

"500 years ago, Jesus came to our land, and He continues to stay and to come as kalookb."

PONDO NG PINOY:
CONTINUING OUR MISSION
BECAUSE WE ARE
GIFTED TO GIVE

17th Anniversary Theme
and Catechesis



2 0 2 1

For Jesus is the greatest gift we have received!

500 years ago, we Filipinos have been gifted with the Christian faith, showing us the mission of Jesus—to announce the Good News to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives, to give sight to the blind, to release the oppressed, and to proclaim “a year of grace from the Lord” (Luke 4: 16-21). Thirty years ago, we continue this mission by declaring the Philippine Church to become a Church of the Poor, renewing the Church—its leaders, programs and services towards a preferential option for the poor. And seventeen years ago, Pondo ng Pinoy Community Foundation Inc. (PnPFCFI) was founded to continue God’s love so that the poor will have fullness of life through one’s small acts of kindness.

As Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle shared at the conclusion of the Philippine Conference on New Evangelization in 2020, “Welcoming the other as a gift, being ourselves a gift for the other, following the examples of Jesus who is a gift for humanity, he is the greatest gift we have received, and that gift bears fruit: we ourselves are the fruit of his spirit and his presence. We are those who testify and bring this gift of inestimable value to the world.

Freely we have received, freely we give (Mark 10:8).

The signs of the times such as the lingering COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, and other global events impacting more severely the poor and marginalized in our communities calls for Pondo ng Pinoy advocates a more zealous and

passionate witnessing of Christ’s works by realizing Pondo ng Pinoy’s mission of **evangelizing both givers and receivers into a way of life of regular small acts of kindness towards neighbors especially for the empowerment of poor and marginalized communities.**

The Theology of the Crumbs, our core spirituality has called on us, first of all, to an examination of our faith. In the Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31), the rich man demonstrates a life guided by a sick faith, one that focuses on pagkamkam (Economics of Affluence), disregards the poor by being *manhid* (Politics of Marginalization), and keeps God in the background as *itinagong Diyos* (Religion of Alienation). The Theology of the Crumbs reminds us to choose how we live each day of our life, one that is *babad sa Diyos*, that is not greedy, and is trusting in God with all our needs in order to be more *mapagmahal at mapagmalasakit sa kapwa*.

Our Four Pillars: doing small acts of kindness, regularly, out of love for God and neighbor, and towards community empowerment show our pag-ibig sa Diyos and facilitates pag-asa ng Pilipino with just our crumbs exemplified by small amounts of money saved every day and translated into projects for the poor to have a chance at a life lived to the full.

Anumang magaling, kahit maliit, basta’t malimit ay patungong langit. The mission continues.



gifted to give
500 YEARS OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE PHILIPPINES

SOURCES:

- "Kaloob, Isinasaloob, Ipinagkakaloob." [MAGPAS, January 2019] Gifted To Give: 500 Years of Christianity in the Philippines [Video]. YouTube.<https://youtu.be/HlkiiMXWVBO>
- Acts and Decrees of PCP II, 1991
- http://www.fides.org/en/news/67317-ASIA_PHILIPPINES