepreneur, writer, doctor, consultant, stock broker, etc. with some settling in distant shores while others preferring to stay near their homes. All throughout each life it was the hidden swan song of fidelity to duty and love of simplicity that marked the soul.

Many of us can hardly do a beautiful walk now. Some are in wheelchairs. Some have to use canes. Others can no longer hear, while some can hardly see. But while the physical body and senses are growing old, there is one thing they have which remains forever young — their minds. Not only young but in fact is energized to go ahead, to seek to know more, to understand what its transcendence is pushing it to seek, to grasp, and to know more of what there is to know. It is what Jeanne Houston calls "the lure of becoming," her answer to Oprah Winfrey's question: What is the soul? Never static. Always evolving and living in the present.



Our time is a new paradigm. Most of us have our husbands in the other world. Our children also have their own families to care for. But this is an exciting time. This is the time left to exit a life in the best possible way — that of continuing to search for a greater meaning and a deeper spirituality that will only satisfy a mind that is forever in search of the Absolute. And to quote a prophetic mystic and one of the greatest thinkers of the 20th century, Teilhard de Chardin, the human being is not a static center, but "the axis and leading shoot of evolution."

Assumption had given all of us the education that guided us through our happy and dark days, and it is our Faith that we held on to. Today, it is still our Faith that seeks for greater understanding and greater meaning.

Thanking our school? Not just thanking, but definitely Loving. And maybe someday our class, though not an extraordinary one may yet be considered a small icon of The Assumption School .

We love you all !!!!

- Mercedes C. Llamas



From the Diamonds: Be Inspired



The Diamond Jubilarians of 2014 (HS '54) belong to a generation that experienced the war years—a time of diminished lifestyles, air raids, blackouts and scampering to air raid shelters .

When the air raids grew more frequent, our family evacuated to my granduncle's house in Malabon. At the end of the war I went to school at the St. James Academy in Malabon run by the Maryknoll Sisters.



As life went back to normal our family moved back to Manila and that is when I went to school at the Assumption Convent in Herran (now Pedro Gil). Our classes were held in quonset huts under tall acacia trees that survived the war. The chapel was also in a quonset hut.

We had penmanship lessons where we were drilled in the distinctive "Assumption" handwriting. We had embroidery lessons too, under Mother Clotilde, a young, beautiful Spanish nun with dainty fingers. And we played "bataille" during recess.

We saw the Assumption campus rise from the ashes. Soon the buildings went up and the quonset huts were but a memory.

We had nuns as Mistress of Class. And as teachers too—Mother Rosario in English composition, Mother Helen, in History, Mother Maria Luisa in Physics.

We knelt down for Morning Prayers and our Mistress of Class would give an inspirational meditation talk. We had study periods where strict silence was observed. We went to Benediction and signed up for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. We were encouraged to visit the Blessed Sacrament during recess or before classes began. We became devotees of the Blessed Mother and strove to be "Children of Mary" which was given recognition through the ribbons conferred on us in solemn ceremonies in the Chapel which we wore on our uniform (Proclaim, Aspirant, Child of Mary).



Our Assumption education was not just academics. It was everything we experienced in school—the discipline, the social graces, the silence, even the canopy of trees in our campus. We were not just taught to love God. We felt loved by God . It wasn't just a Catholic education we received. It was an "Assumption" education—animated by the charism of Mother Foundress. It was imbued with a sense of mission—the social responsibility to use our time, talent and resources to address the sufferings of the less fortunate, including the social systems that exploit them and oppress them. It wasn't just Assumption education that we received. It was an Assumption formation. It left a lasting imprint in our hearts and souls. And this was what forged the bonds of friendship of the members of HS '54 .

We grew up together in the loving bosom of our Alma Mater and we have journeyed together in life guided, inspired, challenged, strengthened, healed and comforted by our Assumption formation.

Our Assumption formation is a continuing process in our life journey as we share our life experiences in our class reunions, support one another and learn from one another. The Assumption formation is so much a part of who we are and what we are now—how we think, how we react, how we respond, how we relate to others.

Though we went our separate ways after graduation and came together only occasionally, we find ourselves, now in our twilight years, drawn back to our roots in the Assumption with more frequent get-togethers at Bingle Razon Puyat's place we call "Carissa Hilton" and the annual homecomings.

In the context of my Assumption formation, I look at our annual homecomings as not just an occasion for seeing our classmates and watching the velada. I see it as a gathering of many generations of women who were formed in the charism of Mother Foundress, who have shone their light, each in her own way, on Philippine society. And in ways big and small have made a difference.

I am always in awe of the energy generated by such a gathering. And I envision all of these women of faith and women of action coming together and doing something about the worsening social ills plaguing our country that bring so much pain and suffering to our people. Our Assumption formation has made this a possibility.

In any case, we can make homecomings occasions for revisiting the charism of our Assumption education so that we can be inspired to do what we can to change society for the better, for the good of all.

- Teresita Ma. Daza Baltazar
HS '54, Coll '58

St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says:

"Every one of us has been given a mission: to bring the Father's Kingdom into the lives of others."



OUR GOLDEN LEGACY



Great human achievements are frequently rewarded with gold, in the form of gold medals, golden trophies and other decorations. Similarly, gold is associated with perfect or divine principles, such as in the case of the golden rule. Gold is further associated with the wisdom of aging and fruition. In popular culture gold has many connotations such as good or great, such as in the phrases: "has a heart of gold", "that's golden!", "golden moment", and "then you're golden!" It remains a cultural symbol of wealth and success. (Wikipedia)

This is our Golden Moment having reached the Golden Age of success and greatness. 50 years ago our class mottos were "Semper et Ubique Fidelis" and "Fiat Voluntas Tua". Through the years, we remained FAITHFUL to the three loves of a true Assumption" Christ, Our Lady and the Church". As St. Marie Eugenie says: " Love dies in a soul without sacrifice" and "Love is generous".



It must be the Assumption DNA that drives us all to distraction when it is time to mark an important jubilee year. We have grown in stature - in our faith, commitments, and goals. To celebrate the women we have become. We come together as a unified entity to affirm the person we are— genuine and resolute in purpose, yet able to laugh at ourselves.

The School Supplies Project has been a source of pride for Class6468 for the past 14 years. Twice a year, in May and October, a group of Class6468 classmates, plus friends who support our project in spirit, meet to assemble attractive packages of school supplies for chosen Assumption Mission Schools. To date we have packed and distributed our school supply packages to 46,406 children. Words cannot describe the impact that our school supplies make on the lives of these children. To many of them, these are the only gifts they ever receive.

But it is not all hard work. We spend the day with our hands going at full speed, trying to catch up with our mouths! It is a joyous time of camaraderie, laughing and bonding. We are also treated to lunch by the sisters, with whom we have a good time catching up.

All this was done without us soliciting money from the class. This is because the School Supplies Project is a self sustaining endeavor, thanks to our sister project of Mass cards, which funds this wonderful project

St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says: "Those who are called to work for the extension of the reign of Jesus Christ in souls ought to understand how much care should be taken: all, whether in themselves or in others, are good, amiable, simple, open, and generous. It is particular to the spirit of the Assumption."



“A heart of GOLD” permeates in our class. We embrace the moment, and bask in the glory of an Assumption education that continues to mold us through our life’s journey.



Gloria Macapagal Arroyo
10th President of the
Republic of the Philippines

Maria Teresa Gustilo-Villasor, Ph.D., RP, Rpm
Clinical Psychologist/Chief Consultant to
Metropolitan Psychological Corporation



Cecilia Bulaong-
Garrucho
PETA president



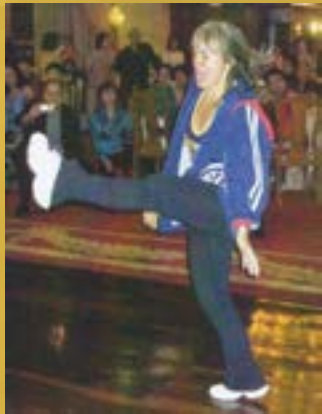
Marilou Kahn Magsaysay
Chairperson Fund
Development
Philippine Ballet Theater



Sylvia Reynoso Gala
GalaStars Culinary



Dr. Ching Ojeda
Legarda



Cynthia Carrion Norton
President
Gymnastics Association
of the Philippines



We leave behind our Golden Legacy of friendship, unity and love. Our Golden Future will be anything we can imagine, dream or think. It is stepping out of our comfort zone, and be the best. Our dreams have no expiration date. We remain steadfast in our faithfulness to the values of our Assumption education of simplicity, fidelity to duty and love of country.
ALL HAIL TO OUR BELOVED GOLDEN ASSUMPTIONISTAS!

By: Tisa Velasquez Fernandez, Melody O’Pallick Vasquez, Luisa Alfonso Percival and Connie Gomez Valdes



THE EMERALD JUBILARIANS: A GLIMPSE

We are High School class 1959 and College class 1963. Some of us attend quarterly lunches at the AAA meetings in Assumption San Lorenzo and more of us see each other every two months more or less. We hold class reunions at different restaurants throughout the year. This year, we are celebrating our Emerald Jubilee. In addition to socials, we support worthy civic causes. Recently, we donated a small fishing boat to the Tanging Yaman Foundation in the care of Fr. Manoling Francisco, S.J. in the aftermath of the powerful typhoon Yolanda.

- Cheli Banta, Chairperson
- Marivic de Leon, Class Representative



St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says:
"The more you give of yourselves to the Lord, the more you are sincerely humble; the more you open your hearts to love – the more Our Lord will be the promised hundredfold, the joy which no other joy equals. This peace, this light that the world cannot know – this hope that is the gauge of future and eternal happiness."



FACETS OF A **SAPPHIRE**



Few gemstones are used as gems in the crystal forms in which they are found. Most are cut and polished, made brilliant and beautiful through a process of renewal. Hearts forged by fire, spirits nurtured by the values of their Alma Mater, these women — forty years hence – are the gems that bring light to their homes, their families, their vocations and the societies in which they live. Their inner beauty and strength parallel those of a sapphire gemstone. They are the members of Assumption High School Class '69. Rare... Pure... In every facet of their lives, these gems of women strive to shine. They remind us that perfection is not so much a state, as a constant striving.

Varied as the colors of sapphire, the members of High School Class '69 are a diverse group of women who have forged different paths and directions yet remain bonded by a common thread of values. FIDELITY TO DUTY and LOVE FOR SIMPLICITY. These clarity of values have contributed to the successes of the women in their homes, office and social commitments.



In the autumn of their lives, the women of Class '69 have been polished with life's rough edges - death in the family, sickness, financial loss and others. The strength of character built over the years of schooling has enabled them to face up to the various challenges of life and develop a deeper inner spirituality in the light of the Christ's teachings.

Consequently, in an unobtrusive way, the exemplary values and formation of these women have quietly sparked glints of love, strength hope, and moral values in the lives of their families and social milieu. This is perhaps the legacy of the Assumption education, the torch that forever burns with every Assumption alumna that has graduated from the convent walls of the Assumption.

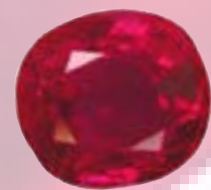
Like a sapphire stone, the spectrum of colors, brilliance, durability, and clarity of heart and mind of the members of High School Class'69 find unity in diversity, continuing to savor the flavors of life and friendships together.

- TZ Lopez



St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says:
If your own heart is filled with love of God, ordinary acts will appear full of grace and raise the hearts of others.





The Rebel Rubies



Why Rebel Rubies? 40 years out of high school and still strongly opinionated, always questioning the "how's" and the "why's" of each event and every rule: From the official length of our rolled up plaids had to be below the knee, measured by the Mistress of Class' official 4 fingers, to the size of our necktie (the better to conceal the "codigo!").

We were the first "merged" graduating class. If we were upset by *the invasion by Herran girls* during our senior year, our (now best friends) counterparts were traumatized when they realized that their beloved campus would be transformed into (an environmentalist's nightmare) Robinson's Shopping Mall and that they would be graduating in Assumption San Lorenzo...where the "socialites" *made pintas "the way you looked and spoke and how you clutched your hairbrush in the palm of your hand!" Que horror!!!*

We were the first class subjected to Citizen's Army training (CAT). Every week we had to don those fatigues and bow to the abuses of our screaming superiors lead by *Commander Terrengay!*

Some of us even volunteered to join the BIVOUAC in Corregidor; escaped from camp, and broke into the abandoned hotel building atop the hill to find a proper "comfort room" and a shower!!!

In school, we were the first "atribida" class who would dare to defy the forbidden: rowing across the lagoon (in Herran) during break time, climbing the flag pole, get slightly impaled and freak out the nurse in the clinic, solicit toothpaste during morning prayer, and jump the fence to meet the boys in San Lo park... what was the harm in that?

Many a guidance counselor said it was just our exuberance, that extra energy that got us in trouble all the time. Possibly. But our mentors attributed our rebelliousness to creativity and leadership. Let's just say... Before *Glee* and *American Idol*, We were the VOICE That would not be silenced.

We were the FIRST to join *Kundirana* in Don Bosco and bag the top prize BOTH times. We certainly left our mark...by loading the chords of their Baby Grand Piano with thumb tacks, so that it would sound different.



And at the behest of Sister Luz, we also made an appearance at the airport one very early morning all dressed up and ready to sing for a VIP...but never got close to the arrival gate. We were dressed (not in fatigues) but in Maria Clara no less...

At the dawn of Martial Law, we marched in the streets outside the Assumption Herran gates, in protest of our civil liberties. And when a travel ban curtailed our travel rights, we "flew the coop" via YFU (Youth for Understanding) after junior year (in the USA) and never looked back.

"For we are the music makers. The dreamers of dreams..."

Thumbing our noses once again, we look forward with joyful anticipation to what the next 10 years will bring, acknowledging how far we have come. Different, and yet essentially still the same. For we are the Rebel Rubies, and this is our story.

- Marie de Asis Schnabel





St. Marie Eugenie
of Jesus says:
"We are trailblazers. We must
take stock of the extent of the
land and dig our path."



Jade – Celebrating 35 years

High School Class of '79 —

Graduated 35 years ago armed only with the faith that "In His Will is our Peace". Today we celebrate what we have become...

JADE, a special stone, transparent and brave to show its imperfections, yet strong and bright to share its beauty.

The Class of '79 is a unique batch of girls ... **Happy to Fit In but never afraid to Stand Out!**

A batch that loves life in all its forms, we are bound together by years of song, and dance, and laughter, and prayer ... only made stronger by our shared struggles, our survived pain, and our celebrated miracles.

A joyful and grateful batch, always filled with a heavenly spirit that leads us to a constant state of flow... ever creating... always changing... continually transforming.

This is the Class of '79 ... **living life with a PASSION to do His Will until we find our Peace.**

Join us in our journey as we continually **ASPIRE to INSPIRE** ...

- Arlina Arrozal-de Jesus





St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says:
"In loving God more than ourselves, we must not consider what profit the work we are doing has in store for us – but rather, we must consider that it is God who desires it, and that it is pleasing to Him. In accomplishing it, we remain in an attitude of generosity and obedience to God."



Pearls: The Luster and the Cluster

The birth of a pearl is nothing short of a miracle. It begins as a tiny insignificant speck that wanders into an oyster's shell. The oyster secretes layer upon layer of smooth crystalline nacre in an attempt to expel the tiny speck. But, it refuses to be expelled! Instead, it envelops itself in the smooth, iridescent beauty of the nacre — until it emerges as a lustrous pearl.

Like the pearl, we left the walls of the Assumption in 1984 as tiny and insignificant — armed with nothing but the depth of our Christian faith and the breadth of our Assumption education. We wandered off into the world at a time of political upheaval, when the future of our country seemed uncertain. And yet, we endured! Strengthened by layer upon layer of trials and life lessons... enveloped by the love of the families we were born in and the new families we created... we emerged from our shells as the pearls we are today.

The pearl is valued, not for its brilliance. but for its LUSTER — that subtle radiance that emanates from its core. And our radiance emanates from sharing ONE faith... a faith that has guided us through the years ... reminding us to keep God firmly at the center of our lives... and the less fortunate firmly within our hearts.

The pearl is valued, not for its singularity, but for its CLUSTER — those invisible ties that bind each pearl to the next, each soul to its sister. And our ties come from sharing ONE spirit... a spirit of service that balances our sense of self with a sense of selflessness ... our love for family with a soul for society.

We, the Pearls of 2014, humbly share our LUSTER and CLUSTER with the world.... ONE in faith... ONE in spirit!

- MaLou Dulce-Betco





St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says:

"I would like to make my love flow into the hearts that are weary. I wish I could give this light and this love which I experience to those who have never known it."



A Celebration of Thanksgiving, A Celebration of Blessings!

Four decades of Assumption Antipolo! Forty years of graces received and graces shared! Forty years ago, Lord, like Abraham, You told us, "Go forth from the land of your fathers/mothers to a land that I will show you." You called us out of Assumption, Herran and like Abraham we went as you Lord directed us, to this new land, to these hills of Antipolo. ALL WE HAD WAS OUR FAITH TO BELIEVE THAT WHEN YOU CALL IT IS ALWAYS FOR SOMETHING NEW, ALWAYS FOR GREATER LIFE. You brought us to these hills, this uncharted land, a forest, and you asked us to pioneer an education that pays respect to the ecological system it finds itself in, an education that integrates the care of creation into its curriculum. It has been decades ago. The beginnings were not easy. It took courage and vision and hope to see beyond the trees, and the forest and to build respecting the very trees, befriending the very forest, integrating the buildings to the contour of the land, loving the trees that have been here ages ago.

TODAY LORD, we have so much to be grateful for.

We THANK THE MANY PEOPLE WHO TOOK THAT JOURNEY WITH US IN PURE FAITH.

We thank the PARENTS, who believed in our Assumption Education and enrolled their children in this far away place, all the way from Makati, Quezon City, San Juan, as far as Las Piñas.

We thank the many TEACHERS who endured the long bus ride daily over rough country roads and who put up with the mud as they moved from one building to another.

We thank the FIRST COMMUNITY OF SISTERS, who decided to make the laborers' quarters their first home for almost 20 years to give priority to the construction of the entire campus. The early years of the Sisters here were lived in the poverty of Nazareth with so much joy as they continued their mission of education.

We thank the MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY COUNCIL OF ASSUMPTION HERRAN, who were with us all the way investing in the new subdivision to be able to support the mission we were starting here. We thank the late Architect Felipe Mendoza who innovated new building styles of classrooms that took into consideration the topography of the place, open classrooms, for open education.

When we look back WHEN WE LISTEN TO THE STORIES OF THE FIRST STUDENTS (SOME OF THEM PARENTS HERE NOW) the students who daily made the trip across Manila to come up to these hills, all they remember was the newness, the fresh air and water, the lovely trees, the butterflies, the fun and joy and the sleep during the long bus ride.

WHAT BLESSINGS!!!!!!

WE COME TOGETHER HERE THIS EVENING TO CELEBRATE IN SONGS THESE MANY BLESSINGS. We come together to pray our thanksgiving in songs. These songs will remind us that we are all stewards of this earth. We are all responsible



St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says:

*"God has done so much for me;
I want to do something for Him."*



for this world given us. Today, the vision is clearer. We were brought up here to speak clearly in action the words of St. Marie Eugenie, THE EARTH IS A PLACE OF GLORY FOR GOD! We help to make this happen through education. This earth and all that belongs to HIM must be loved, cared for and passed on with all its beauty and richness to the generations that will come after us. Today we stand in awe and thanksgiving for the journey of 40 years. TODAY WE ARE ASKED TO SHARE THIS EDUCATION FOR THE CARE OF CREATION, THIS COSMIC SPIRITUALITY, to the public school teachers here in Antipolo and to continue to share the blessings of nature with as many students who come to visit the ECO PARK IN OUR CAMPUS.

AA@40! REJOICE! REKINDLE! RENEW!

WE REJOICE OVER SO MANY BLESSINGS,
WE REKINDLE THAT ENTHUSIASM TO CARE FOR CREATION,
WE RENEW THAT COMMITMENT TO HELP MAKE OF THIS EARTH A PLACE OF GLORY FOR GOD.

FATHER GOD, YOU CALLED US OUT OF THE CITY OF MANILA to the hills of ANTIPOLO where MARY, OUR LADY OF PEACE AND GOOD VOYAGE, was waiting for us. She has journeyed with us all these forty years. She will continue to be with us in this land she has invited us to many years ago to live out in our little sphere your dream for creation. We need her for we are weak, we are far from being certain and brave. WE ASK FOR CONFIDENCE THAT WE LACK. We ask courage in this holy task. We are called to continue our mission, called to bring new life for these next forty, fifty years. Amen.

(Welcome address and prayer by Sr. Ana Maria Melocoton, r.a. on 11 September 2014)

At the celebration of AA@40, Assumption Antipolo acknowledged the invaluable contribution of persons who have stood with us throughout these forty years.

MR. JOSE TRINIDAD PARDO

For his fidelity to Assumption throughout 45 years from 1969 as parent representative of Grade 1 in Herran to 2014 as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Assumption Antipolo. For his wise, dynamic and decisive leadership during the challenging period prior to the transfer from Manila to Antipolo in 1974 and in the subsequent years. In this YEAR OF THE LAITY for modeling to society an exemplary family life as husband, and father of five Assumption Alumnae (Marilyn Velarde Pardo, Yvette P. Orbeta, Diane P. Aguilar, Bettina P. Harner and Barbie P. Tiangco).

ATTY. SABINO DE LOS REYES PADILLA, JR.

Assumption Antipolo has been gifted with his presence and friendship all these years. A principled and visionary lawyer by example, a legal counsel for Catholic Educational Institutions, Religious Congregations, Orders and Societies. A gift to the CHURCH of the Philippines, a prominent Catholic and civic leader and an exemplary family man.

DR. CYNTHIA CIOCON ARCADIO

For her commitment to the philosophy of Assumption Education and the vision and ideals of St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus translated into the education for the young women in Assumption Antipolo. For forming teachers who never settle for mediocrity, mentoring them to become leaders who lead by example and ensuring that they take on an active role in molding the students to become women of faith and action. For her commitment to TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION that extends beyond the Assumption to reach out to various educational institutions and foundations.



After receiving the award, Mr. Jose T. Pardo posed with Sr. Mary Sheryl Reyes, r.a, the Provincial Superior of the Religious of the Assumption, Sr. Ana Maria Melocoton, r.a., the Community Superior and School Head of Assumption Antipolo and Sr. Maria Estela Infante, r.a., the School Treasurer of Assumption Antipolo



Atty. Sabino R. Padilla, Jr. being congratulated by Ms. Grace Magtaas, Principal of Assumption Antipolo

AAA-Bacolod Celebrates Assumption Feast with Retired Priests

We love our priests.

Perhaps it is a natural consequence of the apostolate we had chosen several years back. On our 17th year now, we continue to engage our would-be priests for an hour of English conversation every Thursday of the school year. It has become a conversation of life, love and faith more than simply an attempt to improve speaking skills. The ordination of our seminarians into priesthood has become our inspiration and their eventual service to the Church as pastors, our source of joy.

Following the CBCP's urging to reach out to special sectors as we observe the Year of the Laity, we were easily drawn to the idea of spending time with our home bound priests, on the Feast of the Assumption.

And so it was with eagerness that some 40 "old girls" trooped to the Domus Dei Complex in the early afternoon of August 15. Domus Dei, the new retirement site for priests in the Diocese of Bacolod, is located in Silay City. The three-hectare lot was donated by Mr. Rob Jalandoni, husband of the late Teresita "Ching" Ledesma Lopez, Class '53. Presently, Domus is home to seven priests who are retired or ill.

The afternoon began with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Rev. Fr. Roy Gesulgon, Dean of Studies of the Sacred Heart Seminary, as main celebrant. His homily reminded us that to be blessed is to serve, just like Mary who hurried to be with Elizabeth when she learned that her elderly cousin was with child. Fr. Roy challenged us to make Mary our model pointing out that she enfleshed Christ in her boundless joy and gratitude for God's blessings and in her desire to serve others.

Before the final blessing, Rev. Fr. Filomeno Duaban Jr., Director of Domus Dei, introduced the residents and thanked the Assumption alumni for the love, support and warmth extended to them.

While the agape was joyfully shared by the clergy, Domus staff and guests, some of us proceeded to the grounds for a ceremonial planting of fruit bearing seedlings. Afterwards, we serenaded our priests with Ilonggo songs. It tugged the heart to watch them break into smiles tinged with nostalgia while listening to old familiar tunes. When the priests finally retired, the ladies remained for a while longer to savor the Assumption community spirit. A pleasant discovery of the afternoon was Bessie Yusay Martin whose rendition of old favorites matched Janet Gatuslao Remitio's high energy at the organ. Fr. Roy's song was a fitting finale to a rewarding time spent with our aging priests.

Priests play an important role in our life. They initiate us into the Church through baptism, hear our confessions, give us communion, marry us, counsel us, and bury our loved ones. They are there in the most joyous and in the most painful milestones of our journey. Deeply grateful, we recognize how they serve us, lay members of Christ's Church, in their chosen vocation. Thus, as we guide the young seminarians in their formation years, we also wish to walk with our elderly priests in their twilight years.

- Lourdes de Leon

St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says: "We should live more for others if we wish to live for God."



Hello from Davao!

Assumption Davao Chapter has undergone quite a change and a challenge this year -- we are now a SEC-registered foundation and we are very sadly saying goodbye to two stalwart members who, for now, has and is relocating to Manila, President Sonja V. Garcia and PRO Maria Isabel "Belay" Ronquillo, respectively. But like faithful servants, they continue to give their invaluable support for our ongoing projects, which are our partnership with the Catanihan Foundation, Inc, for their feeding center and our scholarship fund for a graduate student of Xavier de Kibangay High School, our Assumption school in Bukidnon. Here, in pictures, are the significant events of our year, so far.



We formally turned over our donation to the Catanihan Foundation, Inc., for our three-year commitment to feed 40 Grade One students of the Catalalunan Grande Elementary School starting next year. We again visited the feeding center at the start of this school year.



We visited Sr. Mary Cecilia and her Assumption sisters who run the Xavier de Kibangay High School in Bukidnon and met Pelegrino "Junjun" Abesta, Jr. and his family, who belong to the Talaingod branch of the Manobos. Our chapter is now partially supporting Junjun, who has promised to come back to his community as a teacher.

Sr. Bernadette and her fellow sisters from Malibay visited us in February and held a Recollection for us at the beach house of the Garcia family in Samal. For Lent, Miggy Laurel invited us to have our Way of the Cross at her organic farm in Arakan, North Cotabato.



Belay Ronquillo and Cathy Quiogue represented our chapter at the First National CLAY Assembly in Malibay.

We played hosts to Ming Roxas and Christine Javier who came to Davao to introduce us to CLAY and give us an orientation about the community, its history, and its goals.

- Cathy Ledesma Quiogue

Standing By Each Other

*When you're standing at the crossroads
And don't know which path to choose
Let me come along
'Cause even if you're wrong
I'll stand by you, I'll stand by you
Won't let nobody hurt you
I'll stand by you . . .*

. . . such formidable words from the power ballad performed by the Pretenders that pledges love and faithful assistance in times of personal darkness; the very same song used in a parody for a US Insurance Ad regarding their loyalty program. (Google FLO Progressive Ad Stand By You)

You can be going through a bad day, a rough week, or a turbulent year. Whatever may be troubling you may be trivial or crucial. Having someone stand by you . . . sometimes, that is all that matters.

This was the theme of Assumption Alumnae Association Abroad (AAAA) New York's presentation at the 10th Triennial Reunion in Portland, Oregon, last August. This is what the AAAA New York represents to its members, or at least this is what we aim to be: a band of sisters ready and willing to stand by each other at all times.

AAAA NY's objective is to provide our members with opportunities to reconnect with our Assumption roots and foster camaraderie among the alumnae in the Northeast; to grow in our faith; and to give back to our communities here in the US and in the Philippines.

At the beginning of each year, the board members hold a planning session. We go round robin to pitch ideas for the coming year, and each suggestion is classified as either a social, civic, religious or physical fitness-related event. Each activity is slated for one of the four quarters. At the end of the brainstorming session, we review the grid of activities and ensure that each quarter has a balanced mix of the four categories. For an activity to make the final cut, a board member has to agree to own the event, or else the idea is placed in the back burner until someone volunteers to take the lead. This planning calendar forms the basis of the agenda for our monthly board meetings. To ensure that we have adequate funding for our activities, we usually begin our three-year term with a major fundraising event in year one. We try to spread out the upcoming events to allow the members a chance to participate in the various activities without taking too much time away from their own personal hectic schedules.



During the last term, our main fundraising event was **A November to Remember with Joey Albert**. The beneficiaries were the Religious of the Assumption-US Province, the Cranio Facial Foundation of the Philippines, Akoio, LLC-Starkey and Nora Foundations, and the Mother Mary School in Pollachi, India.

Some of our yearly activities include volunteering an evening with Baby Buggy, to help sort through donated clothes. Founded in 2001, Baby Buggy's mission is to provide families in need with essential gear, clothing, products and services for children, ages 0 through 14, with the goal of improving their safety, health and well-being.

We also have quarterly birthday celebrations, annual picnics, Christmas parties, retreats and various other activities.

The AAAA is a cast of "FLOs" – **Fun-loving, Lighthearted, Ordinarily-extraordinary** characters with our oldest member coming from Class '42 and the youngest from Class '06. They are an amazing bunch of ladies to work and play with because while they all love to have a good time and know how to poke fun and laugh at themselves, they also have such a serious commitment to serve our organization with an undeniable dedication to worthwhile causes outside of AAAA as well. And most significantly, amidst everyone's hectic schedules and in spite of their **Feisty, Loony and Opinionated** alter egos, there is one thing this group of ladies does best: to come to the support of anyone in need. You can be sure, as the song goes, *in your darkest hour, they will never desert you, they will stand by you!*



Assumption Together: *Building Bridges of Communion*

The events of the 10th Triennial Reunion of the Assumption Alumnae Association Abroad on August 14-17, 2014, in Portland, Oregon, hosted by Dolly Pangan-Specht (HS'79) were much more than what I, a first time attendee, imagined it to be.

After the registration, the group was whisked to the auditorium of The Grotto, a 20-acre spiritual oasis run by the Order of the Servants of Mary, USA Province. After viewing a historical video of the Assumption Alumnae Association Abroad, Sr. Gertrude Borres, r.a. gave an overview of the scheduled Triennial activities. It was interesting to know that the Triennial reunion started from a simple want of Old Girls, which included Sr. Loretto Eugenia Mapa, r.a., to touch base with each other, which evolved to a deep desire to reconnect with God and live up to Assumption values and education.

The serenity and beauty of The Grotto was an instantaneous welcome to the Triennial reunion. Walking among the statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Jude Thaddeus, other saints, and Stations of the Cross at the Upper Level Gardens reminded us that we are called for a greater meaning than just chatting and laughing with each other. Gazing at the Columbia River and Mt. St. Helens from the Meditation Chapel made me think of God's majesty.

Dolly proudly showed us the Dambana – The Filipino Shrine, which the local Filipino community built as a gift to this National Shrine of our Lady of Sorrows. Sheltered under its copper "salakot" roof are the statues of first Filipino saint, St. Lorenzo Ruiz, the Blessed Virgin Mary, here referred to "Our Lady of Dambana" and our favorite patron, the Santo Nino de Cebu, surrounded by four capiz-shelled-columns. Proud of this Filipino presence, the photo-taking seemed like forever!

At the main plaza underneath The Grotto, we had a solemn outdoor Mass officiated by Fr. Jack Topper, O.S.M. the sanctuary's Rector. Fr. Jack even took a moment to acknowledge the presence of "wild women of the Assumption Convent in the Philippines" to the rest of the congregation. The beautiful songs of the choir and our soulful prayers joined the singing of the birds to break the silence of the trees and rocks. For that solid hour, we were alone with Him. This was followed by a candlelight procession as we prayed the Holy Rosary. So awesome!

The following day, Sr. G gave us a gift that we all have long thirsted for – an Assumption style holy retreat as she aptly stated it. Just as "Mary let herself be guided by the Holy Spirit on a journey of faith towards a destiny of service and fruitfulness," we also allowed the Holy Spirit



help us recall our own stories—stories when we found God's blessings in the twists and turns of our lives. Perhaps, St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus looked over us and saw that her vision for establishing Assumption schools was being realized by the Old Girls.

Each chapter representative gave a brief report on their accomplishments and present activities. The Old Girls were not only strengthening their relationships with each other, they were also helping their communities in different ways. But it was evident that the chapters needed more direction from the Assumption Sisters to collaborate with each other and coordinate activities so that they could better meet their community needs.

At present, there are only twenty Religious of the Assumption sisters in the North American province. There is no doubt that they need us to assist in the four communities they serve. The five identified main areas on how we can help them are: 1) Exposure to mission of US communities in Chaparral, New Mexico, Worcester, Massachusetts, and Lansdale, Pennsylvania; 2) Spirituality formation; 3) Development of AAAA Chapters and communities; 4) Communication for information dissemination and involvement; 5) Vocations.

Having been inculcated with the Assumption spirit of prayer and service to other people in our community using our talents and abilities, we immediately said "yes" to this important and urgent need to be the arms and legs of the Sisters of North America. With our chosen group, we brainstormed goals, strategies, and deadlines to accomplish the tasks.



It is worth noting that a new chapter was proposed, the North Pacific (covering Seattle, Portland, and Hawaii – maybe even Alaska), to be formed and mentored by Priscilla Estrada and the Vancouver, BC, Canada Chapter. The entire group also decided to have an annual holy retreat except during Triennial years.

The day ended with dinner, dancing and a surprise live performance of Filipino stand-up comic, Rex Navarrete. Our seats were left cold as soon as we put on our dancing shoes, as we were entertained by local DJ Jon Oribello, who was well versed with the varied dance songs our particular group enjoyed.. Yes, Sr. Lori and Sr. G joined in too. We had fun, with so much laughter!

On Sunday, just as we began with a solemn union with God, the Triennial ended with a fervent commitment to Him. This time, the Holy Mass was celebrated by a Filipino priest, Fr. Cary Reniva, newly installed pastor of Saint Cecilia in Beaverton. It was uplifting to be sent away by the Holy Spirit as the Old Girls resume to be God's "wise virgins" (to quote Mother Jo, Assumption Iloilo HS 1981 Class Adviser) and "bloom where they are planted" (St. Mother Eugenie).

- Bernadette Borres, CCDP, RPC(c)
Assumption Convent-Iloilo, HS 1981

St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says:

"True love is generous.

To love is to give one's self."



St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says: *"If your own heart is filled with love of God, ordinary acts will appear full of grace and raise the hearts of others."*



THE BLESSED TERESA OF CALCUTTA AWARD

The 27th Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Award was presented last September 26 to **Maria Angeles "Lita" P. Fullerton (HS'64)**, founder of Chosen Children Village Inc. Lita established the Chosen Children Village to care for abandoned children with physical and mental disabilities. The place nurtures, educates, trains, and provides opportunities for these children in a home environment and within a family setting.

Two other Assumption alumnae have previously received the award. **Sr. Milagros A. Dayrit, r.a.** was a co-awardee in 1998 for being the spirit behind the Mother Rosa Memorial Foundation. **Sr. Carmen V. Locsin, r.a.** was also a co-awardee in 2002 for her work as a Filipina missionary nun in Japan for close to 30 years.

The Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Award confers recognition to deserving individuals who have devoted at least 25 years of service to "poorest of the poor" and who continue to serve as inspiration to others. Since 1983, the award has become an annual project of the AY Foundation, Inc. and the Junior Chamber International Manila.



Photo shows (from left) JCI-Manila 1982-1983 President and Rep. Ramon Bagatsing Jr., AY Foundation and YGC Chairman Ambassador Alfonso T. Yuchengco, BTCA Awardee Lita Fullerton, BTCA Search Committee Chairman Marc P. Reyes, and JCI-Manila President Steve Allen C. Tycango



Alumnae from Assumption in Japan visited Assumpta Technical High School in San Simon, Pampanga (top) and the Assumption Antipolo campus (bottom) last February 2014.



AAAA Bay Area, California - The Reunion started back about 5 years ago by Tita Chita Albert and Tita Rosa Laperal. They wanted to gather all the Assumptionistas in the Bay Area and celebrate the Assumption spirit and see how we can be of service to each and every one in the group.

St. Marie Eugenie Milleret once said "I believe that each of us has a mission on earth. It is simply a question of seeking how God can use us to make His Gospel known and lived." Our goal is to reconnect with everyone, build and strengthen friendships, support one another, make a difference in people's lives and help each other grow in faith.

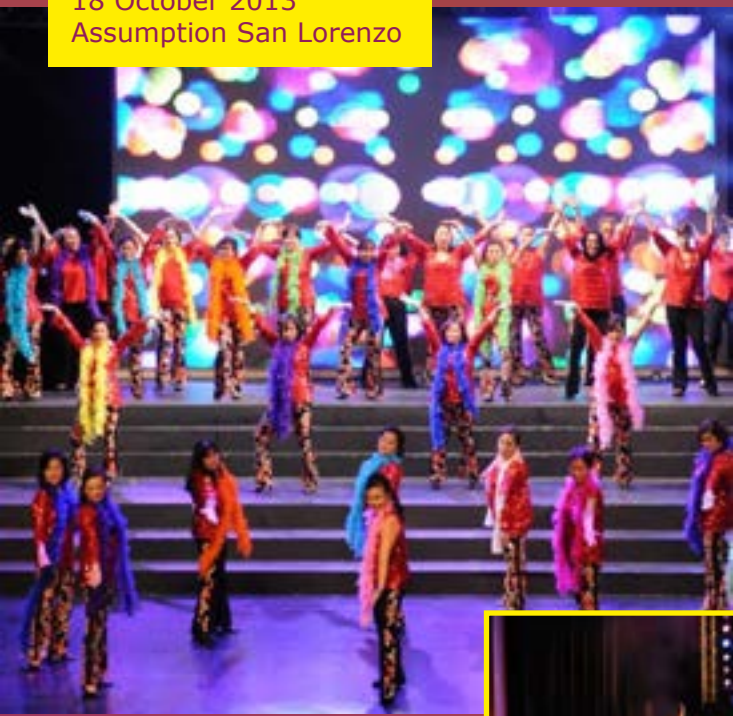
This year we have almost tripled in size. We intend to reach out to all the Assumptionistas here in the Bay Area and grow even further. - Vivian Herrera

Old Girls Day
18 October 2013
Assumption San Lorenzo

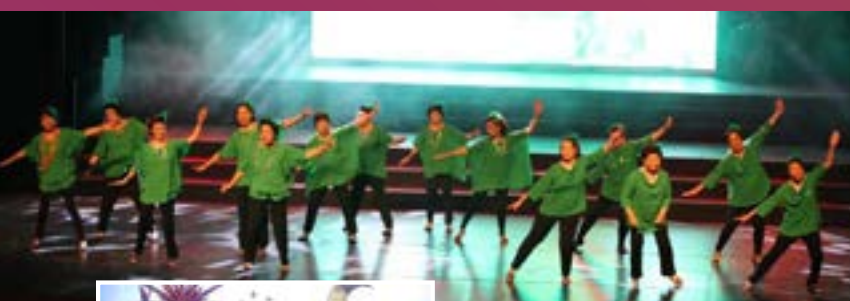
AAA Events



Old Girls Day
18 October 2013
Assumption San Lorenzo



St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says:
"Each moment of our life is
precious to Jesus Christ."



One Assumption Bazaar
24 November 2013
Hotel Intercontinental Manila



AAA Events



AAA Quarterly Lunch with the officers of the International Organization for Migration (IOM)
26 February 2014
Assumption San Lorenzo



St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says:
"Whenever things do not go too well,
when we are in difficulty or suffering,
let us try to rise higher by faith and love.
This is what the Assumption means to
us. It draws us above all these sufferings
and difficulties, all the sorrows of life,
maintaining us in a state of faith, hope,
and love of Our Lord."



AAA Events

AAA Quarterly Lunch
Assumption Day Celebration
15 August 2014
Assumption San Lorenzo



St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says:
"To see the best side of others
is a great gift."



AAA Events





Departed Alumnae

July 16 2013 - July 15, 2014



Sr. Candida Asuncion, RA
Sr. Christina Ledesma, RA
Sr. Socorro RA
Sr. Trinidad r.a.
Naty Marino Azores, HS 32
Felicisima Tiangco Caballes, Col 67
Caril Caniza, HS77
Dolores Suckerman Carmona
Priscilla Jacinto Carlos, HS 67
Esperanza Elviña Chikiamco, HS 61, Col 65
Belen Chua, HS 78
Carmela Bautista Clemente
Luisabel Alfonso Cortez, HS 49
Matea Santiago Cruz, HS 66
Kristelle Davantes, HS 2005
Victoria Pamintuan de Leon, HS 67
Lina Pena Dolina, HS 67
Zita Enriquez, HS 76
Amparo Jocson Gana

Tana Madrigal Gelb
Consuelo Mendoza Joves, HS 53
Catalina Santos Liboon, HS 55
Ma. Editha Luciano, HS61
Inday Gaston Manosa, HS 47
Elizabeth Paraiso Palabyab
Britta Bartolome Quisumbing, HS 47
Aimee Araneta Santos-Ocampo, HS 89
Nora Santos
Ana Singson, HS 71
Carmen Solis, HS 76
Elenita Mirasol Tinsay, HS 56
Joan Ramos Tronco, HS 55
Milagros Rodriguez Yap, HS 69 Col 73



The paintings on this page are from the recent exhibit of
Sr. Anna Carmela S. Pesongco, RA,
Assumption College President
and College Dean.



CONNIE



EVERLY

ARLENE

BERT



ROSE

AAA Office Secretariat

The AAA office is a four-person team serving the needs of the alumnae and the Board of Trustees. The overlying vision and mission is to be of service to ALL alumnae giving priority to managing events, account management with transparency and office administration. Record keeping through our MIS software provides alumnae with a database of all graduates since 1937 that now number over 30,000.

Each year all high school and college graduates are inducted into AAA during graduation and are given an alumna identification card. The office also has a library containing volumes of graduation and Jubilarian books for safekeeping. There is also a room full of photos dating back to 1936. Our website is up and running and our Facebook page is alive with more members signing in everyday. The Boardroom is carefully designed to accomodate 30-40 persons and is available to all alumnae and other organizations in Assumption for meetings.

AAA Contact Information

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 Assumpta San Lorenzo

St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus says:
"God gives to everyone all that is
necessary to carry out one's duty."





19TH ASSUMPTION ANNUAL BAZAAR 2014

"Feel Good by Shopping for a Cause"

NOVEMBER 16, 2014 SUNDAY

9:00am – 7:00pm
Hotel Intercontinental
Makati City

For more details please call us at: 894-3561/894-3580

**“The spirit of the Assumption requires us that we
return to original goodness,
and that we ask for the grace of Jesus Christ who made us good –
because He is eminently good.”**

– St. Marie Eugenie of Jesus



ASSUMPTA

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