



## EDITORIAL

**T**he pandemic is not yet over and we are not in an ordinary time, but the quest for knowledge never stops even during difficult circumstances. The present volume of Holy Name University's *Lumina: An Interdisciplinary Journal* is offering us some refreshing thoughts on life and society. The papers included here span from educational concerns to philosophical questions of truth and biblical studies relevant to contemporary existence; and for the first time since the foundation of the journal, we are introducing a section on Boholano studies.

The province of Bohol, being an island in the Central Visayas, can rightly be considered also as the cradle of Christianity in the Philippines. The coming year 2021 is the 500th year of Christianity in the Philippines. We are therefore delighted to have in this volume a study on history, particularly on the Boholanos' active participation in the long history of the Catholic Church in the country. The Boholano studies will become an essential part of *Lumina*. This section will henceforth give us a glimpse of Bohol's history, culture, arts, and society. A preview of the papers in this volume is here in order.

The paper of Raul Deloso and Roque Bongcac examines the perspective of school administrators in determining how private schools are responding to the problem of teacher turnover. The frequent migration of private school teachers to public schools is indeed a contemporary phenomenon. This is due to the fact of increasing demands for public school teachers, not to mention the enticement of higher salaries in which private schools can hardly compete. Private school administrators find it alarming and thus employ some necessary strategies to address the problem. The authors' recommendations, therefore, are an excellent guide to this difficult task.

Ismael Magadan, Jr.'s study puts forward the fundamental insights of the Cartesian methodic doubt, giving us hope that we can correct the present epistemological scandals brought about by the flood of fake news and revisionism. The *Discourse on the Method* and *Meditations in Philosophy* are two important works of the French philosopher René Descartes (1596–1650). Magadan's attempt in making sense of these works in the present is a welcome development in contemporary philosophical reflections in the Philippine setting. The Cartesian methodic doubt, Magadan insists, is turning out to be an aid in our quest for truth. Expounding and laying out the prospects of utilizing this method is a laudable contribution of Magadan's paper.

Jose Zeno Vincent Gucor invigorates us with his exegetical-theological study on John the Baptizer and his mission in Quelle, also called as Q, Q Gospel or Q Saying. The German word Quelle is what we call 'source' in English. Gucor introduces us to these primary sayings or logia of Jesus found in the Synoptic Gospels, especially Matthew and Luke. This paper aims to comprehend the messianic forerunner concept within Quelle whereby John the Baptizer is envisaged as such. The study helps us understand the role of John the Baptizer, the identity of Jesus, and the relationship between them. Gucor believes that the study has various implications for the Church today once we accept John the Baptizer as a paradigmatic witness to follow.

The COVID-19 crisis plaguing the world has seriously smashed both the health condition of societies and the economic structure of local economies. We are indeed privileged to have in this Lumina issue the research study of Michael Canares et al, conducted from April to June 2020. The purpose of the said study was to seek an answer to the question of how the pandemic has impacted businesses, employees and formal workers, and the informal economy in Tagbilaran City, the capital province of Bohol, in the Philippines. This local assessment has provided the local government units of the City of Tagbilaran with a basis for policy and decision-making, necessary to address the severe impact of the pandemic. We hope that the inclusion of this invaluable study will also help other local government units which are still coping with this unprecedented crisis.

Christian Tecson's study on the Boholanos' participation in the 1754 military expedition in Northern Mindanao to defend the Christian communities against the Moro pirates during the Spanish colonization is a precious contribution to Boholano studies. The main title of the study, consisting of two Cebuano-Binisaya terms, *Sacayán ug Pagtuo* expresses the Boholanos' valuable involvement and their distinct characteristics of bravery and seamanship. The said campaign also displays the Boholanos' fidelity to Christianity. We are truly pleased to receive the study as an important attempt to remember the natives and, as is fitting, to honor them as co-agents in the unfolding of these historical events.

It is undeniable that the quest for knowledge never stops even during difficult circumstances. May this humble issue of *Lumina: An Interdisciplinary Journal* serve as a light in our search for truth and keep us going despite the many tough challenges ahead.