



Homerun January 2010
Newsletter of the
Catholic Filipino Academy
www.catholicfilipinoacademy.com



*Wanna know how to do this
light trick? See page 5*

How do you really say goodbye to a year? Let us count the ways 1, 2, 3...

One. Knowing it's out and a new one (2010) is in is already one reason to thank God for. Yes, let's give thanks for all the blessings that God showered us with last year. Unless we suffer from Alzheimer's disease, blessings in the last 12 months should be easy to recall. For every single blessing, recall how much good it did to your life and thank God for it. You may want to revisit your Facebook and Twitter pages –if you are one who posts blessings whenever they come.

Two. Be prepared. I've heard a lot of friends who expects a brighter and a better year 2010. If you are prepared for progress, progress comes. Give away things you don't need anymore. Things you see that may hinder your progress, throw them away. Better things are coming and there should be room for them.

Three. Let's do it. Have you been putting off doing things you've always wanted to do? Now is the time. Progress comes with those who do something about it. Be proactive.

There you go. Goodbye 2009. Hello 2010. Hello progress. Hello abundant blessings.

I find it amusing to follow each of the children in these pictures and see how he/she behaves in front of the camera. Some are demure, some playful, some bored, some excited, some hardly moved. But all of them cute and funny.



First Communion Pics

CFA Founder Bo Sanchez Visits CFA Families in Ho-Chi-Minh Vietnam



Bro. Bo with CFA HCM kids



With the the CFA kids



With the CFA-HCM family



With the Nerona family

7 January 2010...It was 4pm and everybody was excited to meet Bro. Bo. We were so grateful that we were given a chance to spend some time with him. With Bro. Bo was Bro. Roy Pasimio, one of the elders of the Light of Jesus Community. The CFA-HCMC Vietnam Family: Vasquez-Nerona family, Estrella family, Ramirez family and Maderal family, were all present. Kids shared the excitement of seeing Bro. Bo up close and personal. It was truly amazing. We shared each other's experiences of home schooling the kids and exchanged ideas on how to improve relationship with them. The issue of having secondary (high school) program was also taken up because one of the kids, Lemwell, is graduating.

After the 2-hour meeting, we proceeded to join the entire LOJ entourage to attend a mini-concert worship. It was one-of-a-kind experience worshipping with Bo and the whole community.

From the Journal of Judith Vasquez-Nerona



With the Maderal family



With the Ramirez family



With the Estrella family



Preaching in Ho-Chi Minh (HCM)

7 Jan 2010.

It was God's blessing when Bro. Bo Sanchez, despite his team's hectic schedule, agreed to meet all CFA families in Saigon. We had our meeting at Highlands Coffee near the Pastoral Center along Ton Duc Thang St. Their team had a mini concert at the Pastoral Auditorium afterwards. It was a very uplifting experience.

From the Journal of Carmela Joan Dizon Maderal



The Ramirez: Home away from home



Our children celebrated their birthdays (Sophiya last Nov.05 and Juliana last

Mom Sheila Dec.11) here in Vietnam for the first time. It was a very simple celebration but they really enjoyed it. We spent time with them. My husband took a leave of absence from the company to be with our children on their birthdays.

Activities

Sophiya and Juliana are still taking Catechism classes. They were not able to make it in the communion last December 11 because they need to finish the course for the book 2. Sophiya will be included on the third batch for the communicants. That will be on March this year. Juliana might be included also. The process here is different from Philippines.



I can say now that they really enjoy studying together. They share many ideas with each other. They are more talkative and more active in some

ways. We make sure that every Sunday we spend quality time with them. We play badminton together and always go for a walk in the park (near in our house). My husband takes time to do art activities with the kids. I enclosed here some picture of them during their badminton time and their art activities.



Camera Light Trick

Things you need: Camera with time exposure settings, tripod, flashlight.

1. Set your camera to the length of time you need to "write" in the dark. The WELCOME sign took about 45 seconds.
2. Firmly set the camera on a tripod.
3. When ready, click camera.
4. "Write" in the air using a lit flashlight. Light should be directed towards the camera. Turn it off before moving to the next letter. Turn it on again when ready to write the next. Wait till the camera shutter shuts before moving it.

You should be able to master the trick after several tries. Send your masterpieces to drekki@gmail.com. Happy shooting.

MAPE activities

Skye's Church Activities



Hospitality team St. Peter's Church



A Visit to the Retired Nuns in Shanghai



Making Christmas wreath out of garbage plastic bags and hangers

STEPHANIE KYLE A. DICHE, GRADE II

By mom Phynkee Diche

I asked Skye to create her own Belen for Christmas. Looking for materials, we thought of using her Barbie dolls, good thing we have one Ken doll for Joseph. So, she dressed them up, and drew the background to look like the Nativity scene. And we're all happy about the result. We also made a Christmas wreath out of a hanger and garbage plastic bags which we donated to the church to use as decorations during the Church Christmas Party.

Other Activities.

We joined Caritas' invitation to visit the retired nuns in Shanghai along with other kids from our parish. There, the children sang Christmas songs and they had a little chat with the nuns and they were very happy to have kids visit them.

Skye is now an official member of the Hospitality Team in our parish along with her sister. They were given their IDs after Skye's first communion. Some of her duties are to distribute Missalettes and songbooks before mass and collecting them after. Sometimes she will be asked to assist in the collection during the offertory. They are the youngest among the team. And she always attend the Children's Liturgy in-between her parish duties.

Christmas Activites



Skye's Belen

Dec. 13, 2009



Having fun doing artsrafts with fellow homeschool student, Colleen, at the church's Christmas party

Dec. 11, 2009



Skye declaiming "Guilty or Not Guilty" FIL_DWGS Christmas Party



Dec. 11, 2009

Father and daughters singing "Deck the halls"

Skye's Artworks



Modeling Clay



Rendering trees



Princess of the Stars



A gift for the newly wed



Skye's Shanghai Post Card



"The Light" Skye copying Dad's work :-)



Skye's First fish pet Orange Belis



A Christmas card done In MSPaint