

CROSSINGS

The Official Student Publication of Assumption Language College

24 June 2022

Issue 1 Vol. 12

2nd Cycle 2022

My experience during the Covid-19 pandemic

By Sr. Maria Delani Resing, Indonesia

I want to share my experience during this pandemic.

To be honest, the pandemic limited our social interactions and restricted our dealings with other people.

All activities are carried out online, including the process of learning and teaching.

Indeed, the government has declared that all of this is good because they can look after and protect each other from the spread of the virus that is taking place now.

Even though the current conditions are very boring, what can we do? Apart from remaining grateful for being alive. Now I take online classes online at ALC.

Honestly, this is my first time taking an English class online.

I really enjoy our online classes because Teacher Owa who teaches is very good. However, sometimes I find it hard to understand, because of the words I just learned.

Often our classes don't run smoothly. It's all because of an unsupported connection. I hope to be able to take classes in person or face to face with teachers, if the pandemic conditions improve.

But, if the pandemic continues to escalate, it's better if online classes are still running.

As for my feelings while studying at ALC, I am very happy and enjoy the class that is taking

place right now. And I feel, my English is getting better.

At the end, I would like to say thank you to the ALC teachers who gave me the opportunity to study at this language institute.

In this Issue

- 2.....Interstellar
- 3.....How to Build an Intimate Relationship with your Mother
- 5.....My Siblings
- 12.....Letters
- 13.....Signs of the Times
- 15.....Letting Children Make Mistakes
- 16.....Class Photos



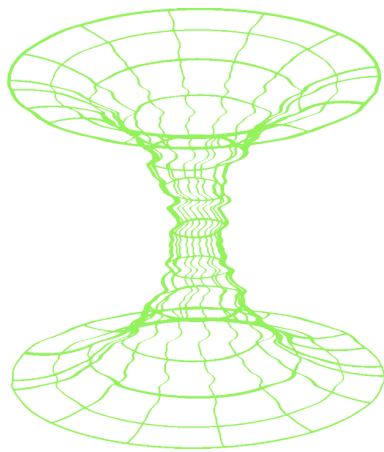
Interstellar

By Roy Li, China

The vast galaxy, the vast universe, it hides many unknown secrets.

Since I was a kid, I was deeply attracted and full of curiosity about the universe. If you're like me, then this that was shown at 2014 and directed by Christopher Nolan sci-fi film "Interstellar," is sure to blow your mind.

This story is about a day in the future when the earth keeps losing crops due to climate change and blight.



So, based on data sent back by three scientists who pass through a wormhole a decade ago, NORAD knows that a planetary system centered on the black hole Gargantua has three planets that might be suitable for

colonization.

So, a group of scientists headed by the male protagonist Cooper set off to those three planets to find new homes for mankind.

At the end of the movie, Cooper collected data on the gravitational singularity of the black hole through the robot Tas, and entered a fifth-dimensional hypercube.

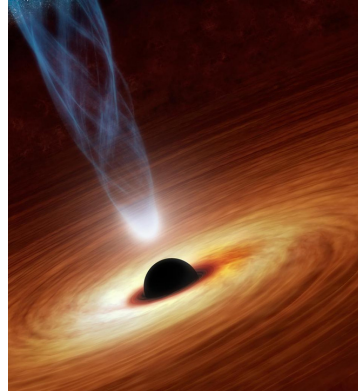
In the fifth-dimensional space, he guided his past self to participate in this plan, and then he put the data obtained is transmitted to Murphy through her watch, so humans can escape gravity and go to life in space.

What attracted me to this movie was the various interesting settings in it, such as five-dimensional space, wormholes, and black holes.

Every factor can put you into the vast universe, and it is a good movie worth recommending.

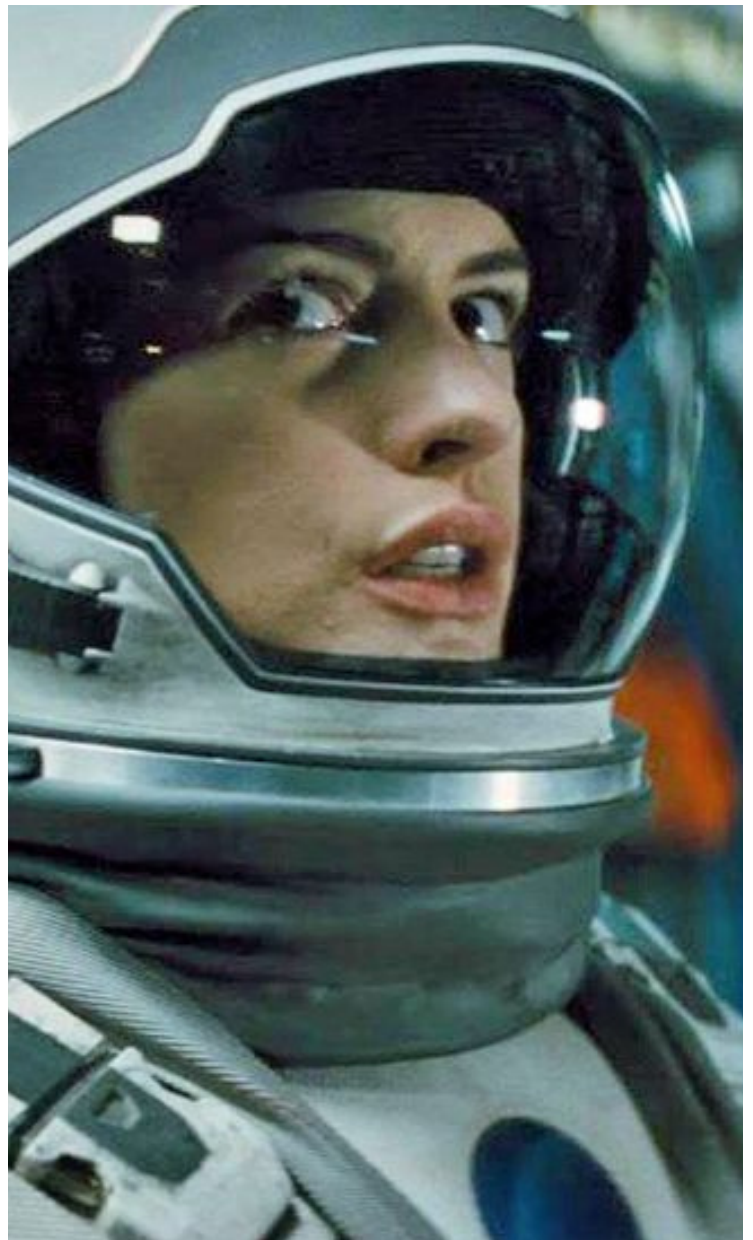
The fifth-dimensional space

Wormhole is a solution of the field equations in German-born physicist Albert Einstein's theory of general relativity that



resembles a tunnel between two black holes or other points in space-time.

Blackhole is a region of spacetime where gravity is so strong that nothing – no particles or even electromagnetic radiation such as light – can escape from it.



How To Build An Intimate Relationship With Your Mother

By Sr. Le Thi Ha Trang, Vietnam

We all have mothers, but not all of us have a loving relationship with our mothers. Like me, my relationship with my mother is not very good. We don't match each other in terms of personalities and opinions, so we usually never talk more than three sentences. Until my father passed away three years ago, I seem to be a little closer to my mother, but I know that's still not enough. I brought it up with my Formator, and she gave me some advice. I found it very effective and now I want to share them with you. We can build an intimate relationship with our mothers by talking, cooking, and going for a walk together.

Talking to our mother is a good suggestion. According to Emery from Brides "It's a good way to show that you understand how important their relationship and history are, which can go a long way." But how to make conversation with people you cannot talk with more than three sentences before? That was a big challenge for me at the beginning. I sought different ways to speak to her, but

the result was still the same. One day suddenly I came up with an idea, said that my teacher asked me to write down our Genogram and I tried to do it by myself, but I could not finish. I called her and asked her for help. While talking, I kept surprising her. I didn't think she had such a good memory, she could say every detail about each of our family members. This was the first time our conversation lasted more than two hours and it was also the first time I had the opportunity to hear my mother talk like that. So, you too, try asking your mother or talk about her life, maybe you will be surprised the same with me with what you think about your mother before and you will realize how important knowing her history is.

Cooking is also one of the best ways to build a loving relationship with them. Emery also said "If the heart of the home is the kitchen, that's a great place to start bonding" and "offering to help is always a good way to create warmth." Everything that begins with the heart. A beating heart means that you are

alive. So, good bonding builds good feelings through helping each other in the kitchen. You can start to ask them for help. If they are good cooks, you are lucky, you just look for a way that you can assist them. If they are not, don't worry about that, you can search on YouTube. There are numerous ways to cook. You can do it with your mother. Maybe this way will help you get closer to them. And I think that they will be jolly when they see you with them. My mother is not a good cook, but she tries her best to cook delicious food for us. That point really touched my heart. I appreciate her very much.

Another way to get closer to your mother is by going for a walk together. "A good walk and some fresh air have a way of getting the conversation flowing—maybe it's because many of us do our best thinking when we're moving, or maybe it's just the outdoors that gives us a gentle boost of endorphins," Emery said. As Emery said before, the conversation will follow when we walk together. So, why don't we use these opportunities to try to develop our relationships with our mom? Or you can tell

them that you love them and care about them and it would mean so much if they took just a short walk with you. Keep the conversation light and share old-time stories to make them laugh. If it's possible you may let them hold your arm and completely enjoy your walk together.

Building a good relationship with our mother is a very easy thing. But it depends on how much time we spend in the relationship. Talking is a good way to show we understand each other, cooking helps us to create warmth, and going for a walk together to build conversations. If you do that, you may have an intimate relationship with your mothers. Celebrate the riches of your relationship with your mom to show how much you love them.



Online English Class

By Sr. Mersiana Sao, Indonesia



My name is Marsiana Sao. You can call me Mercy. I am from Indonesia.

Now I live in Philippines. In this essay, I would like to share with you my opinion about online English classes.

For me, our English class is very important because I need the language in accomplishing my mission.

And for our Congregation Delegacion Asia, we use the English language all the time. Before I never studied English in Indonesia. And before I learned at ALC, I was very quiet because I didn't understand people when they speak to me in English.

For me, I don't care whether I learned English online or offline because both has its advantages and disadvantages.

We started our online class on May 16, 2022, it was very difficult for me because there were many word I didn't understand and were new to me.

Then I study little by little to practice to speak, but sometimes I was very shy and a little afraid that the person I wan talking to didn't understand me.

And when we finished the class in the morning and in the afternoon, I would review again the lesson. I learned many things when I started our English class. I learned how to use properly verbs in the present tense, simple present, present continuous and many things.

And I feel very happy because I can know many things and I know how to answer if some people ask me. I can understand them now, but sometimes I feel very tired and lazy because sometimes I don't understand and don't know the meanings of some difficult words.

I hope that Assumption Language College will continue to be an institution that helps foreigners to learn English language both online and offline.

My Siblings

By Br. Yoakim Ruing, Indonesia

I am Yoakim Ruing, and I grew up in Lembata in the province of Flores, Indonesia. I am the second child among the 4 siblings and children of Mr. Felix Ruing and Mrs. Martha Kewa. I have two sisters in my family, Tin and Chelsi. They have different ages.

For a start, I will talk about my first sister. Her name is Tin. She is a humorous person. My sister is 170 cm tall, 5 cm taller than me.

Our age difference is three years; he is 28 years old and I'm 25 years old.

The closeness of our age makes the relationship between me and my sister so close.

There are many people who say that we are twins because there is very little difference between us.

Although many people say we are twins, there are some things that set us apart.

My sister really likes durian but I don't want to be around durian at all. She likes to travel and cook but I like listening and rarely exercise.

My sister is very outgoing and has many friends while I am a quiet person. She is very naughty, but I like her.

She is the best listener. If I have a mistake I tell her, and she solves that problem. She is the one that makes me forget the bad feeling.

She has the same hair as my mother, black and quite curly.

My sister, my mother and I have almost the same body which is tall and thin.



Chelsi is my second sister, she's 20 years old and younger than Tin. Her full name is Chelsilia Ose Ruing, but she doesn't like to be called other than her first name.

Chelsi has a tall muscular body, her height is about 185 cm.

She has a square face, with brown eyes and a sharp nose. She has dimples on both of her cheeks, which always appear when she smiles.

Her hair used to be black, but now her hair is brown after she dyed it.

At home she is like a man always doing men's work. Chelsi always has a great sense of humor; she's quite mischievous and rebellious, but everybody likes her.

Plus, she's pretty, friendly, and helpful, which makes her more popular.

I love both of them although they have different personalities.



My Twin Friends

By Anna Lê Hồ Thị Mỹ, Vietnam



She is a romantic person because her room has a lot of Hello Kitty and everything of her has pink color.

While Oanh has a strong personality, she likes watching action movies and playing volleyball.

Sometimes, she goes backpacking with her classmate. Although they studied in a university in Singapore, they had different majors.

Also, they did not study together but often went to school together.

Finally, although they have different personalities, they are both my close friends.

Ha doesn't like to eat spicy food, but Oanh likes going out to eat spicy Korean noodles.

Both of them are always very kind to me and they are my best friends. I can tell and share with them my life and my stories when I have problems. I often ask them to give me some pieces of advice.



I have twin friends, Ha and Oanh. They are 24 years old. Although they are the same age, they have different personalities.

We had unforgettable memories when we studied in university.

For a start, they both look cute. Ha has long black hair with brown eyes, and she's quite short.

However, Oanh is very tall and she has long brown hair with white skin and black eyes. Although they don't have the same appearance, they both have good hearts and active lifestyles.

When I think about them the first words that appear in my mind are a kind-hearted and friendly person.

Something else, they like to watch films in the cinema. However, they like different kinds of films. Ha likes romantic films.

My experience in the Philippines

By *Br. Francis Xavier Toan, Vietnam*

Today, I will tell you about how I feel when I am in the Philippines. I had the opportunity to go to Davao, and this is quite exciting for me since I live in Metro Manila. I want to share with you my experiences in these two places where I had been to recently.

Let me tell you first about Manila. I see that this place is developing; the economy is going up day by day, creating and opening many choices for people. The weather here is quite hot, although the rainy season has started, bringing rain in the afternoon.

There are different means of transportation here, but traffic jams still happen every day.

There are buses, jeepneys, taxis, tricycles, and trains.

The people here are funny, friendly, and enjoyable to be with.

There are many services and infrastructures making the Filipino's life more convenient such as hospitals, schools, banks, companies, and supermarkets.



Now I will share with you about Davao City, where I stayed for 2 weeks. This is a beautiful, large, and growing city. I stayed in a Benedictine convent, which is located about two hours by car from the city center.

The weather there is cooler in the morning when it rains.

I only saw mostly motor bikes and cars, a few jeepneys, cars and no tricycles.

The people there are very friendly, funny, and cute. Housing is sparse, trees abound, so the climate is cooler.

I really like the environment there. There are a lot of durian, coconut, and banana trees. I love eating fruits there because they are fresh, clean and delicious.

There are many mountains and beaches. I went to the highest mountain there, where the scenery is very beautiful and breathtaking, and I was able to touch the clouds when I climbed to the top of the mountain. It was such a wonderful feeling!

In the end, for me, if I were given the chance to choose where to live, I would choose to live in the countryside of Davao City because of three things: comfort, closeness to nature, and friendliness of the people.

I was happy when I stayed there. The weather was excellent, the surroundings were not noisy, and I could say that generally, it was a more peaceful place.



My Two Dear Siblings

By Sr. Nguyen Thi Ngo Hong, Vietnam

I would like to tell you about my loving family who is God's blessings for me.

Every family member plays an important role in each one's life.

I am the eldest and I have two other dear siblings.

For a start, let me tell you about my dear younger sister.

She is 14 years old right now. Her name is Huong. What particularly struck me about her is her smile.

Huong seems so lovely when she smiles. Although I am older than her, she is taller than me. Her thick straight long black hair gracefully falls down to her shoulders and encircles her diamond shaped face.

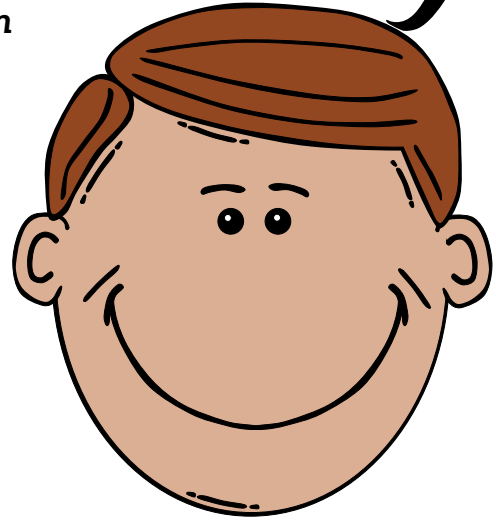
She wears long hair in a ponytail, and by that time, my dear sister looks really pretty in my eyes.

A golden suntan usually brings out her smooth, clear complexion and rosy cheeks.

Moreover she is gentle and endearing to all her friends and family. She is a caring person who likes to help others.

Secondly, let me share with you something about Hoang, my second younger sibling. He is 12 years old.

He always greets me with a big smile. He is such a happy person and he always



welcomes me with a smile and a good joke when I arrive home.

He is shorter than me and he's got a bright face and brown eyes with a straight nose. When he smiles which is often, his well formed and even white teeth brighten up his whole face.

My dear brother has a very slow way of doing things. He never seems worried about anything. Another thing is that he has so much power in him. He likes to write in his freetime; he has a creative mind.

Finally, I must say that I love my dear younger sister and brother very much. Now, both of them are junior high school students. My younger sister has a very good academic record.

At the same time she is also an artist and she makes beautiful paintings. My younger brother is an intelligent boy and has a humorous way of talking. That is the reason why I want to talk more with him.

It helps me forget sadness and nervousness because I always laugh.

Thanks be to Almighty Father who has given me precious treasures. Life is a precious gift from God and along with the Psalmist we say "I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made, your works are wonderful, I know that full well".



How to establish good communication

By Sr. Martina Sartika, Indonesia

Communication has been developed since the inception of human civilization in the world.

Communication is the activity of conveying information. The word communication has been derived from the Latin word "communis" meaning to share. It basically involves a sender, a message, and a receiver. Humans used to communicate with each other through sounds and gestures. Gestures were used when there was no language developed.

Communication continues to grow and is still growing rapidly today. Now communication is not only a body language that is used but it is also done online because of the development of very modern and advanced technology making it easier to reach others.

It is communication that has turned mankind into the most advanced, rational, and prosperous group on earth. We can be a better communicator by talking with people, not at people, listening more, speaking less, and

being fully present.

Talking with people, not at people, is an easy way to interact. We came from different backgrounds, knowing others' backgrounds will help us to really interact with each person. According to Jude Paler an Author (Hack Spirit) "For a conversation to happen, there is really no need to overthink. Because a good conversation is not made up of words alone.

Next, the most basic and powerful way to connect to another person is to listen. Just listen. Perhaps the most important thing we ever give each other is our attention. A loving silence often has far more power to heal and to connect than the most well-intentioned words. According to Dr. Rachel Naomi Remen (2003) "To improve your listening skills, it can be helpful to figure out what gets in the way of effective listening. One common problem is thinking of what we are going to say in reply while they are still

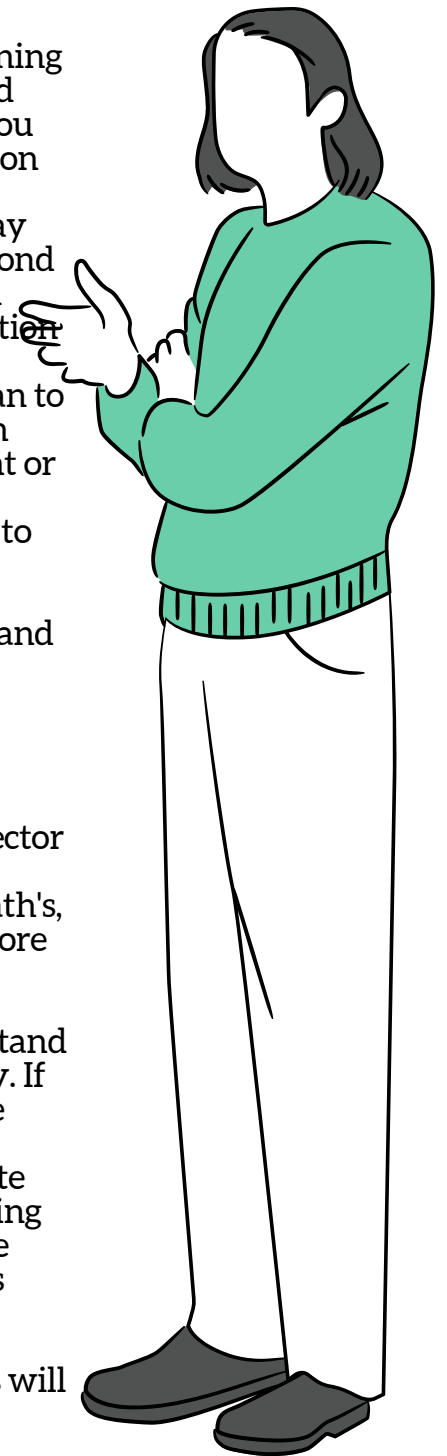
talking." Active listening is the basis of all good communication: if you aren't paying attention to what others are saying, there's no way you'll be able to respond effectively. Focus on what your conversation partner is saying.

What does it mean to be fully present with others? Being present or living mindfully, whatever you want to call it simply means you're focused and engaged in the here and now.

When we communicate with others, are we fully there? According to Rollin McCraty, Director of Research of the Institute of HeartMath's, "To practice being more present in communication, it's important to understand what gets in the way. If our intention is to be "fully present" then, focus and concentrate on what we are talking about." This way, the communication goes well.

By being fully present, both parties will have a good conversation which makes the interaction run smoothly.

Communication is very important. To have good interaction, it is necessary to pay attention to the three things as previously



explained: talking with people, not at people, listening, and being fully present so that communication will run well and comfortably.

The Noblest Jobs

By Elizabeth Cing, Myanmar

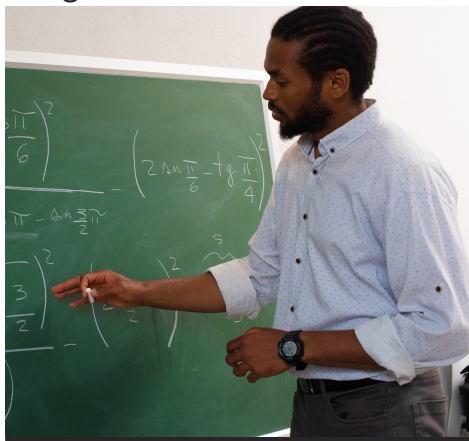
I am going to share about the Noblest Job. When I was in high school, I wanted to be a teacher because one of my teachers could explain to the students clearly which made me admire her.

Since high school, she already had retired from the public school, but she loved teaching that's why she continued teaching in a private school.

Her name is Daw Tan Tin. She was teaching Physics. Her method of teaching was very interesting and impressive. She loved all her students as her own children.

She always wore simple clothes. She always attended to every student's needs. I was grateful to her because she always led the students to the right path. When she had classes in our school, she was never late.

For me, this job is like a structural design of the building which should be given importance. This noble job that I dreamed about will not come true now, but I still feel happy when I imagine it.



Sr. Sui Sui, Myanmar

We can see that there are people swamped with work in our society. Some people are happy with their work while others are not. I realize that every job is very important.

Among them the noblest job for me is being a doctor. I don't know anybody who does this job, but I can see them at the hospital or in TV dramas.

Doctor is the one who always cures people who are ill or injured. They spend long time to study about medicine and they are practical people.

They save many people's lives. Not only do they save lives but they also give happiness to their relatives.

Not everyone can do this job because it needs someone to be intelligent, patient, creative and courageous. This job is noblest job for me because when I visited my house, I was with a person with oxygen in the car and we stayed with her for a week. She was very ill. At that time, I felt pity for her and I realized the importance of a doctor.



Sr. Marie Celine, Myanmar

As we know, there are many kinds of noble jobs. I think it depends on a person who values his/her jobs.

Now I would like to share a job that I think is the noblest job. It is working for charity which I did before.

It made me very happy. We can work for charity everywhere and in many ways. I can start from doing small things.

I love and admire people who are working for charity. I have seen many people who are working for the poor and others. They look very glad.

They work with their whole heart. They love their job. I think this job makes us to be better more and more in our life. We can.



THE RUN OF LIFE

By Fr. Xu Dong Yue Joseph, China

What happens to a runner?

There is an old saying in ancient Greek: if you want to be more healthy go jogging, if you want to be more beautiful go jogging, if you want to be more intelligent go jogging.

I don't know when I began liking jogging. Maybe it is in my childhood. I clearly remember that, when I was a pupil, I always ran home after the class. My feet moved so fast and so excited that I had a naive fantasy that I seemed to be flying in the sky, even though a heavy backpack was on my shoulder.

While I was studying in seminary, our president told us after class every afternoon that you would better go out and play basketball, football or any exercise because "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy".

However, I often came out to run and I rarely played those sports. I think they are aggressive and competitive activities, relatively speaking, I like to challenge myself rather than .

complete with others. Whatever the weather was, however busy I was I tried to go jogging every day until I became a priest.

As a new priest, I suddenly felt there were a lot of things I needed to do. I did not have enough time to finish my work, so I felt too tired. I gradually gave up running.

I thought I'd have more time to deal with my things after quitting running. I actually have more time, but my problem was not solved. I felt more tired than before, my life was quite awful.

One day, I accidentally found a book on my shelf. The book is called What I Talk about When I Talk about Running written by Japanese Haruki Murakami.

Several years ago, I had read it with joy but I completely forgot what the writer says in the book at that time and then, I opened it and saw some sentences marked in pencil such as pain is inevitable suffering is optional; to deal with something unhealthy, a person needs to be

as healthy as possible. In other words, an unhealthy soul requires a healthy body.

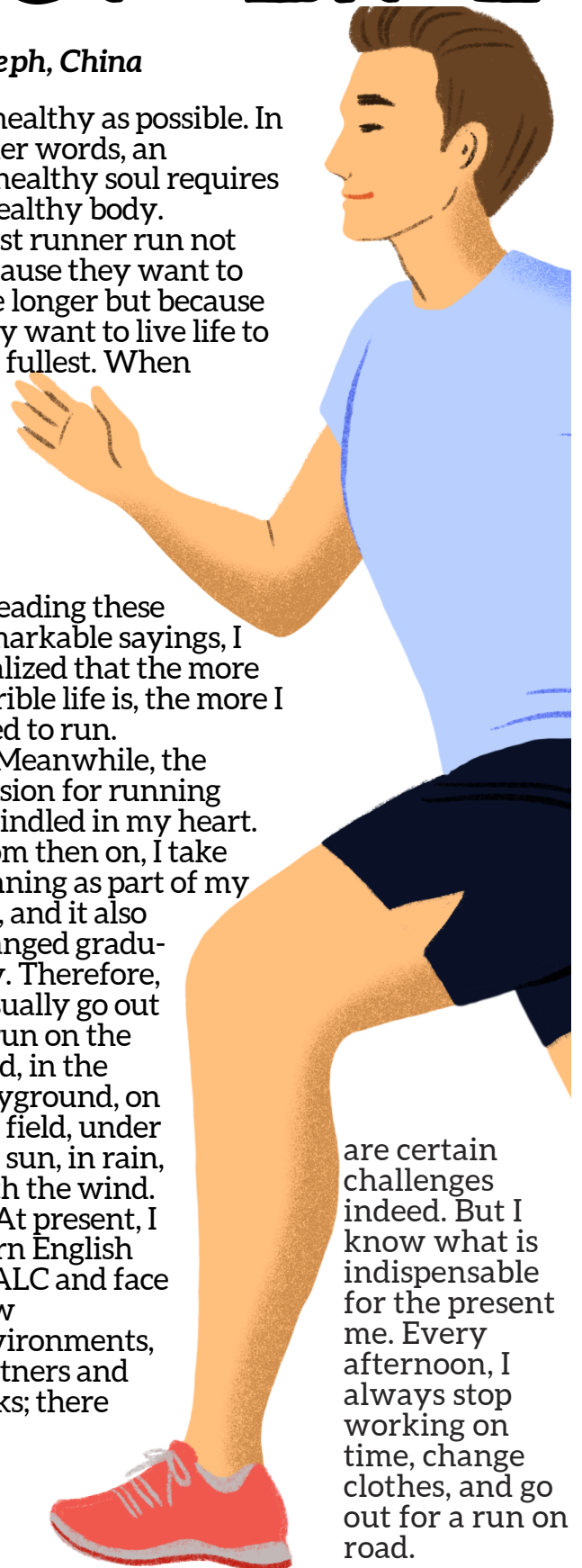
Most runner run not because they want to live longer but because they want to live life to the fullest. When

rereading these remarkable sayings, I realized that the more terrible life is, the more I need to run.

Meanwhile, the passion for running rekindled in my heart. From then on, I take running as part of my life, and it also changed gradually. Therefore, I usually go out to run on the road, in the playground, on the field, under the sun, in rain, with the wind.

At present, I learn English in ALC and face new environments, partners and tasks; there

are certain challenges indeed. But I know what is indispensable for the present me. Every afternoon, I always stop working on time, change clothes, and go out for a run on road.



Letters

Dear Sr. Patromana,

Good evening. How are you? I'm great. Here's an email in English. It's my practice!

I have 2 classes at ALC. In the morning I'm in a class with 2 sisters from Indonesia, and their names are Sr. Hermana and Sr. Vitalin. Our teacher is a Filipina; her name is Karen. She's very nice, friendly, patient, and motherly.

I live in a community student house. Community members come from different countries, and they live there.

They're from Vietnam, the Philippines and Indonesia. They're young sisters. One sister is from Vietnam who is studying to be an English teacher.

Two sisters study accounting; one sister studies Religion, and two sisters have already graduated.

My superior is a Filipina sister. Her name is Sr. Cheryl. She is friendly, understanding, and kind. I'm happy in this community.

The Philippines is an island country like Indonesia. Manila is very crowded. Every day it's very hot like in Kupang. I'm happy because the weather is the same in Kupang.

Email me soon!

Sincerely yours,
Sr. Natalia, Indonesia

Dear Zita,

How are you? I hope you are still healthy and happy. I'm healthy, but I am always busy with my English course.

I live in a community called CB Sisters Study in Project 4 Quezon City. There are five sisters from Vietnam, two sisters from the Philippines, and one aspirant who lives in the convent. The college is far away from CB Convent. Manila is big and boiling now. Every day it is raining.

I am studying English now at Assumption Language College. I am here from June 13 to Sept. 23, 2022.

I have 3 classmates, two from Vietnam and Natalia. They are all friendly, but it isn't easy to understand them. They speak very little English.

I travel to ALC (Assumption Language College) for thirty five minutes. Ten minutes of walking and then tricycle. Riding a tricycle is like becak in Yogyakarta, but tricycle uses motor so it is very easy for the driver to use. It's very exciting to ride but it's too small for me.

Zita, I'm happy in the Philippines, but I always miss our community. I will come back to Indonesia on October 1, 2022. Please pray for me to enjoy my studies and my life in the community. See you soon.

Love and prayers,
Sr. Hermana

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

By Br. Mark Ryan J. Accad, the Philippines

Due to the rise of the cases of COVID-19, Metro Manila was put under Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ). A lot of establishments were closed - restaurants, malls, coffee shops, schools, etc. Hence, there was a trend for everyone to be connected through the use of social media. The church was not excluded from this.

Churches were pushed to implement creative online activities such as mass, recollections, and more. When I was still staying at the National Shrine of the Our Mother of Perpetual Help in Baclaran,

I was assigned to the multimedia team because I knew how to use the proper applications and equipment necessary for live streaming. It was not an easy task because we were only a few people in my community and each of us had specific roles. Hence, I was kind of alone in the task. Participating in this pastoral work of multimedia allowed me to offer my talents which are beneficial

to the community. I was able to help the community produce live streaming masses for the people that need satisfaction in the spiritual aspect. I learned that this is a new way of evangelization. As a Redemptorist Missionary, we respond to the call of preaching the gospel to the poor and the most abandoned. And now, we are invited to learn new ways of doing it. Aside from being a part of the media team in Baclaran, I was also exposed to the homeless by cooking and giving food packs for them. Due to the rise in the unemployment rate, salary deduction, and city lockdowns, the number of homeless people rapidly increased. As a response to the signs of the times, we had the initiative to build the "Perpetual Help Kitchen." This kitchen is composed of volunteers - religious sisters, professional cooks, youth members, and many more. The first goal of this



community kitchen is to provide food packs for the frontliners in some hospitals that were in lockdown. It also focused on the isolated areas which had food shortages. Another goal is to provide for the homeless, which we continually help to satisfy their hunger even at this present moment. Most of these homeless that were given food packs were actually 'Locally Stranded Individuals' (LSI) who cannot go home to their respective places due to the community lockdowns. Some were basically unemployed, and the rest were workers who don't have a place to stay. My experiences in the kitchen led me to a realization that starvation is one of the present issues in this pandemic, and as a response to that issue, food packs were provided to satisfy that

need.

It reminded me of the Sermon on the Mount where the miracle of the multiplication of bread and fish happened (John 6: 1-15). It made me realize that we can imitate this miracle by sharing our needs with the less fortunate. This pandemic has affected everyone. It has affected our plans, goals, and even our mental health. But despite the challenges, the pandemic didn't cancel our purpose. As an aspiring Redemptorist Missionary in the future, I need to be creative and innovative to respond fully to the signs of the times. How about you? All of us embody that missionary dynamism. Are you willing to listen and respond to the signs of the times?

To speak or not to speak: that is the question

By Sr. Yensiana Idan, Indonesia



English is very important to people for the reason we can communicate with other people in different languages. It's very helpful to make us to get closer to other people. We can have the confidence to interact with various people where we can talk or share our experience. Especially, in this school, there are many students who are from different countries.

Sometimes, we feel nervous in communicating with each other. Our relation is limited since we are too hesitant to start a conversation with anyone. This is the reason why English is very important. This gives us the chance to become one. Moreover, speaking is the best way to learn English fast. The more we talk to other people, the more words we can learn. Saying "hello" or ask

"how are you" to someone is important. That's the time to talk more to other people specially when they make a good response. We can feel our closeness with them.

We can ask many questions about their culture or story of their country that makes us create stronger bond with them. The important factor is to speak without fear.

This is the best way since we should be open when people correct our mistakes. Those people said that mistake is a good teacher.

With mistakes, we can struggle to learn. When we make mistakes in speaking English, it makes us afraid or nervous to speak because we always think that maybe what that I am talking about is wrong.

When we feel afraid or nervous, we

are shy to ask even though we have many questions that we want to say. We always keep that question until we find a difficulty and realize that asking is important. In learning English, I am very happy because I can communicate with other people who have a different language with me.

But I am a hesitant person in terms of speaking in English. I am always thinking that when I speak, maybe, I am speaking in a wrong way or answering the wrong question. Furthermore, I always feel shy to ask questions. But I realize that this not good for me because, I find many difficulties that sometimes, I will give up to learn. That's why I always try to accept mistakes and ask question when I don't understand until I find out the meaning. During English lessons I sometimes feel bored and even always feel

sleepy when the time that I cannot understand fully. However, I am also very happy because I have good classmates who always help me at times I don't understand the lesson.

They always inspire me when I find difficult to answer questions. It makes me struggle that I can do it even though I understand slowly. English is great because I find so many experiences that make me laugh. Especially in pronunciation, sometimes this is something that is always funny for us.

From all this, I have learned many things. Learning English is not focusing on how to be perfect but, learning from our mistakes. Thus, we can be better in the future. Never stop communicating even though it is not important for us but this is one of the best ways.

We should always ask whenever we have difficulty or do not understand something.

My piece of advice is that we should try to write new words into a sentence or write it in a diary so we can remember the new words we learned.

Letting Children Make Mistakes

By Sr. Maria Vu Thi Thuy Dung, Vietnam



There are two ideas about making mistakes in children. Some assume that kids should be allowed to make errors, while others believe that adults should intervene.

Personally, although children are taught to keep far away from committing errors, it can be tolerated when kids make mistakes.

On the one hand, kids could learn a lot from their petty mistakes so they should be given the chance of making them. It is clear that any mistake is an inevitable thing for all people in our world, even the wise or the ones who are rich in experiences in life. It's natural for a child to make mistakes because of

their gap in knowledge and experience.

Although errors can be harmful to children and make them hurt, the lessons from their usual mistakes are so valuable for themselves. For example, when kids use a knife to chop vegetables in their first cooking, they could be injured, later on they will realize that they have to be careful whenever they hold any knife in their hand, and they know how to use the knife to cut fruits by themselves.

Moreover, once kids make mistakes they are aware of taking responsibility for themselves, for their decisions and actions. Thus, parents should allow their children to make errors in their own life.

However, adults must prevent kids from making any serious

mistakes because of their grave results. Foremost, children are so young that they couldn't discern which is right and which is wrong. As a result, they do whatever they love that they don't care about its good or bad consequences. They act according to their feeling instead of their conscience.

Therefore, adults need to listen, take care, and prevent them from big mistakes such as being addicted to drugs, alcohol, or dropping out of school. Otherwise, their future will be destroyed and they may become criminals. It is found that if an adult who couldn't distinguish between right and wrong, her/his mistakes can lead his/her life become bad. Hence, keeping kids far away from severe errors is an essential thing that parents have to do for the youth.

After all, children could make mistakes, but adults have to prevent them from making faults. When the kids make errors, adults also should forgive, and understand their impulsive decisions, especially, they have to guide them how to escape from the trap of temptations. By doing that, we can ensure that children can learn more and develop themselves.





**Class of 2nd Cycle 2022
(Face-to-face)**

