



# PONDO NG PINOY SUNDAY

## Homily Guide for October 2020

### PONDO NG PINOY SUNDAY

#### 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

By: Rev. Fr. Antonio Gerardo R. Sanchez  
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Diocese of Antipolo

### PONDO NG PINOY: A Manifestation of God's Love to my Neighbor

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

Jesus says, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." These two commandments summarized the whole of the law.

#### Love God Above All

God is love and God created us by love and for love. We love because God loves us first. This is the greatest gift of God to us that we love and experience His love for us. God gives us not only love but also our life, family, friends, material things and everything we have now. That is why it is right to praise Him, thank Him, and love Him above all else.

If we love God above all else, we will know Him. To know God is to love God. If we love God, we will read the Bible, we will pray every day, we will go to Mass every Sunday and we will observe His commandments. Our aim to these acts of prayer and worship is to have a deeper knowledge of God, so that as we know God more, we will love Him more.

If we love God above all else, we will trust Him. To trust Him is to listen to Him. When we follow Him, we will never go astray and we will find the fullness of our life. Then once we get to know the heart of God and trust Him, we will want to keep His commandments. When we keep His commandments and trust in Him, we are loving Him and at the same time we are experiencing His great love to us.

#### Love Your Neighbor

However, if we really love God above all else, it is not enough to know and trust Him. If we love God above all else, we will love our neighbor as our self. It is inseparable. We cannot claim to love God if we don't love our neighbor. To love God will lead us to love our neighbor. As St. John the Apostle says, "Dear friends, let us



love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love" (1 John 4:7-8).

Who are my neighbors? Usually our neighbors are our family, relatives, friends and people we know. In the parable of the Samaritan (Luke 10: 25-37), Jesus tells us who are our neighbors. Our neighbors are not only the people we know or close to us but also the people who need our help. They might be our friends or enemies, rich or poor, and foreigners or our citizens. If they need our help, we will help them without expecting something in return.

#### Pondo ng Pinoy

Pondo ng Pinoy has been faithful to the calling of Jesus of loving God above all else and loving our neighbor as our self. The funds from Pondo ng Pinoy come from generous people who experience the love of God. It is not enough that we receive blessings from God but we must also to share the blessings for the needy. When we proclaim the Love of God, it is not enough that we say it for the needy but we must also show them in concrete actions how God loves them.

Pondo ng Pinoy has been helping so many people with projects on Health to improve and sustain their health conditions; on Livelihood Development to help generate employment or livelihood; on Scholarships for Elementary, Highschool, and College students -for deserving students who cannot afford to go to school; on Housing for decent homes for poor families; and on Disaster Relief for the immediate needs of affected families.

Pondo ng Pinoy is witnessing the Loving God above all else through manifestations of loving of neighbor.





"...as a catechist proclaiming the Word of God, it is vital to exercise goodness in everything that we do. As we reach out to spread His word, we also need to put His words into action."

## **Pondo ng Pinoy: Faith in Action** **Reflection on the Gospel**

by: Riverita A. Soriano  
Diocesan Coordinator, Pondo ng Pinoy Desk  
Diocese of Pasig

Recalling the journey of Pondo ng Pinoy Community Foundation Inc. based on the "Pag-ibig ng Panginoon Pag-asa ng Pilipino," I am just so inspired to do my responsibilities and tasks to the best I can, in God's grace.

In my nineteen years of service for the Catholic Church, I was a volunteer catechist for almost ten (10) years in our diocese, a very fulfilling service proclaiming God's Word to our students. In the succeeding years, I was recommended to be the Lay Coordinator of Pondo ng Pinoy for a wider range of responsibilities. It was not an easy task -- community organizing, finishing documents to meet deadlines, assisting groups to prepare project proposals on livelihood, all these at a time when the diocese was having a shortage of volunteers in its parishes. However, there were volunteers who were really committed in helping our Foundation and I deeply thank God for this.

As I experience these challenges, I realize that as a catechist proclaiming the Word of God, it is vital to exercise goodness in everything that we do. As we reach out to spread His word, we also need to put His words into action.

This Gospel reading focuses on loving God with all your heart, soul and mind and loving your neighbor as you love yourself. It is quite challenging, however, we can compare this to the cross that Jesus carried. It is the vertical and the horizontal lines of the cross. It means we need to strive to have a loving and personal relationship with God, as we also share our loving concern to others, our communities. It can be very exacting to some, but I believe for those who are already involved in our Church's mission, especially for the poor, it already is their way of life. When we do good things regularly it becomes a habit. As we experience love, and goodness, the grace of God will surely pour out and get passed on to others.

Prayer is our moment to revere and communicate our love to God but this love needs to be reflected on how we act for others, otherwise all that we say to Him is done just for ourselves. If we fail to put our faith into action, how are we going to sustain our relationship with God?





## 7 OCTOBER - OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY



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Saint Pius V established this feast in 1573 to thank God for the victory of Christians over the Turks at Lepanto – a victory attributed to the praying of the rosary. Clement XI extended the feast to the universal Church in 1716.

The development of the rosary has a long history. First a practice developed of praying 150 Our Fathers in imitation of the 150 Psalms, then a parallel practice of praying 150 Hail Marys. Soon a mystery of Jesus' life was attached to each Hail Mary. Though Mary's giving of the rosary to Saint Dominic is recognized as a legend, the development of this prayer form owes much to the followers of Saint Dominic particularly Alan de la Roche who was known as "the apostle of the rosary." He founded the first Confraternity of the Rosary in the 15th century and in the 16th century, the rosary was developed to its present form—with the 15 mysteries: joyful, sorrowful and glorious. In 2002, Pope John Paul II added five Mysteries of Light to this devotion.

The Rosary is Christocentric setting forth the entire life of Jesus Christ, the passion, death, resurrection and glory. It honors Mary too, "Because of the mission she received from God, her life is most closely linked with the mysteries of Jesus Christ, and there is no one who has followed in the footsteps of the Incarnate Word more closely and with more merit than she" 142 (Mediator Dei).

The rosary helps us meditate on the great mysteries of our salvation.

- Our Fathers - remind us that Jesus' Father is the initiator of salvation.
- Hail Marys - remind us to join with Mary in contemplating these mysteries and that Mary was and is intimately joined with her Son.
- Glory Bes - remind us that the purpose of all life is the glory of the Trinity.

The month of October has come to be practiced as the Month of the Holy Rosary.

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## Panalangin ng Pondo ng Pinoy

Panginoong Hesus, itinuro mo sa amin na ang Kaharian ng Diyos ay tulad ng binhi ng mustasa, ang pinakamaliit sa lahat ng mga binhi. Ngunit kapag lumaki, ito ay nagiging mataas at malaking puno kung saan nananahan ang mga ibon.

Panginoon, sa diwang ito isinasabuhay ng Pondo ng Pinoy and kanyang pangarap. Mga munting kabutihan na palagiang ginagawa ang nagsasaganap ng iyong Kaharian dito at ngayon. Sa pamamagitan ng mga munting gawaing ito, inaabot namin ang mga maliliit, naliligaw, at isinasantabi sa aming mga komunidad. Pinapangarap naming iangat ang buhay ng mga mahihirap, lumikha ng mga pagkakataon na makapagbabago ng kanilang buhay, at palayain sila sa pagdurusa. Umaasa kaming maging instrumento ng iyong pagibig sa pamamagitan ng pangangalaga sa kanila. Sa gayon, itinuturo ng Pondo ng Pinoy na ang pagmamalasakit ay nagsisimula sa mga maliliit na kabutihan na palagiang ginagawa upang maging mabisa at totoo.

Sa kabilang banda, itinuturo din ng diwang ito ng Pondo ng Pinoy na ang mga munting mabubuting gawain ay nakakapagpanibago ng buhay hindi lamang ng mga nakatatanggap kung hindi maging sa mga nagbibigay. Sa pamamagitan ng palagiang pagbibigay, nahuhubog ang aming pagkatao ayon sa iyong kagustuhan, na namumuhay sa pagmamalasakit at pagibig. Sa palagiang pagbabahagi, natututo kaming magbigay-puwang sa aming puso para sa iba. Sa pagbabahagi kahit ng "mumo" araw-araw, kami ay lumalago at lumalakas sa pagmamalasakit. Kaya sa Pondo ng Pinoy, hindi lamang kami nagbibigay, ngunit sa pagbabahagi, kami rin ay nakatatanggap.

Panginoon, tulungan mo nawa kaming nagsusumikap isabuhay ang diwa ng Pondo ng Pinoy, upang maisakatuparan ang iyong Kaharian dito sa lupa at matamo ang kaganapan ng buhay dito at ngayon.

Amen.

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