

apostolic activity ... *pastoral, missionary, education, social*



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College Hostel for Boys was blessed and inaugurated by Fr. Michael Shanahan, ss.cc., with the auspicious presence of other priests, sisters, friends and well wishers. That evening was marked with the cultural programs starting from winners among the children from our colonies along with our SS.CC. family's dances and songs. We chose this day to encourage and recognise the little ones found in the colonies by giving them certificates and prizes. It was a great night that revived and brought our memories close to the community of Damien in *Kalaupapa* where the patients in jubilation sang and danced for the Queen of Hawaii on her visit to them. Damien Feast day celebration was a great success due to the great leadership of Fr. Subal Nayak, ss.cc., director of DSDI and the cooperation of staff and Hostel. ■.

Making God's Kingdom a Reality

SS.CC.'s Resurrection Parish-Bagong Silang, Philippines Celebrates First Year of Mission Presence

Harald Adler, ss.cc.

Bagong Silang is home to an estimated 800,000 souls, who until the arrival of the SS.CC. CIM Pastoral Team, were served by only four parishes. There are no public hospitals there, not a single bank nor street lights, in fact, no streets as we know them in the U.S. On May 15, SS.CC.'s celebrated the anniversary of their first year there. In this issue we include a brief review of the liturgical celebration. A fuller review of some of the highlights of this graced team's work will be featured next month.

Last Sunday, together with Fr. Pankras and the prenovices, I participated in the parish *Fiesta* at Resurrection Parish in Bagong Silang. Simultaneously, people celebrated the first anniversary of the Congregation's presence in their parish. The SS.CC. pastoral team—Frs. Martin and Patrick and three Sisters Javier, Patricia and Inez—began their service on May 15, 2003.

About 30,000 people belong to the parish but hardly more than 5% go to church regularly.

As usual at the Sunday evening Mass, there were many children in the church. The worship is opened by a children's dance group. On the steps of the altar, they perform partly vivacious, partly meditative, movements to rhythmic music expressing their joy in God, their thanks and their dedication.

In the solemn mass Fr. Martin O'Loghlen thanked the parishioners for their commitment during the past year, and he introduced four new catechists hired for the next year. The parishioners welcomed them with applause.

In the course of the evening I learned more about some noteworthy things that have already been accomplished, or are planned for the near future. In next month's article there will be a review of what has been accomplished at the parish during one year. ■

Father Martin O' Loghlen, ss.cc., (third from left) a member of the pastoral team at Resurrection Parish in Bagong Silang.

