

Voices of Paghilom

Quarterly Newsletter of Program Paghilom



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MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER: 'PASKO NG PAGHILOM'



Dear Friends & Partners-in-Mission,
Isang Mapagpalayang 'Pasko ng Paghilom'!
Christmas is easily the favorite season of our dear EJK families. For them, it's a time for get-togethers, games, gifts, and joy. We hope they have joy, peace, and the comfort of having their loved ones near. It's the same thing we hope for you, our dear friends in the mission.

We take this time to reach out to you with our simple yet heartfelt greetings. You matter to us because we know that our Lord Jesus whose birth we celebrate this season sent you to us as companions on this journey of discovering the resilience and depth of the human spirit.



MEMBERS OF PROGRAM PAGHILOM RECEIVE FREE RICE EVERY MONTH AS PART OF PAGHILOM'S FOOD ASSISTANCE INITIATIVE. Nirva Delacruz

And we are so blessed to have you with us! On behalf of the 319 families of Program Paghilom, a million thanks from all of us. If we keep going, if we are brave, it's because you are always behind us. This blessed Christmas and New Year, may we receive fresh grace to continue in our pursuit of justice and healing!

Keeping you in our prayers,

Fr. Flavie L. Villanueva, SVD
Program Paghilom Founder/President



PAGHILOM FOUNDER WINS ATENEO'S 'BUKAS PALAD' AWARD

by Nirva Delacruz

Ateneo de Manila University recognized the groundbreaking work of Program Paghilom founder and president Fr. Flavie L. Villanueva, SVD by conferring on him the 'Bukas Palad' 2024 award on November 6, 2024. "I stand before you, not as someone better than you, more capable, more courageous or more holy than you, Thank you, Ateneo, for recognizing our work in the Foundation," said Fr. Flavie in his acceptance speech. The SVD priest was chosen "for championing the healing and rehabilitation of the families of victims of the extrajudicial killings brought on by the War on Drugs, as well as the poor, the oppressed, and the marginalized."

FR. FLAVIE L. VILLANUEVA, SVD IS HONORED WITH THE 'BUKAS PALAD' AWARD, WHICH IS SPECIFICALLY GIVEN TO MEMBERS OF THE RELIGIOUS/CLERGY WHO EMBODY THE IGNATIAN SPIRIT OF GENEROSITY.

Accompanying Fr. Flavie to accept the award were Netherlands Ambassador to the Philippines Marielle Geraedts; priest friends; dear cousins; and several members of Program Paghilom. Chosen by the university's board of trustees, 6 other luminaries received Traditional University Awards in other fields.

EU REP MEETS EJK FAMILIES, VISITS 'DAMBANA'

by Nirva Delacruz

On Oct. 28, 2024, European Union External Action Service (EEAS) Deputy Managing Director for Asia and the Pacific Ms. Paola Pampaloni, together with her cohort, dialogued with two widows and an orphan of Program Paghilom at the AJKFI main office. She was visibly moved upon hearing the accounts of how their loved ones were killed. After the quick meeting, she also proceeded to visit the first memorial site and



FR. FLAVIE L. VILLANUEVA, SVD (LEFT) EXPLAINS MORE ABOUT "DAMBANA NG PAGHILOM" TO MS. PAOLA PAMPALONI (RIGHT).

columbarium for drug war victims, the "Dambana ng Paghilom" at the La Loma Catholic Cemetery, Caloocan City. Ms. Pampaloni is the latest EU official to meet some of Paghilom's members in a desire to understand the issue of extra-judicial killings in the Philippines.

PAGHILOM PRESENTED AT HOUSE QUADCOMM, SENATE HEARING

by Nirva Delacruz

In a rare chance, Fr. Flavie L. Villanueva, SVD presented the mission and vision of Program Paghilom at the Senate blue ribbon committee starting on Oct. 28, 2024 and later on, at the House of Representatives Quad Committee. Submitting compelling evidence that the EJKs indeed happened as a direct result of former president Rodrigo Duterte's drug war, Fr. Flavie helped create a platform where grassroots testimonies about the killings could be heard.

Notably, Fr. Flavie also shared the "magic numbers" of Oplan Tokhang, which showed how 120 of Paghilom's loved ones had drug history, while 80 had none. There were also zero cases of "nanlaban" (fighting back/ resisting arrest).



FR. FLAVIE L. VILLANUEVA, SVD PRESENTS THE NAMES OF THE 329 EJK VICTIMS WHOSE FAMILY MEMBERS EVENTUALLY JOINED PROGRAM PAGHILOM, ON MONDAY, OCT. 28, 2024 AT THE SENATE BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE HEARING. **CTTO**

MEMORIAL MASS FOR EJK VICTIMS HELD

by Nirva Delacruz



167 PAGHILOM MEMBERS GATHER FOR A PRE-UNDAS MEMORIAL MASS ON OCT. 20, 2024 AT THE NOTRE DAME OF GREATER MANILA TO PRAY FOR THEIR LOVED ONES WHO DIED VIOLENTLY AND SUDDENLY DUTERTE'S DRUG WAR. **JL ORQUE**

MEMORIAL MASS FOR EJK VICTIMS HELD

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"Justice, reparation, & peace." These are the 3 things that the EJK families said they hope to receive, during the Paghilom Memorial Mass and General Assembly on Oct. 20, 2024 held at the Notre Dame of Greater Manila, Caloocan City.

Arnold Janssen Kalinga Foundation founder Fr. Flavie L. Villanueva, SVD & OMI JPIC Director Fr. Eduardo Vasquez, OMI concelebrated the holy Mass for the intentions of the families' dearly departed loved ones.

In his homily, Fr. Flavie quoted lines from the song "Palagi", reminding the 167 Paghilom members present that it is God's song to them, and that they are never alone.

MARIKINA-BASED EJK GROUP VISITS 'DAMBANA'

by Nirva Delacruz



YOUNG EJK VICTIMS, INCLUDING 1 PWD, VISIT THE "DAMBANA NG PAGHILOM" AT THE LA LOMA CATHOLIC CEMETERY FOR THE FIRST TIME. [TESSAM CASTILLO](#)

On Dec. 23, 2024, twelve (12) children who also lost loved ones in Duterte's drug war visited "Dambana ng Paghilom" for the first time. Paghilom founder Fr. Flavie Villanueva, SVD shared the journey of Program Paghilom with the Marikina-based group headed by Jojo Deles.

They had a picnic, prayed, and shared their thoughts with one another. One of the objectives of the 1st EJK memorial site in the country is to serve as a venue to educate the youth about the drug war and other cases of injustice in the country.



PAGHILOM FOUNDER FR. FLAVIE L. VILLANUEVA, SVD GIVES THE YOUNG EJK VICTIMS AN ORIENTATION ABOUT THE MISSION AND VISION OF PAGHILOM. [TESSAM CASTILLO](#)