

INTERNATIONAL YOUNG CHRISTIAN STUDENTS ASIA



6TH CHAPLAINS AND ANIMATORS FORMATION EXCHANGE (CAFE)

Called to be Ambassadors of Christ (2 Cor.5:20), Students Education in this
Hour of Interculturality and Religious Pluralism

PREPARATORY DOCUMENT

Date: November 7-14, 2011

Venue: St. Mary Louis Juniorate, Sriracha, Chonburi, Thailand

I. INTRODUCTION

The Chaplains and Animators Formation Exchange or CAFÉ is one of the major programs of IYCS Asia which is organized every 3 years. It is a special opportunity to gather the representatives of chaplains and animators of IYCS Asia to pave way for exchange of their experiences in accompanying the students and facilitate learning from each other. It is a space for formation for the chaplains and animators who are the key persons in giving formation to the students.

In the context of the iPhone, iPod generation, with the fast speed of development in economy and technology, the gap among the generations is increasing. Students and young people are becoming very sensitive with all the changes, they are often updated very fast with the new trend while the older generations, especially religious feel themselves are out of date with the modern world of the young. Many chaplains and animators shared during the second BILA (Bishop Institute for Lay Apostolic) on Youth that it is very difficult for them to understand the young and to identify their real concerns and desires.

How to accompany the students in an effective way to help them to be closer to God, to help them overcome the challenges and temptations in this modern society?

Chaplains and animators have expressed the dire need to have on going formation, especially on basic skills to journey with the young and on the main social issues which affect the students' spirituality today.

We believe that CAFÉ 2011 will help the Asian Chaplains and Animators to be the bridge between the students and the Church, and between animators and chaplains.

II. HISTORY OF IYCS ASIAN CAFÉ

The idea of CAFÉ was first mooted in the annual consultation meeting between the Asian Youth International Catholic

Organizations (AYICO) held in Hong Kong in September 1989. Three ICO's, namely International Movement of Catholic Students (IMCS) Asia, the International Young Christian Students (IYCS) Asia and the International Young Christian Workers (IYCW) Asia/Pacific, expressed their interests and decided to organize such program. Thus, it was realized in 1991. With the theme '*Asian Chaplains and Animators in Lay Youth Movements in the 1990's*', the first Chaplains and Animators Formation Exchange (CAFÉ) was held on 17-28 February 1991 in Bandung, Indonesia where it was a combined program of IYCS and IMCS Asia. Unfortunately, IYCW Asia/Pacific Team was unable to join in this joint venture, as they had to concentrate on other projects at that particular time.

It was followed in 1997, again as a combined program with IMCS Asia Pacific in 23 October to 2 November in the Diocesan Center of Chantaburi, Sriracha, Thailand with the theme '*Surfing With: A Challenge to Accompaniment.*'

Since 2002, the IYCS and IMCS have organized their own formations for chaplains and animators to meet the need of the respective movements.

The 3rd CAFÉ of IYCS was organized in Domus Mariae International Center, San Fernando, Pampanga, Philippines on May 28- June 4, 2002 bearing the theme '*Online with students, in faith as Animators.*'

The 4th IYCS Asian CAFÉ was organized in Assumption Personnel Development Center in Bangkok, Thailand from 1-8 October 2005 with the theme "*Log in with Students, in Faith We Build Bridges*"

The 5th IYCS Asian CAFÉ-2008 was organized in Taytay, Philippines with the support of the host movement-Student Catholic Action of the Philippines from 1-8 December 2008 with the theme "**Accompaniment: Skills to Journey with Asian Students Today**".

III. BASIC INFORMATION OF CAFÉ 2011

- 1. Theme: "Called to be Ambassadors of Christ (2 Cor. 5:20), Students Education in this Hour of Interculturality and Religious Pluralism"**
- 2. Date:** 7-14 November 2011 including arrival and departure date.
- 3. Venue:** St. Louis Mary Juniorate, Sriracha, Chonburi, Thailand

4. Objectives of CAFÉ 2011

- To form chaplains and animators on the basic skills to journey with the young students in the 21st century.
- To bridge the gap among chaplains, animators and students, help them updated and understand deeply the social issues which affect the Student's life and spirituality today.
- To create a platform where the chaplains and animators from different countries, different culture in Asia and Pacific can exchange their experiences on apostolic service for students and learn from each other.
- To deepen and broaden their understanding and practice on the YCS Review of Life methodology See-Judge-Act and the reality of IYCS movement today, especially on the recent new movement structure approved during the World Council 2007.
- To empower the concept of students accompaniment not only in the movement but also in different levels of students' life.
- To plan for the future action of Asian chaplains and animators to response to students' reality nowadays.

5. Participants Quota:

3 participants (2 chaplains + 1 animator **OR** 2 animators + 1 chaplain) /each movement

Note: extra quotas are acceptable but IYCS Asia is not responsible for their expense except the subsidy for session fees, exposure, outing and local transportation.

- **Criteria for participants of CAFÉ 2011:**

- Must have been involved in **YCS movement** at the local level as the chaplain/animator for at least 1 year.
- Have a commitment to **serve YCS** at the local level for at least 2 more years after CAFÉ 2011.
- Have never attended any CAFÉ programs before of IYCS Asia.
- Priority for those who have not had any experiences of international events of YCS.

IV. **PREPARATION OF PARTICIPANTS AND NATIONAL MOVEMENTS FOR CAFÉ 2011**

1. **Movement reporting**

Guide questions:

1. What have you seen and experienced with young people especially the students in your country and movement today in relation to the theme? Describe. Give situations, statistics if available.
2. What were the challenges/difficulties you encountered in accompanying the young people and students in your country/movement/diocese/school/unit/area?
3. What were the actions done in response to the challenges/difficulties you have encountered in accompanying them?
4. What do you propose to do to be able to effectively accompany the youth and students in becoming authentic ambassadors of Christ?

2. Things to bring for CAFE 2011

- **For exhibition corner of your movement**, please bring:
 - 2 country flags (one for exhibition and one will be used during the program)
 - Some publications of your movement/resource materials/posters
 - Some photos of YCS actions/activities/programs in your country
 - Logo of your YCS movement (if you have one)
 - Printed copy of YCS structure in your country
 - Products made by students in your movement
 - Some photos/materials that best describe your country
 - YCS badges/pins/t-shirts or tokens of your movement

- **For IYCS Asian Solidarity Day celebration/ Cultural night**, please bring:
 - Traditional costume of your country
 - Prepare at least one performance (sing/dance..) and inform us on 7 November 2011 so that the Local Organizing Committee can design the flow accordingly.
 - Music instrument (if you play one) ☺
 - Some traditional/ native food or delicacies to share with other participants
 - Some souvenirs to exchange with your new friends
 - CD, songs if you need it for your performance

■ Others

- national movement report for documentation.
- medicine if you are under special treatment or if you have allergies
- Liturgy songs for mass, prayers.
- Rosary beads and Holy Bible
- Priests need to bring cassock for daily mass.
- Umbrella or cap in case it is rainy or too hot on exposure and outing day
- A small bag to carry your valuable things when you are out of the venue
- A light jacket
- Your personal belongings including towels.
- Your smile :-)

3. Technical details:

3.1. Flight details:

Please book the ticket early so that you can get a cheap price. You can also check and choose the most economic airlines to save the cost. From East Asia and South East Asia, there are budget airlines such as Cebu Pacific and Air Asia flying to Bangkok, Thailand with very cheap price but you need to book and buy your ticket early as the flights are often very full.

From South Asia, there are different airlines going to Thailand which are also cheaper.

Arrival date: should be on [7th November 2011 morning](#), or before 5pm so that you have time to prepare for your country exhibition corner. Everyone should be present on the formal opening on the 8th of November.

Departure date: should be on [14th November 2011, afternoon or evening](#). The closing mass is in the morning.

The organizers can take care of the participants only from 7-14 November 2011, participants arriving earlier or departing later than those date should take care of their local cost for extra stay or inform us in advance.

Please inform us your flight details including:

- Number of participants

- Full name/s
- Departure date and time from the original airport
- Arrival date and time in Bangkok, Thailand
- Name of airlines
- Flight number

Your flight schedule should be sent to us latest on **25 October 2011** so that the local organizing committee will arrange the transportation and human resource to pick you at the airport.

From the international airport to the venue, it will take around 2 hours or 2 hours 30 minutes, depending on the traffic. All the participants who arrive almost at the same time will be picked up and brought to the venue at the same time, in the same van so it is very important for us to know your flight details before the deadline mentioned.

3.2. Visa application:

Most of South East Asian countries do not need visa to Thailand. Other countries from East Asia and South Asia need visa to enter Thailand. We presume that you have applied your visa already.

3.3. Arrival at the airport of Thailand

Upon arrival, after passing through the immigration officers and after collecting your luggage, proceed to the arrival area. Go to Bay 6/ Gate 6 and look for IYCS CAFÉ sign. The members of the Local Organizing Committee of YCS Thailand will be waiting to welcome you.

Please keep all the contact details, address of the venue in your hand luggage, and do not put them in your check-in luggage. In case you get lost, please call us. You can see our contact details in this document.

4. Fund raising and solidarity share:

The Asian Team is trying our best to raise the fund to cover the expense of 70 participants during the program. We highly appreciate those national movements who are doing the great efforts to raise the fund to attend the program.

A solidarity share of 50 USD/participant is required to help the organizers and the host movement to cover some small expenses of this program.

A final registration is requested upon your arrival at the venue.

V. YCS ASIAN SOLIDARITY DAY CELEBRATION

13th November-the birthday of Cardinal Joseph Cadijn who is the inspirer of YCS movement, is celebrated as YCS Asian Solidarity Day. This year, during the CAFÉ program, all participants together with Asian Team and the host movement will celebrate the YCS Asian Solidarity Day together. A special mass will be celebrated with a special action to be done by the participants. Details of this will be given upon arriving in the venue.

VI. INFORMATION OF CAFÉ 2011 VENUE

Address of the venue:

St. Louis Mary Juniorate
Sriracha, Chonburi, Thailand

Contacts:

Bro. Siam: +66813776710

Fr. Chalerm: +66819915812

We shall obtain local sim once we arrive in Thailand. But in case you need clarifications, you can still contact us at the Asian office +6328068457 or contact thru mobile:

Reyna +639074534041 before October 27,2011

Shehan +639477033794 before November 5,2011

VII. BASIC INFORMATION OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND

<http://www.tourismthailand.org/about-thailand>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Thailand

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thailand>

VIII. CONTACT DETAILS IN CASE EMERGENCY

*** Before the program please contact:**

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IX. THANK YOU

We would like to express our gratitude to YCS Thailand for bravely taking the challenge of accepting our invitation to host the 6th CAFÉ despite a one month notice. We thank you in advance for your contribution to make CAFÉ a reality. We thank YCS Bangladesh for doing their best to host the CAFÉ but due to financial limitation of most national movements, we needed to transfer to a place central to most national movements. We also thank all national movements, friends who are giving us support, encouragement to go ahead with this program despite the many challenges.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH AND SEE YOU IN THAILAND!