ST. PAUL’S WEEK 2016

JANUARY 18-25, 2016
Oft-quoted by students from both the grade school and high school department as the most anticipated event of the school year, St. Paul’s Week is an annual weeklong tradition that serves to commemorate the patron of our school and the entire SPC congregation. The week, comprising of well-selected activities—from small booths hosted by the school’s many clubs and student organizations to extreme rides standing three stories tall, from in-school talent competitions to inter-school quiz bees, and cultural festival dances—culminates with a Thanksgiving mass typically held on January 25, the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul.

This year undoubtedly saw the grandest SPW celebrations in recent history, with activities diverging from the conventional booths, rides, and dances.

Each day, the grade school building was filled with smooth symphonies as the High School Student Council, collaborating with the Speakers’ Guild, took message dedications and song requests from the student population. All over the campus, various booths and rides were littered, providing students with fun and entertainment; the new attraction, Viking, has ensured that there was a constant hubbub of jovial shrieks and laughter. On the contrary, students who wish to have some quiet time to themselves can enjoy the comfort of the Chill Booth.
While the first day of festivities were marked with the Paulinian Idol and the exhibition games, Tuesday had a lot of goings-on, namely the Street Dance Parade and Competition in the morning and the Mr. and Ms. Paulinian in the afternoon. On the days that followed, students were free to roam school grounds; even visitors, alumni, and students from different schools were able to experience the wide breadth of activities SPCM has provided through their Open House program. Everyone was astounded by the performances given by students, teachers, and non-teaching personnel alike on Friday’s Variety Show. On the 25th, as the hum of exhilaration died down, the foundation week concluded with a solemn thanksgiving mass in the morning and the recognition of service awardees in the afternoon.

Such activities have all but guaranteed that SY 2015-2016, SPCM’s 74th year anniversary, will pave the way to an even greater diamond jubilee. ■ LEILA MARIE S. MAGNO
SPCM kick-started the year with the much-anticipated celebration of St. Paul’s Week with the customary opening parade around Barangay Poblacion, Makati City on January 18, 2016.

The school’s involvement was apparent as several organizations prepared interludes in a healthy mix of flashy batons, flamboyant instruments, and lively dance numbers.

One of the main features of this parade is the spectacle of Bible verses made by the students themselves that mirror the act of Saint Paul in his voyage towards the outskirts of the Christian community.

The Opening Parade is a way of remembering Saint Paul’s journey as he travelled across the world to fulfil his mission of preaching the Word of God to the Gentiles.

It reminds the students to commit to their life-long mission of serving the Lord and His people. ■ MARY JOY P. ABALOS

Students, faculty, and alumni alike participate in the annual opening parade as the entire community circled the vicinity of Barangay Poblacion, Makati City.
The annual Paulinian Idol has long been a hit to the Pauline body. Many students, parents and alumni have attended the contest to watch the contestants sing their heart out as they make their chosen songs their own on stage.

Seven years ago, all were excited as our resident choirmaster, Mr. Jeffrey Buensuceso, decided to hold a yet to be approved singing competition in the campus, to be held at our infamous Gym 1. From then on, along with the help of the year’s glee club, the Paulinian Idol was born, paying homage to the US talent show American Idol.

2009 was the pioneer year of the said competition and since then students of different levels have competed against each other to be hailed as the school’s Paulinian Idol. Until 2013, there have been two divisions, one for the grade school level and one for the high school level. There is no definite program and order of performances every year.

People have gotten used to minimal changes every year - but the ultimate game changer happened in 2014. As we all got used to students serenading us yearly, our event master have decided to add in another division; the teachers and staff category.
Hearts pumped and more got excited as we would not have expected to see such familiar faces sing for us. Ever since then, Paulinian Idol’s popularity have shot up even more.

This year, our contestants have serenaded us which such beautiful voices, both in grade school and high school. From there, they have been cut down to the top contestants. It was a long journey, but for them, it was worth their time effort so that they may share their talents to their fellow Paulinians.

Winners:

**Champion:** Ysabella Gomez (9 - St. Augustine)  
**1st runner up:** Milani Ulangco (10 - St. Jerome)  
**2nd runner up:** Sheena Empenida (10 - St. Thomas)  

Dahn Arcilla (4 - St. Agnes)  
Jelena Blanco (5 - St. John the Beloved)  
Jean Rose Ocon (4 - St. Agnes)
Paulinians once again exhibited their proficiency in the art of dance as they paraded and placed a show for the dwellers of Barangay Poblacion in a lively parade.

One of the aspects in becoming a true Paulinian is having an unconditional love for one’s country and its diverse culture. Last January 19, 2016 at the Plaza Cristo Rey, these Paulinians reconnected with their Filipino roots in colorful and vibrant costumes as they danced their hearts out to the beat of their tradition.

Only in its second year, the Festival Dance has become an extraordinary hit - with the students parading around Barangay Poblacion alongside floats comprising the candidates of the revived Mr. and Ms. Paulinian pageant.

Judges were scattered amongst different stations where the dancers exhibited their short routines. People nearby were able to witness the various talents of these students and were absolutely thrilled with their performances.

During the actual competition, everyone was excited to watch their fellow schoolmates’ hard work pay off.
The fruit of their efforts were rewarded by the judges, and listed below are the winners for this year’s competition:

Grade 7-8

Champion: St. Claire and St. Martha
1st Runner-Up: St. Maximillian and St. Genevieve
2nd Runner Up: St. Aloysius, St. Stephen and St. Agatha
3rd Runner-Up: St. Francis and St. Faustina

Grade 9-10

Champion: St. Vincent and St. Ignatius
1st Runner-Up: St. Augustine and St. Dominic
2nd Runner Up: St. Jerome St. Benedict
3rd Runner-Up: St. Jude and St. Alphonsus
4th Runner-Up: St. Martin and St. Thomas

Special Awards:

Best Dancers: Angela Bautista (St. Martha)
Trinity Salazar (St. Maximilian)
Alexa Satur (St. Agatha)
Joy Lovely Galicia (St. Dominic)
Elise Batan (St. Ignatius)
Michaela Gamez (St. Jerome)
Leira Lopez (St. Alphonsus)
Candice Santos (St. Thomas)

The new Festival Dance in replacement of the annual Cheer Dance competition is already facilitating change in only its second year of celebration. Not only does it form camaraderie between the different year levels, but it projects a new opportunity in showcasing our powerPAUL gifts through a new medium of patriotism. ■ DENISSE KYLE A. VIRTUCIO
Paulinians all over the world are known to be simply and humbly beautiful. This year is the Mr. and Ms. Paulinian Pageant’s pioneer year, to showcase the aforementioned simplicity and humility.

In the earlier years, the school has held simple Mr. and Ms. Intramurals pageants, both in grade school and in high school, but never a pageant to find the two students that would represent the essence of a true Paulinian.

For every year level, there will be two pairs to represent their batch, giving us 16 competitors - eight to compete for Ms. Paulinian and another eight for the title of Mr. Paulinian. Even before the St. Paul’s Week started, the chosen 16 have already been called to train and prepare for the pageant to be held on the 19th of January. They all have been pre-judged by the teachers and staff members of the school. For some, this pageant is not a first, giving them a good head start of the do’s and don’ts of the pageant. Most of them, however, had yet to learn about it - from doing the catwalk, to waving, and answering the infamous Q&A. Spearheading this event was Mr. Raymond Crisolo.
The pageant had several parts which had corresponding awards given to the best in that category. These categories are: School Uniform, Festival Attire, Formal, Mr. and Ms. Photogenic and People’s choice. All of them worked and walked the stage with all they have and exhibited deep passion until they were cut to the final eight - four more running for Ms. Paulinian, and another four on the run for Mr. Paulinian. Truly, it was a tough game for these contestants and surely a tougher one for the judges.

After a long day and the final stage of the pageant done, the winners were announced and awarded.

**Ms. Paulinian:** Day Parong (7 - St. Maximilian)
1st runner up: Franchesca Cristobal (10 - St. Alphonsus)
2nd Runner Up: Nathalie Walker (9 - St. Jude)
3rd Runner Up: Kate Yalung (9 - St. Martin)

**Mr. Paulinian:** Carlos Alfonso Muyco (10 - St. Thomas)
1st Runner Up: Vinzen Gonzales (7 - St. Stephen)
2nd runner up: Yoshi Hondo (9 - St. Jude)
3rd runner up: Aguido Dumaguit (9 - St. Jude)

**Special Awards:**
Paulinian Attire: Aquido Dumaguit (9 - St. Jude) and Nathalie Walker (9 - St. Jude)
Festival Attire: Carlos Alfonso Muyco (10 - St. Thomas) and Kate Yalung (9 - St. Martin)
Formal Attire: Carlos Alfonso Muyco and Kate Yalung
People’s Choice: Jan Lorenzo Chavez (9 - S.t Jerome) and Day Parong (7 - St. Maximillian)
Mr. and Ms. Photogenic: Vinzen Gonzales (7 - St. Stephen) and Ysabella Arboleda (8 - St. Faustina)

All the contestants have shown poise and wits which have wowed the judges. This event is just one proof that we Paulinians indeed embody the famed catchphrase “beauty and brains”. ■ MARIA LEIRA S. LOPEZ
SPCM held the Invitational Games last January 20, 2016 at the Gymnasium and the competition had been a blast, full of excitement, thrill and new opportunities for our fellow Paulinians.

For the first time ever in its 74 years of Paulinian foundation, the school had held this event bringing recognition to SPCM’s hospitality and ability to connect and share great opportunities with other schools. Participants of the said activity were Makati Science High School, San Isidro Catholic School, Fort Bonifacio High School, Don Bosco Technical Institute, and RTU Lab High School.

Two competitions were held that day, The Quiz Wiz and the Web Design Contest. The completion definitely showcased how well Paulinians excel at different fields as it aims to promote academic excellence, encourage friendly competition among students and it showcases how today’s youth is individually skilled at presenting themselves with honesty and intelligence at a respected audience.
The awards were definitely well earned by the winners of the competition who had proved themselves as they aced the competition with hard work.

**Inter-school Quiz Wiz 2016**

**Champion:** Makati Science HS  
Gerizim M. Villarante and Louiejabe Y. Nuniala

**1st Runner Up:** Fort Bonifacio HS  
Veronica Jane A. Majabague and Confelidany Batac

**2nd Runner Up:** Don Bosco Technical College  
Jervin Jay G. Benavides and Benedict Nathan N. Sarind

**Institutional Quiz Wiz 2016**

**Champion:** Allysa Honra (10 - St. Jerome)  
Francis Masallo (9 - St. Benedict)

**1st Runner Up:** Jean Gomez (10 - St. Thomas)  
Dale Maglag (9 - St. Martin)

**2nd Runner Up:** Monica Manansala (10 - St. Ignatius)  
Rafael Vallejo (9-St. Vincent)

**Web Design Contest 2016**

**Champion:** Don Bosco Technical College  
Julius L. Macase and Raynoil Kirkson E. Chavez

**1st Runner Up:** RTU Lab High School  
Ynea A. Racuya and Rnoland Christian C. Francisco

**3rd Runner Up:** Makati Science HS  
Carlo Luis V. Santos and Adriana Danica N. Mimis

This event would not be a success without the help of Mr. Ernell Placido, head organizer of the whole event. The Quiz Wiz was supervised by Mr. Willie Sapalaran and Ms. Larnie Tacud while the Web Design Contest was overseen by Ms. Jolivelle Magadia.

Competition plays an important role in academic achievement because it often spurs students to pursue excellence. The participants of the event did not hesitate to challenge themselves to learn new things and develop new skills and that is the true spirit of celebrating our annual St. Pau’s Week. ■ **ANDREA NICOLE VILLA**
Paulinians wrapped up the last week of the yearly celebrations with another SPCM tradition, the Variety Show, held on January 22, 2016. With three consecutive shows, the organizers, Paulinians on Stage, kept the students at the edge of their seats.

They started with their play, an array of characters that represented different personalities that audiences can relate to. What made this play different from last year was that it was presented as a musical as intervals in the play, traditional dances from selected grade school and high school students delighted the audience.

In the middle of the 3rd show, the audience roared with delight when Angeline Quinto went on stage and sang Frozen’s “Let It Go”.

As the characters of the play took their final bow, a series of surprise performances from the teachers and school personnel shortly came after.
Some of the highlights of their presentation included an acoustic medley of songs embedded with *hugot* lines, and modern dance routines that had the students cheering their hearts out.

The Variety Show is about letting students, teachers, and school personnel alike have the chance to present their talents, which never fail to appeal to audiences.

In-between performances, board members of the PHCC drew the lucky winners for the Cashayahan Raffle Draw, one of the PHCC’s fund-raising programs to raise support for their various projects. ■ PATRICIA GABRIELLE L. MARQUEZ
Grade school students show their dancing prowess in front of their eager teachers and parents.

The NKK and Elementary levels celebrated St. Paul’s Week through the Field Demonstration. The school grounds exuded vibrance from the students’ costumes, as every batch represented a festival from different parts of the archipelago. The parents and guardians of the performers also attended the event, taking photos as their children performed the dances that showcased the many traditions and cultures of the Filipinos. Plaza Cristo Rey, as is also with the previous years, was where everyone present watched the event unfold; this is considered tradition among the students of St. Paul Makati.

The Field Demonstration is an anticipated event as it is the melting pot of cultures, much like our country; each of the levels had their own style, their own costume, and each had their own take on the particular festival.  ■ BEA MARIE DENISE H. ARBOLEDA
As a way to promote health and fitness, students and faculty participate in the yearly-held fun run organized by the PHCC board.

In the early morning of January 24, 2016, Paulinians in different households rose at an untimely hour to attend one of the customs of SPCM—the Fun Run. Whether they are being forced to participate or simply joining to be healthy, the Fun Run being one of the most long-awaited events doesn’t change. It is a movement wherein Paulinians gather in the name of fitness (and of Christ as well!)

The catchphrase for this year is “A Rush Towards 2017,” fitting for the Diamond Rush theme. First held in the school year of 2013-2014, it is the third time this event is being held. The proceeds of the run will be for the celebration of the coming of SPCM’s 75th year anniversary.

Its aim is to also promote well-being among students, teachers, and families. Organized by the head of the Alumni Association and the Alumni officers, the event took place at the University of Makati’s Oval Track. ■ ARIANE NIKKA D.P. LAZAGA
Dedicated employees of St. Paul College of Makati were bestowed with the prestigious service award, given to those who have served the educational institution for more than 10 years.

The employees’ appreciation day is a celebration of the endurance and work of the SPCM employees for the past year. It is also to give thanks for their service and efforts to the SPCM community, especially for their contributions to the school and their students; on Employees’ Day, they were given the care and attention that they deserved.

The Employees’ Day is a wellness event for the faculty, staff, personnel and other employees of St. Paul College of Makati. Sponsored by the Parents’ Homeroom Collaborating Council, assisted by the school clinic and Community Extension Services of SPCM, the objective of the event is to give medical check-ups and medicines to SPCM employees and to their dependents, and to help them relax for a day with a sponsored massage therapy during St. Paul’s Week. There was a free body scanning on the day as well as manicure-pedicure packages, adding to the many freebies that were given. ■ BEA MARIE DENISE H. ARBOLEDA