

The Commissioning of St. Boniface's Statue



Way back in July of 2009, then Pastor Fr. Jorge Hernandez, OFM, brought up the idea of having a life size statue of St. Boniface as contribution of the Filipino group to the 150th anniversary of St. Boniface Church. The proposal was discussed and approved overwhelmingly by the board members and officers of the Filipino Community. Except for the fresco above in the church's ceiling, there is no other image of St. Boniface for veneration or remembrance, thus the need to have one created.

When the fund raising project was initiated in September 2009, a calamity of flooding had hit Manila and the northern provinces of the Philippines. Members and officers of the group saw the urgent need to help the flood victims. And just like everyone else, the present economic woes here at home are hitting members hard; furloughs, lay-offs, and an uncertain future. But in the midst of all these challenges, the group was able to raise funds for the flood victims in the Philippines and to cover for the statue's down-payment. To date, the group needs resources in the form of airline freight discounts and/or contributions to cover the cost of transporting the statue from the Philippines to San Francisco USA. This endeavor is vigorously pursued by Messengers Rowena Lawson, Paz Jardeleza, Cipriana Warbington and Aurora de Leon.

The Statue of St. Boniface will be 5 feet in height, entirely made of wood and will be created in the Philippines. The group has chosen the expert and patient hands of renowned Filipino sculptor Kid Baldemor. The statue of St. Boniface will be unveiled in June 2010 on the 150th anniversary and also in September 2010 for the San Lorenzo Ruiz Fiesta.

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DEDICATION

We, the Filipino Community, lovingly dedicate this beautiful statue of Saint Boniface to our beloved St. Boniface Church. We extend our deepest gratitude to St. Boniface Church for embracing us under its roof to worship our Lord Jesus Christ. Truly the Oasis of the Tenderloin, St. Boniface Church provides a compassionate and wonderful place of worship, where we celebrate our Filipino religious traditions. MABUHAY!