



THE CORE



OLFADI AT 75: CELEBRATING A LEGACY OF FAITH, EXCELLENCE, AND SERVICE

For seventy-five years, Our Lady of Fatima Academy of Davao, Inc. (OLFADI) has been more than just an institution of learning—it has been a home where faith is nurtured, excellence is pursued, and service is lived out. The momentous day was graced by the presence of the school's previous administrators, former teachers, the composer of the OLFA hymn, and a host of alumni who carried with them cherished memories of their time at Our Lady of Fatima Academy. Their attendance added a deep sense of nostalgia and significance to the celebration. Joining with them were the students and dedicated school personnel...

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A JOYFUL BEGINNING

Andrea Balcom



On July 15, 2024, Our Lady of Fatima Academy of Davao, Inc. (OLFADI) joyfully opened its doors to welcome a new academic year. The first day was filled with excitement as students returned from their summer break, greeted warmly by teachers and staff. The lively atmosphere reflected the academy's commitment to creating a welcoming and nurturing environment.

This school year marked a significant chapter for OLFADI with the introduction of new leadership. Sister Ma. Lourdes B. Cao, RVM, took on the role of Directress/Principal, joined by three dedicated Sisters: Sister Ma. Socorro J. Valdehueva, RVM; Sister Ma. Oktaviani Sopo, RVM; and Sister Ma. Niña C. Balbas, RVM. Their presence brought renewed hope and a strong commitment to faith-based, holistic education.

More than just the start of classes, the first day symbolized new beginnings and boundless possibilities. Students entered their classrooms with curiosity and dreams, ready to grow intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually. As the year progressed, OLFADI remained a beacon of academic excellence and Catholic values in Davao City — shaping future leaders rooted in faith, service, and excellence.

NUTRITION MONTH & ACQUINTANCE PARTY

Shaureen Bolasco

On July 26, 2024, the school community came together with enthusiasm and excitement to celebrate Nutrition Day and Acquaintance Day. It was a day filled with meaningful activities that not only promoted healthy living but also encouraged students to build stronger bonds with one another.

As students established new friendships, they also deepened their understanding of a healthy lifestyle. Each class embraced the event with creativity and teamwork, sharing dishes that highlighted the importance of Go, Grow, and Glow foods. Some students engaged in fruit salad-making activities, thus learning about the benefits of fresh and nutritious ingredients.

The day's events served as a reminder that health and camaraderie go hand in hand. Nutrition Day and Acquaintance Day 2024 will surely remain a treasured experience, leaving a lasting impact on everyone who participated.





BUWAN NG WIKA

Joana Capuras

Ang Buwan ng Wika ay isang taunang pagdiriwang tuwing Agosto 1 hanggang 31 bilang pagkilala sa kahalagahan ng wikang Filipino sa paghubog ng ating pagkakakilanlan bilang isang bansa. Itinatag ito noong Hulyo 15, 1997, sa bisa ng Proklamasyon Blg. 1041 na nilagdaan ni dating Pangulong Fidel V. Ramos, na naglalayong itaguyod ang pagmamahal sa ating pambansang wika. Sa pamamagitan nito, binibigyang-diin ang wikang Filipino bilang tulay ng komunikasyon, pagkakaisa, at pagpapalaganap ng ating kultura at tradisyon. Ang pagdiriwang ay binubuo ng mga aktibidad tulad ng patimpalak sa pagtula, pagsulat, pag-awit, at pagpapakita ng sining at tradisyon na sumasalamin sa ating pagiging Pilipino. Higit sa lahat, layunin nitong palaganapin ang paggamit ng wikang Filipino at palalimin ang pag-unawa sa ating kasaysayan, kultura, at pagkakakilanlan. Sa bawat salitang binibigkas at isinusulat, pinalalaganap natin ang diwa ng pagiging Pilipino at ang mahalagang papel ng wikang Filipino sa ating buhay. Noong Agosto 2024 ay opisyal ng inilunsad ang Buwan ng Wika na may temang "Filipino: Wikang Mapagpalaya".

Sa ginanap na pagdiriwang ng Buwan ng Wika sa Our Lady of Fatima Academy of Davao, Inc., nagpakitang-gilas ang mga Igancian Marians sa iba't ibang patimpalak na nagpa-unlad sa kanilang talento at nagpatibay ng tiwala sa sarili. Sa tawag ng tanghalan, ipinamalas nila ang kanilang husay sa pagkanta ng mga OPM song, habang sa tagisan ng talino, ipinakita nila ang kaalaman sa kasaysayan, panitikan, at balarilang Filipino. Bukod dito, itinanghal din ang folkdance, kung saan ipinakita ang yaman at tradisyon at kultura ng Pilipinas sa pamamagitan ng mga sayaw na sumasalamin sa kasaysayan at kaugalian ng ating bayan. Tampok din ang lakan at lakambini na nagsuot ng makukulay na kasuotang Pilipino na sumisimbolo sa ating sining at pamana. Isang makulay na pista ang itinanghal ng mga mag-aaral na nagbigay-diin sa pagpapahalaga sa tradisyon, kultura, at kalayaan. Sa pagtatapos ng pagdiriwang, naalala ang kahalagahan ng wika bilang tagapagbuklod ng damdamin, saloobin, at adhikain ng mga Pilipino. Tunay ngang ang wika ay mapagpalaya at mahalagang bahagi ng ating pagkakakilanlan, kaya't tungkulin ng kabataan na ito'y gamitin, pagyamanin, at ipagmalaki bilang tanda ng ating pagkakaisa at pagmamahal sa sariling kultura.

Sa kabuuan, ang Buwan ng Wika ay higit pa sa isang pagdiriwang—ito ay isang paalala sa bawat Pilipino ng kahalagahan ng wikang Filipino bilang puso ng ating pagkakakilanlan at pagkakaisa. Sa pamamagitan ng paggamit, pagpapahalaga, at pagpapalaganap ng ating wika, pinananatili nating buhay ang ating kasaysayan, kultura, at tradisyon. Ito ang nagsisilbing tulay na nag-uugnay sa bawat isa sa kabila ng pagkakaiba-iba at nagpapatibay ng ating pagkakaisa bilang isang bansa. Higit sa lahat, ang wikang Filipino ay hindi lamang isang kasangkapan sa komunikasyon kundi isang sagisag ng ating pagiging Pilipino na dapat ipagmalaki, pagyamanin, at ingatan para sa susunod na henerasyon.



LEADING WITH PURPOSE: THE LEGACY OF THE 2024-2025 SEC

Angel Ohina

The Student Executive Council (SEC) for SY 2024-2025 continues the legacy of servant leadership—serving, leading, and inspiring with commitment and determination. Each day, they work to bring positive change, foster unity, and meet the needs of the student body, while organizing events that promote camaraderie and school spirit.

Under the guidance of Ms. Gerlie P. Arboladura, LPT the SEC moderator collaborated with the Prefect of Discipline, the SEC takes charge of daily duties—assisting in the morning assembly, checking uniforms, promoting discipline, ensuring cleanliness in school areas, and checking classrooms during dismissal. Their efforts extend beyond campus, assisting in masses and church activities, demonstrating their consistency and dedication.

The SEC also played vital roles in various school events such as Buwan ng Wika, Math and Science Month, United Nations Month, and Book Month. They showed environmental care through tree-planting and actively supported the school's 75th founding anniversary. Their leadership was further strengthened through training sessions, both as participants and facilitators, showcasing their growth and readiness to lead.

During the intramurals, one of the busiest events of the year, SEC officers led various student-centered activities—photo booths, karaoke, face painting, and more—while maintaining order and discipline throughout the school. Despite the demands, they displayed outstanding leadership and teamwork.

Through months of service, guided by Ms. Gerlie P. Arboladura, the SEC officers upheld their mission to serve with purpose and excellence. Their journey reflects the heart of true leadership; not to be served, but to serve.



NCAE: SUPPORTING FILIPINO STUDENTS FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Ricamelle Hermosa

In addition to August being language month, OLFADI also observed administering the National Career Assessment Exam (NCAE) to students in grade 10. A step forward to assist the young students in making career decisions. In the Philippines, high school students take an aptitude test called the National Career Assessment Examination (NCAE) to determine their career route and strengths.

The National Career Assessment Examination (NCAE) is a vital tool for Filipino students transitioning from junior high to senior high school. Designed for Grade 10 students, it assesses their aptitudes, interests, and talents, providing valuable insights to guide their academic and professional choices. NCAE offers much-needed clarity as students find themselves at a turning point in their educational career, where they must make critical decisions regarding academic programs and specialization. The test matches students' talents with suitable career alternatives by finding areas where they have aptitude, whether in academics, technical-vocational sectors, the arts, or entrepreneurship. In addition to encouraging better track selection in senior high school, this advice establishes the foundation for better college and career choices.

The NCAE helps define life goals and aspirations for students through support from peers, teachers, and the exam process. This group mentoring enhances awareness of job options and encourages serious contemplation of the future. Each test item reveals students' strengths and interests, reducing the likelihood of frequent course changes in college. By providing early direction, the NCAE enables students to make informed decisions aligned with their abilities, saving time, money, and energy.

Students can make well-informed decisions regarding their future education and careers with the NCAE's assistance. Additionally, it assists student's aptitude and occupational interests that align with their abilities and strengths. It evaluates the student's expertise in the areas of Academic Track, Occupational Interest Inventory (OII), and General Scholastic Aptitude (GSA). In order to support the national framework on career advising and for entry assessment to particular SHS tracks, the NCAE is administered by the Bureau of Education Assessment (BEA) on behalf of the Department of Education (DepEd). For the students who have already chosen their course of study, taking the NCAE simply strengthened their resolve to achieve their objectives.

MATH AND SCIENCE MONTH

Shaireen Bolasco

On September 27, 2024, OLFADI concluded the exciting month-long celebration of Math and Science Month. This event highlighted the importance of math and science in solving real-world problems and shaping the future.

Throughout the month, students participated in a variety of exciting activities, including Tree Planting initiatives that emphasized environmental stewardship, Cartesian Battleship Competitions that tested strategic thinking, and Math-Sci Jingle Contests that highlighted creativity and teamwork. Exhibit Fairs brought science and mathematics to life through interactive displays, while a Disaster Awareness Symposium educated participants on practical ways that these disciplines contribute to safety and preparedness.

The celebration was a fun and meaningful experience, inspiring students to explore the wonders of math and science while building skills and memories to last a lifetime. The enthusiasm of the students was evident as they eagerly embraced the challenges and opportunities offered by Math and Science Month. Each activity sparked curiosity, fostered collaboration, and inspired learners to see the practical applications of math and science in everyday life and beyond.



A LEGACY OF FAITH, EXCELLENCE, AND SERVICE

Jane Incierto

The Commemoration for the 276th Death Anniversary of Venerable Ignacia Del Espiritu Santo was held on September 10, 2024, at the Our Lady of Fatima Academy in Davao City. This meaningful celebration honored the enduring legacy of our beloved Mother Foundress, whose life of faith, excellence, and service continues to inspire and guide generations. With the theme "Embracing the Church Journey Towards Synodality in the Ignacian Way,"

As the Our Lady of Fatima Academy of Davao, Inc commemorates her death anniversary, the school held a holy Mass for her, where the students offer flowers, symbolizing deep devotion and love for Mother Ignacia Del Espiritu. Through this, it is showcased that her death is important to be celebrated, as it highlights a path towards holiness. Mother Ignacia's death is a symbol of love and perseverance in a world full of darkness and mystery.

The event highlighted the importance of walking together as one Church community—listening to one another, acting with compassion, and following the values deeply rooted in Ignacian spirituality. It served as a reminder that even in death, Mother Ignacia's mission lives on, calling everyone to embrace unity, humility, and a shared responsibility in building a loving and faithful society.



OATH OF LEADERSHIP: A NEW CHAPTER

Joemar Abarquez



LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Joemar Abarquez



Leadership isn't just about titles—it's about making a difference. This message echoed through OLFADI's Leadership Training program, a transformative experience designed to shape student leaders into confident and capable changemakers. Divided into morning and afternoon sessions, the training blended meaningful discussions, engaging activities, and reflective moments.

Three batches joined the program: SEC members and candidates on September 14, classroom officers (Grades 4-12) on October 19, and club officers on October 26. Morning sessions were held in classrooms and the AVR, while the afternoon team-building games energized the quadrangle.

The morning sessions focused on leadership fundamentals: goal-setting, planning, execution, evaluation, and ethical leadership. Participants also explored personal growth, leadership styles, and the values of an Ignacian Marian leader, inspired by Mother Ignacia. Role-specific sessions tackled the duties of SEC, classroom, and club officers, tailored to each group.

Afternoon team-building activities like Pingpong Catch, Traffic Jam, Pipeline, Three Wise Monkeys, and Helium Hoops fostered teamwork, communication, and problem-solving. A highlight was the time capsule activity, where students wrote down their hopes and dreams for the year, sealed to be revisited at the end of the school year. Certificates were awarded, but the real reward was the transformation: stronger communication, deeper leadership insight, and the confidence to inspire change. This year's Leadership Training proved that with guidance and heart, every student can lead and make a lasting impact one life at a time.

Within the celebration of the Holy Mass held at Our Lady of Fatima Parish, the newly elected officers of the Student Executive Council (SEC), Parent-Teacher Association Supreme Council (PTASC), and Homeroom Officer for school year 2024-2025 officially took their oath of office. Rev. Fr. Severino Capulong, Jr, DCD, with the whole academic community stood as witnesses as the parent and student leaders pledged to work collaboratively for the school community's growth and success.

The Parent-Teacher Association, led by its President, Mr. Marlou G. Abarquez, along with the other officers, vowed to enhance partnerships between parents and the school. Similarly, the Student Executive Council, under the leadership of the Chairperson Mr. Joemar Jay E. Abarquez and the officers, promised to uphold students' welfare and to lead initiatives fostering camaraderie and academic excellence. Each homeroom also introduced its set of officers, reinforcing shared accountability in promoting a productive and inclusive school environment.

This collective commitment from the SEC, PTA, and Homeroom Officers underscores the importance of teamwork in achieving the school's mission and vision. The celebration, grounded in faith and unity, reflected the dedication of all officers in building a supportive and thriving community for the school year ahead.



IGNACIAN MARIAN WEEK 2024: DEEPENING DEVOTION TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

 Jane Incierto

From September 9 to 13, 2024, Our Lady of Fatima Academy of Davao, Inc. joyfully celebrated Ignacian Marian Week, a sacred time dedicated to honoring the two spiritual mothers of the school, our Blessed Virgin Mary and Venerable Ignacia del Espiritu Santo and to deepen the school's devotion to them. The celebration provided an opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to reflect on Mary and Mother Ignacia's unwavering faith, humility, and obedience to God's will—virtues that continue to inspire generations of believers.


Throughout the week, a series of prayerful and creative activities deepened the community's Ignacian Marian spirituality. These included the Ignacian Marian Quiz Bee, essay and poem writing contests, and poster-making competitions. These events not only allowed students to express their artistic and intellectual talents, but also helped nurture a stronger understanding of Mary's role in the Catholic faith. While inspired by the Ignacian spirit, the focus remained on celebrating Mary and Mother Ignacia as a model of grace, love, and devotion.

The school's Ignacian Marian centered celebration created an atmosphere of unity, reverence, and renewal. In prayer, song, and reflection, the community honored Mary's example as the Mother of God and Mother Ignacia as our spiritual mothers, too. Students from various grade levels actively participated, showcasing their knowledge and appreciation of Marian values through their creative work and performances.

This meaningful week served as a reminder that devotion to Mary and Mother Ignacia is not only a tradition but a way of life rooted in faith and service. It called the entire school community to embrace their virtues with sincerity and joy. The celebration brought hearts closer to them, deepening the collective desire to live out their example in everyday life.
Mary and Mother Ignacia, pray for us



MANGROVE TREE PLANTING

 Ricamelle Hermosa

As part of the commemoration of the school's 75th founding anniversary, the school adopted tree planting as one of the activities dubbed as 75 Trees for 75 Years. The 75 trees are symbolic to the journey of the school for 75 years of making a difference not only in the community but in the environment as well.

This activity was participated in by the Young Environmentalists and Mathematicians Club, Mother Ignacia Club, and the Student Council officers of Our Lady of Fatima Academy specifically chose to involve the students in planting mangrove trees close to the shore on September 21, 2024, in Bucana, Davao City. With the unity of selected faculty members and selected students from the YEMC club and Student Council, the planting of Mangrove Trees was beyond successful as it was led by our directness / principal. The previously mentioned plant benefits us by reinforcing our coastlines and enhancing our chances for success against the nearing climate change. The benefits are as follows: Ecological Benefits, Coastal Protection, Economic Value, and Climate Change Mitigation.

Which is why, the whole selected OLFADI faculty members and aforementioned club members helped in cleaning up the plastic polluted coastline of Bucana to lessen the quantity of plastics that float around the shore — an obstacle for the mangrove trees to grow properly. In summary, mangrove trees are vital to our existence because they act as both a barrier against the consequences of climate change and a weapon against it. In which, OLFADI boldly acted upon. Because it is up to us to initiate and take action in order to safeguard the present and shed light on the future. And with the celebration of the 75th anniversary of OLFADI's founding, the planting of Mangrove Trees marks the beginning of a new tomorrow with its foundation rooted with resilience of Faith, Excellence and Service.



(Video Montage)



At the Regional DTI Quiz Bowl in Region XI, the team continued to perform with excellence, placing 9th out of 18 participating schools. This commendable finish highlighted their perseverance and strong grasp of consumer advocacy, despite facing stiff competition and limited preparation time.

Coach Desirrie Lepasana expressed her heartfelt pride and gratitude, saying, "Thank you so much for accepting this challenging opportunity. It was never an easy journey, but I know you gave your best." She acknowledged the team's achievement as a result of collaboration, commitment, resilience, and faith—qualities that truly represent the values of an Ignacian Marian.

One of the team members, Cian Alexi Fondevilla, reflected on the experience, sharing the emotional and mental demands of balancing academic responsibilities with competition preparation. He noted that OLFADI's tradition of excellence added pressure, but also motivated them to push forward. Despite limited study time, he expressed immense gratitude for the opportunity to represent the school. The regional competition, while nerve-wracking, reinforced his self-confidence and trust in his abilities.

Indeed, the team embodied the spirit of an Ignacian Marian—striving not just for awards but for excellence rooted in values, hard work, and faith. Their achievement is a proud moment for the entire school community. With the unwavering support of the administration and their coach, the students were inspired to give their best and rise to the challenge.

The DTI Quiz Bowl was more than just a test of intellect—it fostered a deeper understanding of trade, industry, and consumer rights, empowering the youth to become informed and responsible citizens. The success of the OLFADI team proves that excellence is not solely an individual pursuit, but a product of teamwork, dedication, and a shared vision of service and integrity.

DTI QUIZBOWL 2024

Xandra Suan

Ignacian Marians exemplified their pursuit of excellence by actively participating in the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Quiz Bowl, held on October 5, 2024 at the local level and October 28, 2024 at the regional level. These competitions were part of the Consumer Welfare Month (CWM) celebration, which is observed annually by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 1098, s. 1997, to promote consumer welfare and protection in the Philippines.

The DTI, a government agency dedicated to safeguarding consumer rights and welfare, spearheaded this month-long initiative, which featured a variety of events aimed at enhancing consumer education and protection. Among the highlights was the DTI Quiz Bowl—an engaging platform that encouraged young minds to participate in meaningful discussions about consumer rights and responsibilities, aligned with the theme: "Be Smart, Assert Your Consumer Rights."

Representing Our Lady of Fatima Academy of Davao Inc. (OLFADI) in the competition were Grade 9 students Alexia Blythe Flores and Dennis Caberos Jr., and Grade 10 student Cian Alexi Fondevilla, under the guidance of their supportive coach, Ms. Desirrie Lepasana. Competing against 20 schools at the local level, the team demonstrated remarkable knowledge and dedication, securing the 1st Runner-Up title and earning their spot at the Regional Level.



DISTRICT SCI-TECH EXPO 2024

The District Sci-Tech Expo 2024 brought together bright young minds from across the district to engage in a wide range of science and technology-related events and competitions. Our school was honored to be among the invited participants and proudly took part in the highly anticipated Science Quiz Bee. The event was participated by our learners from different levels, representing our school in the Elementary Category were Keifer Dane Borbon, Iah Szabrina Sobiaco, and Kryztof Dane Borbon, under the guidance of their dedicated coach, Ms. Junalyn Atuel, LPT. In the Junior High School Category, our participants Dennis Caberos Jr., Casey Drake Micalat, and Shaireen Faye Bolasco, with the mentorship of Ms. Maria Teresa Perias, LPT. Meanwhile, our Senior High School representatives, Vharick Jaire, Angel Grace Ohina, and Joemar Jay Abarquez, guided by their committed coach, Mr. John Kyle Moises, LPT.

The elementary participants finished fourth in their category, the Junior and Senior High School Teams secured eight and second place respectively. Guided by their dedicated coaches and supported by the school community, each participant exemplified the values of Faith, Excellence, and Service. Their performance reflected not only academic achievement but also the character and spirit that define Our Lady of Fatima Academy, making the entire school community proud.

Sophia Bolasco

INTER-HIGHSCHOOL STATISTICS QUIZBOWL

Xandra Suan

With honor and pride, our Ignacian Marians set the pace in participating in the prestigious Inter-High School Statistics Quiz Bowl on November 22, 2024, held at UP Mindanao. Organized by the Society of Math Majors, this event occurs once every semester and brings together students from both private and public schools. Its goal is to showcase the data-driven minds and statistical enthusiasts among Senior High School students, helping to sharpen their skills and fuel their passion for mathematics. This was the school's first-ever participation in this event, and without a doubt, Our Lady of Fatima Academy Davao Inc. seized the opportunity to set young minds to reach their full potential. Representing our school with their immense brilliance and dedication were Grade 12- MGC student Ms. Antonette Pagaran and Grade 11- MOC student Mr. Cedric John Bandojo, guided by their exceptional coach, Ms. Leah Ruales, LPT. Competing against 22 schools and their brightest minds, our participants displayed remarkable skill and determination, ultimately securing a spot in the Top 9." The incredible journey showcases what an Ignacian Marian is truly capable of achieving.

Ms. Leah Ruales, the proud coach of the Statistics Quiz Bowl team, shared that the preparation for the competition was both challenging and intense, especially with the limited time they had. Despite the tight schedule, she made the most of their brief meetings by creating questions and worksheets to help the participants review and sharpen their skills. When the day of the competition arrived, excitement filled her heart, returning to the familiar thrill of the contest brought back a sense of pride and purpose. After all, she had always looked forward to competitions. They proudly secured a spot in the top 10, filling Ms. Ruales with immense pride. But before that moment, she admitted feeling nervous, knowing how determined the team was to not let the school down. Thankfully, their hard work paid off, and earning a place among the top 10 made the challenges all worth it. Furthermore, the participants shared their experiences from their statistical quiz journey. Mr. Cedric John Bandojo encountered difficulties in preparing for the event. According to him, he struggled with unfamiliar topics, and the questions seemed daunting. However, with the help of Ma'am Leah Ruales, their coach, everything became more manageable. During the event, he felt immense pressure due to the large number of competing schools. He wasn't even sure about his answers, but with the assistance of his partner, they managed to reach the top 9, which brought him a sense of relief. Ms. Antonette Pagaran shared her heartfelt testament, expressing how she remained calm and composed throughout the preparation process, describing it as "just chill." However, when the event finally arrived, she admitted that she felt anxious. Despite this, her joy and excitement far outweighed her nervousness. For her, it was an unforgettable experience, one filled with new learnings and personal growth.

Indeed, their participation highlights their passion for mathematics and their dedication to representing our school. With the support of the school administrators, the guidance of their coach, and, most importantly, their own tireless efforts, they reached the top despite the challenges they faced. Their resilience truly shone through. The milestone they achieved fills our Ignacian Marian community with immense pride and admiration, reminding us all of the power of perseverance, teamwork, and a deep love for learning.

PHOTO TAKEN BY:
SOCIETY OF MATH MAJORS - UP
MINDANAO



TAWAG NG TANGHALAN SA FATIMA: YEAR 2

Sophia Bolasco

In line with the celebration of the Feast Day of Our Lady of Fatima, the Our Lady of Fatima Parish joyfully organized a singing competition, bringing together the representatives from various GKK Zones under its care as its participants. The school was honored to receive an invitation to participate in the event, with Ms. Jayza Tampos, one of our dedicated teachers, proudly chosen to represent the institution. On October 06, 2024, the second year of the Tawag ng Tanghalan sa Fatima was held at the walls of our school. The quadrangle came alive with vibrant energy as joyful and supportive audiences gathered to witness a celebration of music, faith, and community spirit. The participants showcased their incredible and God-given talent in singing and the stories of their lives served as an inspiration to their audiences.

Tawag ng Tanghalan sa Fatima is not merely a competition of who is best, rather it is a time and opportunity to come together as one community to give gratitude to the Lord for these given talents. It was a heartfelt expression of unity, gratitude, and love for Our Blessed Mother Mary. Events like this remind us that together we create a stronger and united Church. Let us continue to honor Mary and joyfully fulfill her call through faith, excellence, and a spirit of service.



EMBRACING THE CULTURE OF PEACE AND UNITY: CELEBRATING UNITED NATIONS MONTH AS ONE

Elisha Tan

October 2024 served as a month where the students, faculty and staff of the Our Lady of Fatima Academy of Davao, Inc. celebrated the United Nations Month to appreciate and promote the values of diversity, equality, peace, and human rights and to commemorate the anniversary of the United Nations. The United Nations focuses on its major role to promote world peace and security, strengthening cooperation among many nations, and advocating for human rights. Alongside the celebration of the United Nations month, OLFADI also celebrated the National Indigenous Peoples Month to give tribute, recognize, and protect the rights of various indigenous cultural communities of the country. With the theme "Cultivating Culture of Peace", the celebration was officially launched on the 8th of October 2024 as this aimed to raise awareness to all, specifically the students, about the societal issues we face in today's time, to make one appreciate the beauty and uniqueness of various heritages and cultures of all countries around the world, and to enhance one's cooperation, camaraderie, and fellowship.

This month-long celebration included various activities where many students are engaged in, such as the OLFADI Tours Around the World, OLFADI Walking Through the Indigenous People, and Landmarks of the World, which features the craftsmanship, creativity, and attention-to-detail of every class that participated on it. Other activities of the event, namely the Debate, Spoken Poetry, Tiktoknation 2024, Online Infographics, Documentary Film, and the search for the school's Peace Ambassador 2024, showed the student's strive for excellence as they expressed their interest and knowledge about the history, idea, and culture of the United Nations in relation to modern experiences and events. Several engaging events took place, including the OLFADI Tours Around the World for Senior Kinder to 9th Grade students, who created exhibits representing their assigned countries. The OLFADI Walking Through the Indigenous People involved Grades 10 to 12, showcasing the history and crafts of indigenous cultures through creative exhibits. Additionally, Grades 3 to 9 crafted outputs symbolizing global landmarks. Initial judging occurred on October 18, 2024, with final judging on October 17, 2024.

On October 31st of 2024, the culmination of the month-long commemorative event served as a grand finale for the United Nations Month of 2024 as it mainly featured an awarding session to each participant who placed and won in every activity, headed by Mr. Danilo O. Mahusay, the Makabayan coordinator. Intermission numbers were later presented from selected students, and opening and closing remarks were given out by the event facilitators, the Makabayan Teachers.

Though unlike the previous year, with all the colorful and festive national costumes that represented the various countries under the UN, the Ignacian Marians never failed to represent these countries merely through recognizing them with their active participation and determination. Together with the event facilitators' hard work and efforts, the event turned out successfully, which enabled every participating individual gain understanding of the history, purpose, and structure of the United Nations, and to emphasize citizenship, cultural identity, and social responsibility. This truly showed how the Ignacian Marians value the promotion of world peace and justification of human rights with the burning passion for excellence and service.



One Million Children Praying the Holy Rosary

Andrea Balcom

October holds a special place in the hearts of Catholics around the world as it is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, a prayerful devotion that draws us closer to the Blessed Virgin Mary and her son, Jesus Christ. This month is not only a time for deep reflection but also an opportunity for communities to unite in faith and prayer. It is a period marked by meaningful activities that celebrate the power of the Rosary and its role in fostering peace, hope, and spiritual growth.



At Our Lady of Fatima Academy, October is celebrated with great enthusiasm and purpose. One of the most significant events during this month is the school's participation in "One Million Children Praying the Rosary," a global initiative inspired by Saint Padre Pio's words: "When a million children pray the Rosary, the world will change." On this day, students from all grade levels come together to pray as one community. The mysteries of the Rosary are prayed with specific intentions for world peace, healing, and blessings for families and communities. This collective act of faith not only strengthens individual spirituality but also fosters a sense of unity among students and faculty. In addition to prayer, October at Our Lady of Fatima Academy is filled with activities that highlight the importance of the Rosary. Creative projects such as art contests, essay writing competitions, and processions allow students to express their faith in unique ways. The Feast Day of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7th is celebrated with a special mass that honors Mary's role as an intercessor and mother to all. These activities not only deepen students' understanding of their faith but also create lasting memories that strengthen their connection to their school community.

The celebration of Rosary Month also emphasizes the human aspect of prayer. It reminds the students that prayer is not just a ritual but a heartfelt conversation with God. Through these communal acts of devotion, students learn that their prayers hold power not just for themselves but for others as well. They come to understand that they are part of something larger than themselves, a global family united by faith.

TURNING PAGES, OPENING MINDS: OLFADI'S BOOK MONTH CELEBRATION

November is a month that opens the door to endless possibilities, where the magic of reading takes center stage. At Our Lady of Fatima Academy of Davao Inc., this month is dedicated to celebrating Book Month, a time when students are encouraged to delve into new worlds, explore untold stories, and expand their horizons through the power of books. It is a month filled with excitement and creativity, as students bring the pages of their favorite books to life and discover the transformative power of literature. One of the highlights of Book Month is the variety of events and competitions designed to showcase students' talents in art, performance, and literature. Activities such as poster-making contests, bulletin board decorations, quiz bees, and storytelling sessions provide opportunities for students to express their creativity while deepening their appreciation for books. Also, Students from other grade levels also showcased their creativity by portraying various characters in unique and imaginative ways, bringing each role to life through expressive costumes, thoughtful interpretations, and engaging performances. These events not only emphasize the importance of reading but also encourage collaboration and camaraderie among the students as they work together to bring their ideas to life.



The poster-making competition allows students to visually interpret their favorite stories or themes from books, turning their artistic visions into vibrant masterpieces. Bulletin board decoration contests transform classrooms into literary wonderlands, with students creatively displaying quotes, images, and themes from beloved books. Quiz bees challenge students' knowledge of literature while fostering a sense of friendly competition. These activities ensure that every student has a chance to shine while connecting their talents to the world of books. Beyond competitions, Book Month also includes interactive events that make reading even more engaging. Read-aloud sessions bring stories to life as teachers and students take turns narrating tales that captivate their audience. Book swaps encourage students to share their favorite reads with classmates, promoting a culture of sharing and discovery. Storytelling performances where students step into the shoes of characters they admire, showcasing their acting skills while bringing stories off the page and into reality.

What makes November's Book Month truly magical is how it brings the school community together in a shared love for literature. It's not just about reading, it's about connecting with others through stories that inspire empathy, understanding, and curiosity. The joy on students' faces as they dive into new books or present their creative works is a testament to the impact that reading has on their lives.

Jane Incierto

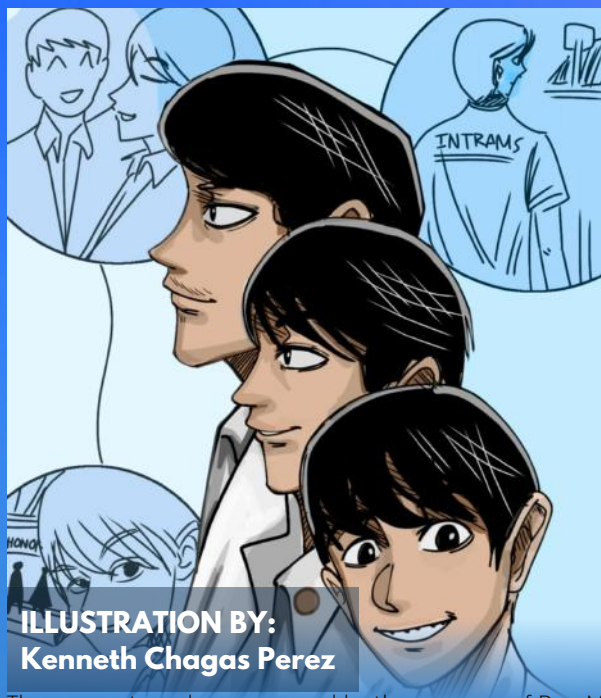


ILLUSTRATION BY:
Kenneth Chagas Perez



ILLUSTRATION BY:
Elisha Tan

OLFADI AT 75: HONORING THE PAST, EMBRACING NEW HORIZONS

Xandra Suan

The momentous day was graced by the presence of Rev. M. Ma. Rosabell R. Gallo, the Superior General of the RVM Congregation, previous Administrators of the school, RVM Sisters, former teachers, the composer of the OLFA hymn, a host of alumni, and invited guests who carried with them cherished memories of their time at Our Lady of Fatima Academy. Their attendance added a deep sense of nostalgia and significance to the celebration. Joining with them were the students and dedicated school personnel. The day began with a solemn and spirited Holy Mass, presided over by His Excellency, Most Rev. Romulo Valles, D.D.- the Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Davao. The Eucharistic celebration set the tone for the day, offering gratitude for 75 years of blessings, growth, and service. Following the Mass, attendees were captivated by a heartfelt video tribute that vividly brought to life the school's remarkable journey. The presentation highlighted OLFADI's rich history, significant milestones, notable achievements, and enduring legacy of faith, service, and excellence. It was a significant reminder of the academy's profound impact. Nurturing dreams, honing talents, and deeply instilling values. For Our Lady of Fatima will forever be, and will always be, the heart of a brighter future.

SCAN ME



(Video Montage)

In gratitude and deep appreciation for the pillars of the school, a Plaque of Appreciation was presented to those who played a pivotal role in shaping the school's legacy. The Our Lady of Fatima Parish and The school expressed deep gratitude to the University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC) for the unwavering support from the humble beginnings of ICC-Piapi School (former name of OLFADI) to its journey towards an independent and self-reliant RVM school. In addition, a tribute was given to the previous administrators who made lasting contributions to the school. Also, the school recognized two of its former students, Mrs. Merliata Encabo and Mrs. Gemma Jervoso Wiebe, who shared the impact of their Ignacian Marian formation not only to their personal life but to the opportunities they are given in serving the community where they are now. Lastly, a special recognition was given to Mr. Rolando Acuna (just put the correct surname), the composer of the OLFA hymn, which continues to echo the Ignacian Marian/ Fatimian unwavering loyalty.

Quoting from the words of S. Ma. Lourdes B. Cao, RVM, the present Directress/ Principal; "As we celebrate our past and rejoice in our present, we look forward with eager eyes to the future. Moving forward, we pray that God may continue to make His love known among us and always give us zeal for mission. May our Blessed Mother Mary, the Our Lady of Fatima and Mother Ignacia del Espiritu Santo continue to guide us as we share in the mission of Jesus. We commit continue to make Our Lady of Fatima Academy a blessing to those we serve and to those we work with. May God always embolden us to move forward with strength toward what lies ahead."

It was truly a momentous occasion, honoring the humble beginnings of the past while celebrating the pillars who have shaped the school's journey. As we step into this new horizon, we are much more united by a stronger bond, united with love and purpose. People may come and people may go, but the values instilled in each of us remain unwavering. This celebration stands as a remarkable testament that education is guided by faith, service, and excellence. The vision of the school will endure, nurturing dreams, honing talents, and deeply instilling values. For Our Lady of Fatima will forever be, and will always be, the heart of a brighter future.

As the calendar marked another memorable school year, the Davao Association of Catholic Schools (DACS) Season 61, held on November 23, 2024, stood as a beacon of unity, competition, and camaraderie among Catholic educational institutions. Guided by its theme, "DACS Culture and Sports (Season 61): Encounter, Formation, Fraternity," this annual event was more than just a showcase of talent, it was a powerful platform for students to express their abilities, celebrate their culture, and strengthen the bonds that unite them. The DACS Sportsfest has always been an avenue for young individuals to unleash their potential, while also embodying the true spirit of sportsmanship and solidarity. Through dynamic events and vibrant competitions, it creates lasting memories, builds friendships, and fosters school pride.



DACS SZN 61: PASSION AND EXCELLENCE IN SPORTS AND CULTURE

Our Lady of Fatima Academy, Inc. proudly took part in the much-anticipated DACS Season 61, a celebration of faith, culture, and sportsmanship among various academic institutions. The event opened with a solemn and meaningful celebration of the Holy Mass presided over by Fr. Russel A. Bantiles, setting a reflective and hopeful tone for the festivities to follow. After the Mass, students from participating schools gathered for a vibrant and colorful opening parade, showcasing their pride, spirit, and unity. It was a powerful display of camaraderie, as each institution set out to leave their mark on this year's season. The day continued with a series of cultural events, where the Ignacian Marians represented the academy with pride and excellence. Among the highlights was the Battle of the Bands, expertly coached by Mr. John Kyle Moises. The talented lineup featured Heartace Cayetano (singer), Claudette Notarte (singer), John Lex Badang (bass), Christian Albieso (electric guitar), Zayrin (singer), Raven (electric guitar), and Luiz P. Garao (drummer). Their electrifying performance was a testament to the school's vibrant musical talent. This was followed by a captivating vocal solo performed by Juliana Llanto, and a soulful vocal duet by Claudette Notarte and Heartae Vill Cayetano, showcasing their powerful vocal talents. One of the most anticipated parts of the cultural showcase was the folk dance competition, led by coach Ms. Mary Jane Bacalla and assistant trainer Ms. Jayza Tampos. With elegance and precision, the team performed the traditional dance "Hoy Alibangbang," led by dance captain Sophia Julia Bolasco, along with eleven other graceful Ignacian Marians. Their performance brought pride and admiration to the school, celebrating both tradition and artistry.



SCAN ME



(IMFOCUS Episode 2)

Following the cultural events, the Ignacian Marians continued to shine in the sports competitions, demonstrating not only their skills but also commendable sportsmanship and team spirit. The basketball team, coached by Mr. Rodolfo Castillon and led by team captain Johnwayne Policarpio, displayed strength and determination inside the court. The volleyball teams, coached by Ms. Desirrie Lepasana and Ms. Shaina Yana, showed passion and grit, putting up fair and competitive matches against their opponents. The school's taekwondo athletes, under the guidance of their Coach Mr. Clesther Jay Duhig, and the badminton team, trained by Ms. Mary Jane Bacalla, also participated with enthusiasm and drive. Throughout the entire event, Our Lady of Fatima Academy, Inc. stood tall, proving that excellence is not just about winning, but also about unity, passion, and heart. From the literary event to the athletic arena, the Ignacian Marians left a lasting impression in DACS Season 61.

True to its purpose, the DACS Sportsfest is a great initiative that unites Catholic schools and to show showcase the talents and skills of students. In every performance and competition, the Ignacian Marians carried with them the core values that define Our Lady of Fatima Academy: faith, excellence, and service. Their dedication during practices and training, along with the unwavering support of their coaches, played a vital role in their journey. Their participation in DACS Season 61 was more than just a display of skill and talent; it was a true reflection of the character and spirit the school instills in each student. They did not only compete, they served as living witnesses of what it means to be an Ignacian Marian, taking pride in their school and shining as beacons of unity, passion, and purpose.



Cian Fondevilla, Sophia Bolasco, & Xandra Suan





On Sunday, December 1, 2024, the schoolyard buzzed with excitement as students, parents, and teachers came together for the much-anticipated annual Family Fun Day. The event began with a celebration of the Mass, setting the tone for a day filled with connection, joy, and community spirit.

The school grounds were beautifully decorated with balloons and banners, creating a festive atmosphere. Families enjoyed a wide variety of activities, including fun games which truly evoke the essence of family and togetherness. There were also music performances, and lively dances that kept the energy high throughout the day.

The day was filled with games, sports, foods, and they even played raffles, featuring prizes. When the lucky winners were announced, cheers and applause filled the air, creating unforgettable moments of joy. It was a perfect chance for families to spend quality time together outside of the usual school routine. Sharing meals was another highlight, as families gathered around to enjoy delicious food, fostering a sense of camaraderie.

Family Fun Day 2024 was truly a celebration of togetherness, filled with laughter, bonding, and cherished memories. It served as a beautiful reminder of the strong connection between the school and its community.

FAMILY FUN DAY

Ricamelle Hermosa, Shaireen Bolasco, Prince Decenteceo, & Ivory Calamba

SIGLAKAS 2024: BUILDING BONDS, CREATING CHAMPIONS - 75 YEARS STRONG

Joemar Abarquez, Joana Capuras, & Angel Ohina



SigLakas 2024 officially opened on December 16, launching a vibrant three-day celebration in honor of Our Lady of Fatima Academy of Davao, Inc.'s 75th Founding Anniversary. With the theme "Building Bonds, Creating Champions," the event brought together students, faculty, and staff in the true spirit of friendly competition and community.

Even before the opening ceremony, excitement was already building. Preliminary matches began as early as December 6, featuring a wide range of games such as Dart, Tetris, Roblox, Basketball, Rubik's Cube, Bingo, and board games like Scrabble, Snakes and Ladders, Damath, Word Factory, and Chess. Highly anticipated Volleyball and Badminton matches followed on December 14, keeping the momentum alive.

Adding flair and creativity, the Ambassador and Ambassadors competition kicked off on December 4 with the School Uniform Attire segment focused on service, followed by the Sports Attire on December 6 centered on excellence. Contestants from the Little, Young, and Senior brackets embraced the spotlight, with the upcoming Creative Jeans segment tied to the literary competition promising even more excitement.



The Intramurals 2024 Opening Day began with a prayer led by the Campus Ministry, followed by a colorful parade featuring the Entry of Colors, the OLFADI Marching Band, and students from Kindergarten to Grade 12. At the school quadrangle, the opening program was hosted by Ms. Gerlie Arboladura and Ms. Jenny Pearl Solomon, with Mr. Rodolfo Jr. Castillon facilitating the torch-lighting ceremony by Mr. Clesther Jay Duhig and team captains. Other key moments included the Pledge of Sportsmanship by SEC Chairperson Joemar Jay E. Abarquez, and the official declaration of the Intramurals by S. Ma. Niña Balbas, RVM. The day continued with Field Demonstrations, the Cheerdance Competition, and a festive Unity Dance led by the SEC, featuring trending TikTok routines.

Throughout the day, a variety of competitions kept the energy high. Volleyball matches, though briefly delayed by rain, brought intensity to the Open Court. Simultaneously, Bracket B students engaged in E-Games like Fall Guys in the Computer Lab, while the Sports Quiz Bee in the AVR and Board Games in the Library challenged participants' skills. The Playground hosted fast-paced Table Tennis matches, and traditional Larong Lahi added nostalgic fun around the campus. Students also enjoyed SEC booths like Photo Booth, Face Paint, Karaoke, and Music Requests, creating a lively atmosphere.

On December 17, the excitement continued with Bracket A and B competitions. Kinder to Grade 6 students competed in categories such as Little and Young Ambassador and Ambassadors, Vocal Solo and Duet, and Pop Dance. Performances were heartfelt and lively, with the Creative Jeans theme and faith as a central topic in the Q&A portion. Bracket C and D students resumed their sports and E-Games, and the SEC's Unity Dance again united the school in celebration. Booth activities provided welcome breaks from the intensity of the competitions.



The afternoon shifted focus to Bracket C and D as they took the spotlight in the Mr. and Ms. Ambassador and Ambassadors, Vocal Solo and Duet, Pop Dance, and the thrilling Battle of the Bands. The performances reflected not only talent but also confidence and teamwork, culminating in another Unity Dance and an inspiring close to the day.

The final day, December 18, was a fitting conclusion. The SEC booths were in full swing, with Karaoke and Face Paint being student favorites. Friendly Basketball and Volleyball matches among alumni, teachers, and students added to the festive spirit. The day wrapped up with the Awarding of Winners across all brackets:

- Bracket A Champion: Grade 2 Lemon Yellow Hornets
- Bracket B Champion: Grade 4 Mighty Green Dragons
- Bracket C Champion: Green Majestic Stags
- Bracket D Champion: Grade 12 Blazing Maroon Dragons

The awards were presented by Directress Principal S. Ma. Lourdes B. Cao, RVM, making the moment even more special.

Siglakas 2024 brought the campus to life with excitement, talent, and school spirit. Beyond winning medals, it was a celebration of teamwork, unity, and shared joy. The memories created—whether through competitions, dances, or fun-filled booth activities—will remain etched in the hearts of everyone. The bonds forged and the champions celebrated truly reflected the values of the Ignacian Marian spirit, inspiring the whole school community to keep striving together as one.



Our Lady of Fatima Academy of Davao, Inc. partners with an International Organization

S. Ma Lourdes B. Cao, RVM



Impelled by the desire to form Ignacian Marians as global citizens who are flexible and can adapt to the realities of where they are, the school has established a partnership with With the World, Inc. (WWI) which is a private company duly registered in Japan. The partnership was officially signed by Shunta Igarashi, the President and Director of WWI and S. Ma. Lourdes B. Cao, RVM, Directress/Principal of Our Lady of Fatima Academy of Davao, Inc. WWI organizes "World Online Discussion Program" where students of OLFADI are provided with opportunities to participate in online discussions with partner students in Japan and other countries. The aim of this program is to promote language exchange while boosting awareness for international and local issues. This global partnership for intercultural exchange contributes significantly to the mutual understanding, development of education and personal growth of students.

A number of sessions were participated in by some students from the Junior and Senior High School last February and March 2025. The participation of the students was greatly appreciated as expressed by Ms. Ayu, one of the organizers, "We really appreciate all your support to our program. Our Japanese students really enjoyed to talk with your students, and we, as staff also having great time when talking with them. They are so lovely!".

SACRED PAUSES: THE GRADE 10 AND 12 RETREATS AT ST. BENEDICT RETREAT HOUSE, DIGOS CITY

 : Shaireen Bolasco

This February, Grade 10 and Grade 12 students embarked on two separate yet equally meaningful retreats at St. Benedict retreat house. The students had treasured moments of pause, reflection and deep encounter with God in the midst of their busy academic lives.


For Grade 10, it was a time to reflect on their junior high journey and prepare for the next chapter. Surrounded by the peaceful environment of the monastery, students engaged in sharing sessions, silent reflection, and the emotional Letter-Giving activity. It reminded them that growth begins with self-awareness and that no one is ever truly alone.

Meanwhile, the Grade 12 retreat carried a deeper sense of emotion, filled with gratitude, closure, and courage to face the future. As they prepare to leave high school behind, seniors exchanged heartfelt messages and memories they'll carry with them long after graduation. It allowed them to connect more deeply with themselves, with one another, and with the experiences that give them inspiration to move forward in life.

Though held separately, both retreats became powerful turning points offering silence, strength, and a renewed sense of purpose for every student who walked those sacred grounds.



DANCING INTO NEW MEMORIES

 : Shaireen Bolasco



The evening of Socialization Night 2025 was truly a wonderful experience for the Grade 10 students. It was a night that beautifully blended elegance, nostalgia, and dreams for the future. The event began with the reading of the Class History, taking everyone on a heartfelt journey through the memories, milestones, and shared laughter that shaped the class. This was followed by the inspiring Class Prophecy, where students were given a glimpse of imagined futures filled with ambition, purpose, and success, a reminder of the potential each student holds.

One of the most unforgettable highlights of the night was the graceful cotillion dance. Dressed in formal attire, the students danced in harmony, showcasing their growth, confidence, and unity as a batch. It was a moment that reflected both tradition and transformation.

As the night continued with smiles, conversations, and photos, it became clear that this wasn't just a program, but a celebration of friendships, memories, and the journey of being Grade 10 students. Truly, it was a night to remember.





CATHOLIC PERSONNEL'S DAY: HONORING OLFADI HEROES

Joemar Abarquez

Two weeks before the much-awaited Catholic Personnel's Day, a wave of excitement quietly stirred within the halls of OLFADI. Led by the ever-dedicated Student Executive Council (SEC) Chairperson Mr. Joemar Jay Abarquez, a series of meetings began to take shape which each one filled with plans, ideas, and heartfelt discussions. Under the guidance of Mrs. Gerlie Arbuladora, the school's Student Activity Coordinator (SAC), the SEC distributed tasks and responsibilities to each member, ensuring that no detail was overlooked in preparing for the special day. A week before the event, the school launched the highly anticipated Sham Government. Through this, students had the chance to apply for faculty and administrative roles by getting application forms from the Guidance Office. It wasn't just a fun activity, it was a meaningful opportunity for students to experience leadership firsthand. Interviews for certain roles followed soon after, helping finalize the lineup of student leaders who would temporarily step into the shoes of their beloved teachers and staff.

January 30, 2025, finally arrived, Catholic Personnel's Day, a celebration in honor of the hardworking individuals behind OLFADI's day to day success, and a tribute to the feast of St. Thomas Aquinas, the patron saint of scholars and universities. The morning started with a unique twist. While classes continued as usual, it was the Sham Government who took charge. Students who were selected for various roles such as faculty, administrators, and coordinators diligently performed their duties. Laughter and learning filled the air, as many students gained a deeper appreciation for the responsibilities carried out by school personnel. It was more than just role-playing; it was a moment of reflection, growth, and fun.

In the afternoon, the school gathered to celebrate the heart of the day, a program dedicated to honoring the faculty and staff. The event kicked off with the grand introduction of all school personnel, each of them escorted by their respective Sham counterparts. They were warmly welcomed and applauded by the students whose lives they touch every day. Ms. Claudette Notarte and Ms. Heart Esprila served as the Masters of Ceremony. The program opened with a solemn prayer led by Shamey Ruales, followed by inspiring opening remarks from SEC Chairperson Joemar Jay Abarquez. The Sham Student Activity Coordinator, Ms. Angel Grace Ohina, also played a big role, assisting in making the event a success.

Laughter echoed through the venue as the program rolled into a set of fun-filled games and activities, specially prepared for the personnel. Highlights included a spirited Family Feud game managed by Mr. Francis Fortuna, a thrilling mental telepathy challenge, and a raffle draw with generous prizes such as kilos of rice, grocery packs, and more. Tokens of appreciation, funded by contributions from students across all levels, were also given to express gratitude in the most heartfelt way.

Even though some of the original plans had to be adjusted due to unforeseen circumstances, the goal remained the same and was beautifully achieved: to bring joy, show appreciation, and celebrate the dedication of OLFADI's personnel. As the event neared its end, the entire OLFADI community joined in a lively Zumba dance, bringing smiles and energy all around. A heartfelt message of gratitude was delivered by Faculty President Mr. Arjan Guinawant, followed by closing remarks from SHS Vice Chairperson Mr. Curr John Castro. The day ended with a prayer led by Ms. Jasmine Cayetano, wrapping up the event in a tone of peace and thankfulness. Before the school day ended, students returned to their classrooms where surprise tributes awaited their advisers, another sweet gesture in a day filled with love, gratitude, and unity.

Catholic Personnel's Day was more than just an event—it was a heartfelt tribute to the unwavering dedication of those who help shape young minds each day and a celebration of the strong bond that unites the OLFADI family.

Last March 10-11, 2025, the Our Lady of Fatima Academy of Davao, Inc. (OLFADI) underwent a two-day Regional External Validation on Quality Management System to assess the school's compliance on educational standards and procedures following the standards of the RVM Quality Road Map. The validation was led by Mr. Jerson Bontoyan, along with his team—Mr. Terencio B. Laplana Jr., LPT, Ms. Mary Mae Josol, LPT, Ms. Nova Ayeng, RL, and Ms. Medlit C. Ladia, RGC. The team conducted a thorough evaluation of the school's academic programs, student services and institutional processes. Through interviews and observations, they gained insights into the school's operations and its impact on students' learning experiences. The validators commended OLFADI's dedication to quality education and holistic student development, while also providing constructive recommendations for further improvement. Their feedback emphasized the need for continuous growth to maintain the academy's relevance and competitiveness in the region.

The OLFADI community was recognized for its collaborative efforts, and the insights from the evaluation will guide the school in refining its practices. With the suggested improvements, OLFADI remains committed to advancing educational excellence and serving as a beacon of learning in the community.

Mr. Joel Lapasaran



REGIONAL EXTERNAL VALIDATION

CAREER GUIDANCE MONTH

Joemar Jay Abarquez

The Career Guidance program at OLFADI, launched on January 15, 2025, with the theme "Embrace, Evolve, Succeed: Preparing for Future Careers in the Ever-Changing World of Work," was a huge success. Organized by the Psychometrician and Peer Facilitator Club, the event offered students a deep dive into career exploration and growth. It started with the Poster Making Contest on January 15, where students from Grades 7 to 12 created vibrant posters reflecting the theme. The Career Trivia quiz bee followed on January 16, engaging younger students from Kindergarten to Grade 6 in a fun competition about various careers. That afternoon, the Industry Game Show challenged Grades 7 to 12 students in a quiz about different industries, sparking curiosity about career options. On January 21, the Career Guidance Symposium brought Grade 9 to 12 students face-to-face with experts who shared insights into various careers and the skills required. The event was filled with inspiring talks and interactive games, making career exploration both educational and fun. The excitement peaked on January 24 with the Parade of Young Professionals and the Best in Career Attire Contest. Students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 showcased their dream professions in colorful outfits, while the Best in Career Attire Contest featured class representatives presenting their career choices in an engaging competition. The grand finale came on January 30 with the Sham Government, where students from Grades 9 to 12 took on the roles of faculty and staff, experiencing leadership and responsibility firsthand. This event empowered students to embrace their future, evolve with the changing world of work, and succeed in their chosen paths.

ACADEMIC WEEK AND FESTIVAL OF TALENTS

Ivory Calmba, Prince Decenteceo, Hazhly Ponce, & Precious Nani

From March 17 to 21, our school came alive with the celebration of Academic Week and the Festival of Talents 2025. A week-long showcase of student brilliance in both academics and the arts. The festivities kicked off with thrilling academic contests that tested students' knowledge in math, science, and literature. A major highlight was the Science Investigatory Project (SIP) Colloquium and SHS Research Presentations, where students confidently shared their innovative ideas and studies. Guests and Students also took part in the Open House and School Tour, offering a glimpse into the vibrant learning environment and school culture. As the week progressed, the spotlight shifted to performances that celebrated creativity and heritage. Ethnic and recreational dances, the energetic Grade 9 Zumba/Festival Dance, and the spirited Grade 10 Cheer dance brought joy and excitement to the crowd. The celebration ended on a high note with the Closing Band and Music Festival, where music filled the air and the entire school community came together in unity and pride. The week was a true testament to the talents, passion, and dedication of our students, an unforgettable celebration of learning and creativity.

The week served as more than just a collection of events; it showcased the outstanding talents, boundless creativity, and strong collaborative spirit of the Ignacian Marian students, leaving a lasting impression on everyone involved. Students not only showcased their unique skills but also imparted valuable knowledge to students at OLFA and beyond. Far more than a mere celebration, this event offered a dynamic platform for students to share their passion in both academics and arts and demonstrate their excellence, creating lasting memories while fostering innovation and camaraderie. It will undoubtedly be remembered as a profoundly meaningful and transformative experience, highlighting the brilliance of the Ignacian Marian.



EDUCATOR CONGRESS 2025: EMPOWERING FAITH, INSPIRING MINDS, CATHOLIC AND SHAPING A HOPEFUL FUTURE

 Mr. Joel Lapasaran

Ateneo de Davao University hosted the Educator Congress 2025 with the theme "Embracing Synodality: Educators as Signs of Hope and Charity." Organized by the Davao Association of Catholic Schools, the event gathered Catholic educators to reflect on their role in shaping not only minds but also hearts through unity, compassion, and shared responsibility.

The congress emphasized synodality, collaboration, inclusion, and solidarity as essential to the educator's mission. It highlighted educators as community leaders who inspire hope and charity, using education as a tool for transformation.

A key moment was the Eucharistic celebration at noon, presided over by the Archbishop of Davao, Most Rev. Romulo Valles, D.D. The liturgy reaffirmed the spiritual foundation of teaching and called educators to renew their commitment to service, faith, and love.

More than a professional gathering, the congress nurtured the moral and spiritual growth of educators, empowering them to be lights of hope in an ever-changing world.



WORK IMMERSION

 Angel Grace Ohina

The Grade 12 students from the Our Lady of Fatima Academy of Davao Inc. successfully completed the 10-day Work Immersion Program starting on February 3 up until February 14, 2025. This work immersion program provides real-world work experiences in line with their academic tracks— Accountancy, Business, and Management (ABM); Humanities and Social Sciences (HUMSS); and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). The students not only learned valuable insights but also developed useful skills that would help them adapt to the real-world setting and prepare them for their future career and endeavors.

More importantly, it is more than just a requirement that needs to be completed, rather a journey of transformation that shaped the students' work ethic and sense of responsibility. The lessons they gained extended beyond just completing tasks and meeting deadlines — it helped develop teamwork, enhance their communication skills, and hone their sense of professionalism. The friendships made and bonds strengthened were the highlights of this work immersion program. The students met different people with various characteristics and diverse backgrounds which helped broaden their perspectives. Together with the continuous guidance and support of their facilitators and teachers, the work immersion program was made successful. The work immersion program may have only lasted for 10 days, but the lessons learned will be carried by them for a lifetime.



Last March 4, 2025, the academic community gathered in solemn gratitude and deep reverence to commemorate the 362nd Baptismal Anniversary of Venerable Ignacia Del Espiritu Santo. This sacred occasion reminds us not only of her birth into the Christian faith on March 4, 1663, at the Holy Kings of Parian Church in Binondo, Manila, but also of the extraordinary spiritual journey that defined her life and legacy. Born to a Chinese Father and Filipino Mother, Mother Ignacia grew into a woman of unwavering faith, profound courage, and tireless service. In an era when religious life was primarily accessible to Spanish and mestiza women, she boldly responded to God's call, choosing a path that defied societal expectations. Through her deep spirituality and strength of character, she founded the Religious of the Virgin Mary (RVM), the first Filipino religious congregation for women, an enduring testament to her vision and devotion. This celebration opened doors for renewal and commitment to the values she uphold, reminding us that holiness is not confined to convent walls, but is lived out in daily expressions of love, service, and selflessness. It is a remembrance of her entrance into the Christian faith and a moment to reflect on the enduring impact of her life and mission. This serves as a reminder of the power of humble beginnings, the strength found in obedience to God's call, and the lasting influence of a life lived in faith, excellence, and service. By remembering Mother Ignacia, we are invited to renew our dedication to living out the Gospel in our daily lives, continuing the legacy she so courageously began.

IGNACIAN MARIAN BONDING

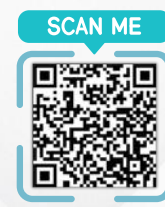
 : Cian Fondevilla

With cheers echoing through the campus, hearts burning with a mission, and hands ready to serve, the Ignacian Marian Bonding Year 3 unfolded last March 7 to 9, 2025, at the University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC) Bajada Campus, uniting students from 13 RVM Schools across Southern Mindanao in a vibrant celebration of faith, community, and action. Carrying the theme “Empowered Ignacian Marians in action: Stewards of God’s creation and advocate for holistic well-being,” the three-day gathering ignited a revived sense of purpose among participants, celebrating joyful fellowship with meaningful reflection and service. The event kicked off with the exhilarating Bleachers Yell, instantly setting the tone for an experience filled with energy and unity, followed by a deeply enriching sessions of speakers from UIC, SMASCI, and SMCTI on Pope Francis’ Laudato Si,

which urged participants to listen to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor. Through heartfelt group sharings, they reflected on their responsibilities as young stewards of creation. As night fell, the Cultural Night lit up the stage with talent, tradition, and pride, reminding everyone of the beauty found in shared culture and creative expression. Day 2 began on a sacred note with a Walking Rosary, drawing participants into collective prayer before launching into the lively spirit of Larong Pinoy and friendly ball games, which highlighted both physical wellness and camaraderie. As the sun dipped below the horizon, the bonfire became a space for sharing, songs, and community prayer, strengthening the bonds formed throughout the journey. On the final day, the mission was put into action through a coastal cleanup and mangrove tree planting. A symbolic and practical act of care for the environment that left a lasting impact on both the shoreline and the participants. The event concluded with the awarding of winners, joyful goodbyes, and heartfelt promises to carry the lessons and spirit of the bonding forward. More than just an annual gathering, Ignacian Marian Bonding Year 3 proved to be a transformative experience. A powerful reminder that empowered Ignacian Marians are not only called to pray and gather, but to lead, protect, and serve with faith in action and love in motion.



(IMFOCUS Episode 6)



(IMFOCUS Episode 7)



(IMFOCUS Episode 8)



A wave of excitement filled the halls of OLFADI as the long-awaited Student Executive Council (SEC) Election 2025 officially began. The first announcement, posted on the SEC Facebook page on March 16, sparked eagerness among students. Just a few days later, on March 20, the filing of Certificates of Candidacy (COC) opened, and in no time, two passionate parties stepped forward, ready to serve and lead.

The LATINA Party (Leaders Advocating for Truth, Integrity, Nobility, and Action) was the first to take the spotlight. Led by Chairperson candidate Mr. Cian Fondevilla and Vice Chairperson candidate Ms. Andrea Balcom, the party brought together a mix of experienced SEC members and fresh faces of students who carried both passion and potential. With the guidance of their Party Adviser Ms. Desirrie Lepasana and the support of Campaign Manager Xandra Suan, LATINA stood tall with their vision of strong, values-based leadership.

But just as everyone expected Ms. Aileen Aguiwat to lead the opposing group, she took a surprising turn, filing instead for Grade 12 Councilor under the same banner. Soon after, the SIGMA Party (Students that Strive for Innovative Growth and Motivational Aspirations) was born, led by Chairperson candidate Mr. Karl Cañamo and Vice Chairperson candidate Ms. Amber Bonzo. Composed mostly of new yet promising leaders, SIGMA was guided by Adviser Mr. Rodolfo Castillion and Campaign Manager Heart Esprila. The party also made headlines for its sibling tandems—the Aguiwats, Bonzos, and Jumawans, all united by their shared drive to lead and inspire.

From March 31 to April 2, the campus came alive with color and creativity during the campaign period. LATINA showcased pink, while SIGMA wore blue and yellow. Sashes, flyers, digital posters, and heartfelt messages filled the school. The excitement peaked at the Meeting de Avance, where candidates shared their platforms.

Election Day on April 3 went smoothly, thanks to COMELEC headed by Mrs. Gerlie Arbuladora and supported by non-running SEC members. Students voted digitally using QR codes prepared by Ms. Maepril Louise Basarte, with help from current Chairperson Joemar Jay Abarquez.

By April 4, the results were announced and history was made. The new SEC was formed by both LATINA and SIGMA candidates, showing that unity can bloom even from competition. Leading the team for SY 2025–2026 are Chairperson Cian Fondevilla and Vice Chairperson Andrea Balcom, both from LATINA. With councilors from both parties, a future built on cooperation and shared purpose now begins.

As the former SEC passed the torch, warm messages and heartfelt advice filled the air. More than just the end of an election, it was the beginning of a new journey, a fresh chapter in OLFADI’s story of leadership, passion, and student empowerment.

EDITORIAL

ILLUSTRATION BY:
Kenneth Chagas Perez



Heavy Task, Heavier Minds: The Burden of Academic Workload

Shaireen Bolasco

In today's classrooms, the weight students carry extends far beyond the textbooks in their bags, it's the ever-increasing academic workload that burdens their minds and their time. From back-to-back assignments, endless quizzes, to the constant stream of group projects and looming deadlines, students are finding themselves overwhelmed. The pressure to perform and meet expectations often leaves them with little room to breathe, and even less time to truly absorb and appreciate what they're learning.

Now, you'll hear students throw around jokes like "Kapoya na oy," "Extension unta," or "Ice cream therapy nalang ta ani" just to lighten the mood but those words often come from a very real place of fatigue and burnout. It's humor born out of survival, a way to cope with the mounting stress they carry every day. Behind the laughter is a silent plea for rest, understanding, and a system that values their well-being just as much as their performance.

While the intention behind this workload is to cultivate discipline and knowledge, it has, unfortunately, become a cycle of stress and exhaustion. Students, instead of engaging with their studies, are merely surviving each day, ticking off tasks rather than learning for the sake of curiosity or personal growth.

What is often overlooked is the importance of balancing the need for time to relax, reflect, and recharge. Students need time to process what they've learned and develop a deeper understanding of the subjects. A break from the constant grind allows students to return to their studies with renewed energy and a clearer mind, fostering a more sustainable and effective approach to learning.

This constant rush through academic tasks leaves students with less room to explore their creativity, develop critical thinking skills, or even pause to reflect on what they've actually learned. The pressure to perform is fueled by the fear of low grades, competition, and expectations from teachers or family often outweighs the chance to be genuinely curious or passionate about a subject. Instead of enjoying the process, many students feel drained and detached from what school is supposed to be: a place of discovery.

ENTERTAINMENT

Q E V Y C O P O T E E Y C S Q
 P X C E N I U T R C F T N S U
 L S M I E Z T P I N O I R E X
 L O O T T Z V V Y E R R J N Z
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 Y T I L A U Q E D M E P E O E

FIND ME

I'M AN
IGNACIAN MARIAN
OF COURSE I EMBODY

- CHARITY
- COMPASSION
- EQUALITY
- EXCELLENCE
- FAITH
- FORTITUDE
- GOODNESS
- PIETY
- PRUDENCE
- SERVICE
- WISDOM
- INTEGRITY
- JUSTICE
- KINDNESS
- KNOWLEDGE
- LOVE
- MODESTY
- PATIENCE

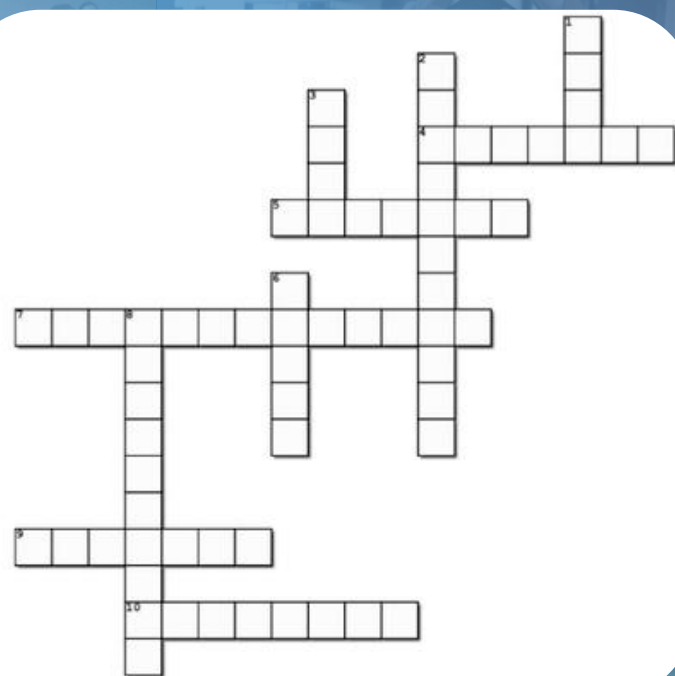
IGNACIAN MARIAN CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

4. TREATING OTHERS WELL
5. HELPING OTHERS
7. EMPATHY IN ACTION
9. TELLING THE TRUTH
10. PURITY IN THOUGHTS

Down

1. DEEP AFFECTION
2. SAYING SORRY
3. POSITIVE EXPECTATION
6. TRUST IN GOD
8. DOING YOUR BEST



A MOMENT TO REMEMBER: 2024 - 2025 S.Y. RECAP

Cian Fondevilla

The school year 2024–2025 at the Our Lady of Fatima of Davao, Inc. (OLFADI) was nothing short of remarkable. A vibrant journey of learning, culture, faith, and community. From the electrifying energy of academic competitions and month-long celebrations like Buwan ng Wika and Math-Sci Month, to the soul-enriching moments of retreats and the unforgettable joy of socialization nights, every event left a lasting mark on the hearts of students and teachers alike. These experiences went beyond the classroom, shaping not only brilliant minds but compassionate hearts and resilient spirits. United by purpose and passion, the OLFADI community turned every moment into a memory and every challenge into a celebration, making 2024–2025 a year to be treasured for years to come.







THE CORE



ONE HEART, ONE VISION: WE ARE CIGMA!

CIGMA School Publication, established on November 13, 2024, is the official campus publication team of the *Our Lady of Fatima Academy of Davao, Inc.* Proudly rooted in the Ignacian Marian values of faith, excellence, and service, CIGMA serves as a vibrant platform where young Ignacian Marians inform, inspire, and ignite change through the power of campus journalism.



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