



FILIPINO COMMUNITY IN BRISTOL

FLAT 7, THE GLEBE, GLEBE ROAD, BRISTOL, ENGLAND, BS5 8LU
TEL. / FAX NO. 0117-9414672

Beautiful Story of Life

- >
- > Somewhere in Milaor, Camarines Sur, there lived a
- > fourth grader boy who
- > would follow this route to school everyday: He has
- > to cross the rugged
- > plains and cross the dangerous highway where
- > vehicles are recklessly
- > driving to and from.
- >
- > Once past this highway, the boy would take a short
- > cut, passing by the
- > Church every morning just to say Hi to God, and
- > faithfully say his,
- > "Magandang umaga po" in Bicol dialect. He was
- > faithfully being watched
- > by a Priest who was happy to find innocence so
- > uplifting in the
- > morning,
- >
- > "Kamusta, Andoy? Papasok ka na?"
- >
- > "Opo padre ... "he would flash his innocent grin,
- > the priest would be
- > touched. He was so concerned that one day he talked
- > to Andoy.
- >
- > "From school...", he advised "Do not cross the
- > highway, you can pass
- > through the Church and I can accompany you to the
- > other side of the
- > road...that way I can see that you are home
- > safe...."
- >
- > "Thank you father ... "
- >
- > "Why don't you go home ... why do you stay in
- > this church right after school?"
- >
- > "I just want to say 'Hi' to my friend, God,"
- > and the priest
- > would leave the boy to spend time beside the altar,
- > talking to himself, but the priest was hiding behind
- > the altar to
- > listen
- > to what this boy has to say to his heavenly FATHER.



FILIPINO COMMUNITY IN BRISTOL

FLAT 7, THE GLEBE, GLEBE ROAD, BRISTOL, ENGLAND, BS5 8LU
TEL. / FAX NO. 0117-9414672

- >
- > "You know my math exam was pretty bad today, but I
- > did not cheat
- > although
- > my seatmate is bullying me for notes... I ate one
- > cracker and drank my
- > water, Itay had a bad season and all I can eat is
- > this cracker.
- >
- > Thank you for this! I saw a poor kitten who was
- > hungry and I know how
- > he
- > feels so I gave my last cracker to him ... funny but
- > I am not that
- > hungry.
- > Look, this is my last pair of slippers ...I may have
- > to walk barefoot
- > next
- > week, you see this is about to be broken... but it
- > is okay....at least
- > I
- > am
- > still going to school.... Some say we will have a
- > hard season this
- > month,
- > some of my classmates have already stopped going to
- > school please
- > help
- > them get to school again, please God?
- >
- > ...Oh, you know, Inay hit me again, it is painful,
- > but I know this
- > pain
- > will pass away, at least I still have a mother....
- > God, you want to
- > see
- > my
- > bruises? I know you can heal them.... Here... here
- > and oh
- > ...blood
- > ...I guess you knew about this one huh? Please don't
- > be mad at Inay,
- > she
- > is
- > just tired and she worries for the food in our table
- > and my schooling
- > that
- > is why she hits us....Oh, I think I am in love ...



FILIPINO COMMUNITY IN BRISTOL

FLAT 7, THE GLEBE, GLEBE ROAD, BRISTOL, ENGLAND, BS5 8LU
TEL. / FAX NO. 0117-9414672

- > there's this pretty
- > girl
- > in my class, her
- > name is Anita ... do you think she will like me?
- > Anyway, at least I
- > know
- > you will always like me, I don't have to be anybody
- > just to please
- > you,
- > you
- > are
- > my very best friend! Hey your birthday is two days
- > from now!!! Aren't
- > you
- > excited? I am! Wait till you see, I have a gift for
- > you but it
- > is a
- >
- > surprise! I hope you will like it! Oooops, I have to
- > go ..." then he
- > stood
- > up and calls out, "Padre, padre, I am finished
- > talking to my friend
- >
- > you can accompany me to the other side of the road
- > now"
- >
- > This routine happens everyday. Andoy never fails.
- > Father Agaton shares
- > this
- > every Sunday to the people in his church because he
- > has not seen a
- > very
- > pure faith and trust in God, a very positive look at
- > negative
- > situations.
- >
- >
- > One Christmas day, Father Agaton was sick so he
- > could not make it in
- > the
- > Church, he was sent to the hospital. The Church was
- > left to 4 manangs
- > who
- > would chant the rosary in 1000 miles per hour, would
- > not smile and
- > would
- > always find fault in what you do, they were also



FILIPINO COMMUNITY IN BRISTOL

FLAT 7, THE GLEBE, GLEBE ROAD, BRISTOL, ENGLAND, BS5 8LU
TEL. / FAX NO. 0117-9414672

- > very well versed in
- > cursing
- > if you irritate them! They were kneeling, saying
- > their kilometric
- > rosary
- > when Andoy, coming from his Christmas
- > party, playfully dashed in.
- >
- > "Hello God! I"
- >
- > "P----!! (a curse) bata ka!! Alam mo nang may
- > nagdadasal!! Alis!!"
- >
- > Poor Andoy was so terrified, "Where's Father Agaton?
- > He is supposed to
- > help me cross the street ... and to be able to cross
- > the street I will
- > have
- > to pass by the back door of this church ...not only
- > that, I have to
- > greet
- > Jesus. It is His birthday, I have a gift right
- > here....
- > " Just as he was about to get the gift out of his
- > shirt, the manang
- > pulled
- > his shirt and threw him out of the church.
- > "Susmaryosep!!! (does the
- > sign
- > of the cross fervently) Alis kang bata ka, kung
- > hindi matatamaan ka!!!
- >
- > So the boy had no choice but to cross the dangerous
- > side of the road
- > in
- > front of the church. He crossed. A fast moving bus
- > came in.
- >
- > There was a blind curve. The boy was protecting his
- > gift inside his
- > shirt,
- > so he was not looking. There was so little time.
- > Andoy died on the
- > spot.
- > A
- > lot of people crowded the poor boy, the body of a
- > lifeless young boy
- > ...



FILIPINO COMMUNITY IN BRISTOL

FLAT 7, THE GLEBE, GLEBE ROAD, BRISTOL, ENGLAND, BS5 8LU
TEL. / FAX NO. 0117-9414672

- >
- > Suddenly, out of nowhere a tall man in a pure white
- > shirt and pants, a
- > face so mild and gentle, but with eyes full of
- > tears... He came and
- > carried
- > the boy in His arms. He was crying. Curious
- > bystanders nudged the man
- > in
- > white, and asked,
- >
- > "Excuse me sir, are you related to this child?
- >
- > Do you know this child?"
- >
- > The man in white, His face mourning and in agony,
- > looked up and
- > answered,
- >
- > "He was my best friend " was all he said. He
- > took the badly
- > wrapped gift in the bloody chest of the lifeless
- > boy, and placed it
- > near
- > His heart.
- >
- > He stood up and carried the boy away and they both
- > disappeared in
- > sight.
- >
- > The crowd was curious ...
- >
- > On Christmas Eve, Father Agaton learned of the
- > shocking news. He
- > visited
- > the house, and wanted to verify about the man in
- > white. He consulted
- > the
- > parents of Andoy.
- >
- > "How did you know that your son died?"
- >
- > "A man in white brought him here." sobbed the
- > mother. "What did
- > he say?"
- > The father answered, "He did not say anything. He
- > was mourning. We do
- > not



FILIPINO COMMUNITY IN BRISTOL

FLAT 7, THE GLEBE, GLEBE ROAD, BRISTOL, ENGLAND, BS5 8LU
TEL. / FAX NO. 0117-9414672

- > know him and yet he was very lonely about our son's
- > death, as if he
- > knew
- > our
- > son very well. But there was something peaceful and
- > unexplainable
- > about
- > him.
- > He
- > gave me my son, and then he smiled peacefully. He
- > brushed my son's
- > hair
- > away from his face and kissed him on his forehead,
- > then he whispered
- > something..."
- >
- > "What did he say?"
- >
- > "He said to my boy..." the father began, "Thank you
- > for the gift
- > ... I will see you soon ... you will be with me..."
- > and the father
- > of the boy continued, "and you know for a while, it
- > felt so
- >
- > wonderful ... I cried, but I do not know why....all
- > I know is I
- > cried tears of joy I could not explain it,
- > Father, but when
- > that man left, something peaceful came over me, I
- > felt a deep sense
- >
- > of love inside ... I could not explain the joy in my
- > heart, I knew
- > my boy is in heaven now but...tell me, Father, who
- > is this man that my
- > son
- > talks to everyday in your church, you should know
- > because you are
- > always
- > there ... except at the time of his death
- >"Father Agaton
- > suddenly
- > felt the tears welling in his eyes, with
- >
- > trembling knees, he murmured, " ... He was talking
- > to no one
- > but .. GOD..."