

**St. Brendan Church**  
**SIMBANG GABI**  
**Saturday, Dec. 24, 2005**

Rituals for the day: 1. "Panuluyan" (Search for an Inn) used in Entrance and Penitential Rites  
2. Presentation of gifts different families  
3. Mano Po

**PRELUDE:** Introduction: explanation of PANULUYAN is read before the liturgy

Commentator: PANULUYAN (Search for an Inn)

Through five centuries of Christianization, the faith of the Filipinos has been sustained mostly by their popular religiosity. A people that respond most effectively to dramatization, symbols and rituals that they have kept and updated through the years. One perfect example of this form of popular religiosity is the "Panuluyan" [Search for an inn] .

Unknown to many of us, Panuluyan - the Posada of the Mexican community - was introduced to the Philippines with Misa de Gallo by Mexican missionaries in the 16th Century.

In 1587, Fray Diego Soria, prior to the convent of San Agustin Acolman, petitioned the Pope for permission to hold Christmastide masses outdoors because the church could not accommodate the multitude that attended the services. The request was granted through a **rescript** and in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century, the **Misa de Gallo** or the **Simbang Gabi** became a Filipino spiritual tradition.

Today, Panuluyan is integrated in the liturgy as our Entrance and Penitential rites. A fitting preparation this advent season to welcome Jesus in our lives. Please open your Simbang Gabi Pamphlets to page 13 and participate in this tradition. We ask the people on the right side to speak the part of Homeowner 1, the people on the left side to speak the part of Homeowner 2, and all sides speak the part of Homeowner 3. Let us now prepare ourselves for this Liturgy.

( Pause for Silent Reflection)

## **I. INTRODUCTORY RITE**

Integrating the "PANULUYAN with SIMBANG GABI  
The *Panuluyan / Posada* as Entrance/Penitential Rite

- Entrance Rite**      *Procession: cross bearer, Parol bearer, altar servers, Mary and Joseph, lector and the Presider. Upon reaching the altar, the Panuluyan group (Mary Joseph and Presider) stands by the Advent Wreath (not yet lit). Meanwhile the community sings the entrance song.*
- Greeting:**      ( The Presider greets the people and explains the meaning of the unlit parol in these or similar words)
- Presider:      **"Brothers and Sisters in the Lord, without the light of Christ in our hearts, we live in the darkness of our own selfishness. The drama of the *Panuluyan* is still a reality in the world today. Its message still rings in our ears, for we still refuse to welcome Jesus Christ into our lives; we still refuse to love the least of our brothers and sisters who knock at our doors. As we prepare to welcome him and celebrate his presence among us in this Holy Eucharist, let us acknowledge our failures and ask pardon for our sins, for God is full of gentleness and compassion."**

### **The Panuluyan as Penitential Rite**

1) *Mary and Joseph proceed to the right side of the of the Church, the Celebrant stays by the advent wreath*

*Mary and Joseph:* Tao Po!

*House Owner 1:* (people on right side) Who are you? Where do you come from?

*Joseph:* I am Joseph and my wife is Mary. We come from a great distance. We are from Nazareth, and we came here to register in obedience of Caesar's order.

*House owner 1:* I don't mind inviting you in if I have space. But we are overcrowded as it is, I have many visitors for the holidays. Look somewhere else.

(Short pause)...

**Presider:** **For the many times, we have turned our backs on those who are poor and needy – the strangers, the illegal immigrants, people of different colors, different beliefs, different sexual orientation, the homeless, the hungry, the unemployed, those with Aids, the alcoholics, the prostitutes, all those considered by society as rejects and all those we find different simply because they're not like us - LORD HAVE MERCY.**

*All:* Panginoon maawa ka.

*2) Mary and Joseph proceed to the left side of the Church*

*Mary and Joseph:* Tao Po!

*House Owner 2:* (people on the left side) Who are you? Why are you disturbing my family at this time of night?

*Mary:* We are sorry to disturb you, but we have been traveling for several days, and we are both tired and weary from the long trip.

*House Owner 2:* That's too bad ..., but I don't want to disturb my children and inconvenience our guests. Go away!

(Short pause)

**Presider :** **For the many times, we ignored and neglected the needs of the elderly, the sick, the disabled, the lonely, those who are suffering physically, mentally and emotionally, those who need a listening ear and those who need a little attention even among members of our own family.  
– CHRIST HAVE MERCY.**

All : Kristo, maawa ka

3) *Mary and Joseph walk toward the Center aisle of the Church*

*Mary and Joseph:* Tao Po!

*House Owner 3:* (main congregation) Who are you? I am busy. We are having a party, and I am expecting the mayor and our pastor soon, make it quick, as I have only a moment to spare with you.

*Joseph:* Please let us in. My wife is about to give birth and we need a place for her. It is late and we are strangers in this place. We have no one or no place to go. For the sake of the child, please give us a little space. We really do not mind where you will put us – we need a little space, please, I beg you!

*House Owner 3:* Sorry, but children are not welcomed here. They are too much of a burden – they can't do much and can be very demanding. I do not want to be bothered, nor inconvenienced. No one can be here with you as we both have to go to our second jobs. Go away and look somewhere else. But I am warning you – I doubt very much if you will find someone who will take you in.

(Short pause)

Presider : **For taking for granted and not appreciating the great gift of life God has given us and for not respecting this same gift in others; for our indifference and not speaking out against abortion, injustice, and war; for not taking care of our children and for abusing them, for our seeming unconcern on issues of domestic violence, sexual permissiveness, drugs, and other forms of violence in our streets; for promoting a culture of death instead of a culture of life.  
- LORD HAVE MERCY.**

All: Panginooon maawa ka

4) *Mary and Joseph join the Celebrant by the advent wreath*

*Mary and Joseph:* Tao Po! Magandang Gabi po!

All: Sino po sila ?

*Mary and Joseph:* We are a poor couple seeking shelter – for our child is about to be born. Do you think you can find a place in your hearts for us?

(Short pause)

Presider: **What is your response ? What is our response as a community? Are we like the homeowners who turned them away? Or will we welcome them and prepare a special place in our hearts? In our community? If we resolve to welcome him – let us together say:  
COME, LORD JESUS COME.**

All: Come, Lord Jesus come.

*( The Advent Wreath Light and all other lights are turned on.  
Mary and Joseph return to their seat and the Celebrant reads the Opening Prayer)*

**Opening Prayer:**

Presider: **Let your tireless grace accompany us, Lord God, Let it go before us and follow after,  
That in union with the Blessed Virgin Mary  
We who long for the coming of your Son.  
May be sustained by your love in this life and the life to come.  
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your son, Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.**

All: Amen

## **II. LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**First Reading:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

Lector: When King David was settled in his palace, and the LORD had given him rest from his enemies on every side, he said to Nathan

the prophet, "Here I am living in a house of cedar,  
while the ark of God dwells in a tent!"

Nathan answered the king, "Go, do whatever you have in mind,  
for the LORD is with you." But that night the LORD spoke to  
Nathan and said: "Go, tell my servant David, 'Thus says the  
LORD: Should you build me a house to dwell in?"

"It was I who took you from the pasture and from the care of the  
flock to be commander of my people Israel. I have been with  
you wherever you went, and I have destroyed all your enemies  
before you. And I will make you famous like the great ones of  
the earth. I will fix a place for my people Israel;  
I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without  
further disturbance. Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict  
them as they did of old, since the time I first appointed judges  
over my people Israel. I will give you rest from all your enemies.  
The LORD also reveals to you  
that he will establish a house for you. And when your time  
comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir  
after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make his Kingdom  
firm. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. Your  
house and your Kingdom shall endure forever before me; your  
throne shall stand firm forever."

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Responsorial  
Psalm**

Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29  
*(Sung by Choir)*

Lector/Response: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Lector: The favors of the Lord I will sing forever; through all  
generations my mouth shall proclaim your faithfulness. For you  
have said, "My kindness is established forever"; in heaven you  
have confirmed your faithfulness.

Response: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Lector: "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to  
David my servant: Forever will I confirm your posterity and  
establish your throne for all generations."

Response: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Lector: "He shall say of me, 'You are my father, my God, the rock, my savior.' Forever I will maintain my kindness toward him, and my covenant with him stands firm."

Response: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

**Gospel  
Acclamation** *(Sung by choir)*

**Gospel** Lk 1:67-79

**Zechariah his father, filled with the Holy Spirit, prophesied, saying: "Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; for he has come to his people and set them free. He has raised up for us a mighty Savior, born of the house of his servant David. Through his prophets he promised of old that he would save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us. He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant.**

**This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hand of our enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life. You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace."**

**Homily**

**General  
Intercessions:**

### III. LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

**Offertory Song:** (*Sung by Choir*)

**Preparation of the altar and gifts:** *Presentation of gifts by different families, (collection will happen at this time) presentation of the bread and wine for Eucharist.*

**Prayer over the Gifts:**

Presider: **God our strength,  
In you is our hope of salvation.  
As we present these gifts,  
Renew our joy within us  
And make us a living sacrifice of praise.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord.**

**Preface of Advent II** ( please use the sacramentary)

**Eucharistic Prayer** (please use the sacramentary)

### IV. COMMUNION RITE

**Lord's Prayer:** (*Sung by Choir*)

**Sign of Peace:** (Families will do the Mano Po as a sign of peace. **Presider says to each one who greets him with the Mano Po: "May God show you mercy"**)

**Breaking of the Bread:** (Lamb of God to be *sung by Choir*)

**Communion:**

**Announcements:**

**Prayer after  
Communion:**

Presider: **O God, we have received in word and sacrament the one whose coming John the Baptist so urgently announced. By the presence of Christ among us, reform our lives and give us the courage to announce to the world that your kingdom is near.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord.**

All: Amen

**V. CLOSING RITE**

**Greeting**

Presider: **The Lord be with you.  
( Sumainyo ang Panginoon )**

All: And also with you

**Blessing**

Presider: **May almighty God bless you,  
The Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit  
( Pagpalain kayo ng Makapangyarihang  
Diyos Ama, at ng Anak, at ng Espiritu  
Santo )**

All: Amen

**Dismissal**

Presider:           **Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.**

All:                   Thanks be to God.

**Recessional**

**Song:**               (To be sung in Tagalog – Medley of Christmas Songs)