

THE EDITOR'S NOTES

PHILIPPINIANA RECORDS



A. Visual Documentation of Fil-Hispanic Churches, Part XIII: Parish Church of Nuestra Señora de la Luz, Loon, Bohol

A parish established by the Jesuits (SJ) in June 1753 at the westernmost part of Bohol is where Professor **Regalado Trota Jose** focuses his visual documentation of Fil-Hispanic Churches for this year's last edition of *Philippiniana Sacra*. To be specific, the

parish is located in the town of Loon, dedicated by the Jesuits to our Lady of Light, "Whose devotion was linked with the Jesuits especially in Italy, Spain and Mexico," based from **Trota Jose's** explanation. The author traces the significant events in the life of this church after it was turned over by the Jesuits to the Order of Augustinian Recollects (OAR) in 1768 up to the unfortunate event caused by the destructive earthquake of October 2013 that reduced Loon and its historical church into rubble.

B. Literatura Epistolar Dominica de Filipinas en El Correo Sino-Annamita: Un Índice Comentado

Jorge Mojarro Romero brings into life *Correo Sino-Annamita* (CSA) which served as a documentary publication of Dominican (OP) missionaries doing their evangelization duty in the far east between 1866 and 1916. CSA is a missionary record of activities and adventures but more than this, "It presents a range of topics that covers colonial presence, ethnographies of indigenous people, political struggles and description of provincial social life," according to Mojarro. If there is one purpose Mojarro unveils the importance of CSA - it is a literary resource which is of high historical, ethnographic and anthropological value. The article is printed in the Spanish text.



ARTICLES / STUDIES

The last quarter installment of the *Philippiniana Sacra* for this year gives way to the articles

on the issue of the reproductive health bill which has recently become a law in the Philippines. The RH Law, even when it was still a bill, has become a *cause celebre* in the Philippines stirring some passionate debates between Filipino people supporting the reproductive health program of the government and the Catholic church supporters calling for the rejection of the reproductive health law on moral grounds. **Fr. Jannel Abogado, O.P.**, who heads the University of Santo Tomas – Manila, Center for Religious Studies and Ethics, provides a three-parts critique on the RH Law through his article *Natural Family Planning, Contraception, and Abortion: A Critical Consideration of the RH Law*. Furthermore, **Joel Sagut** provides another critique on the RH law by focusing on the “disagreement that is not about the ‘ends’ but on

the use of contraception as ‘means’ to achieve such ‘ends,’” his article *On Responsibility and Empowerment: Critiquing the Logic of the RH Law*. Since much issue on reproduction and contraception has been at the forefront for quite some time now, **Fr. Berman Ibañez** shares some insights through his work, *Contraception in the Works of St. Augustine*. His explanation on contraception thru St. Augustine provides a lens for the readers

on the contraceptive practices in the ancient times during the period of the Church Fathers; St. Augustine’s view of marriage that includes sexual intimacy and love; and why contraception is morally wrong as an act against conjugal love. Thus, *Philippiniana Sacra* hopes to contribute some well-crafted studies on an issue that does not yet lose steam and at the same time needs some exchange of thoughts for enlightenment.

