

Ministry Exposure Experience with
Sisters of the Good Shepherd, Baguio



*Above Sr. Veron Nobleza, Bro. Nico, Sr. Jeva Sumbillo, Sr. Marieta Velez, parish priest, Sr. Cecilia Torres, Sr. Lourdes Sevilla, Sr. Rosemary Bacaltos.
Below Bro. Nico, Sr. Cecilia Torres, Sr. Jeva Sumbillo, Sr. Veron Nobleza.*



**Reflections of Bro. Nico Angelo Mendoza posted at his Facebook account
June 9, 2018 at 8:45am**

Beloved friends of the Good Shepherd, today I end my month-long exposure with the Good Shepherd sisters here at Baguio City and I am leaving with a heavy heart precisely because mine is full of gratitude.

Allow me to frame my realizations under three headings: RGS - Reality and respect, giftedness and generosity, and sisters in the Lord.

The first R stands for REALITY and that is the first thing I carry home with me. In my encounter with the sisters, I realize that some realities should not only be accepted but confronted. There are realities calling each of us to alleviate, to improve, especially when it concerns the many injustices, the many forms of inequalities that permeate our society.

Here at Good Shepherd, I met many outspoken sisters who are not afraid to speak up, not afraid to make enemies if only it could bring about positive change in the community. I am inspired. And I endeavor to be more like them.

The second R stands for RESPECT. Having gone through the many processes in production, I have met many mothers, many students who refuse to give up, who refuse to let their situations in life tell them that life will always be so and so. Here I met dreamers, go-getters. I have so much respect and admiration for all of them.

The first G stands for GIFTEDNESS. Everyday I meet new people. Everytime I transfer from one section to another there were always angels who guided me, who made me feel accepted. I thank the Lord for the many good people who have been gifts to me. I am blessed beyond measure because of their person.

The second G stands for GENEROSITY. Part of realizing that I am blessed immensely is the call to live generously. One smile goes a long way; an aura of approachability is finer than respectability. In my dealings with everyone, this has been my daily prayer - to be more generous with myself, to be more open to others, to be more welcoming.

I learned this precisely in the store where many customers come and go bringing with them their baggages, their weariness from their travels. When we endeavor to be more generous than what is required, we become gifts to the people we meet. We put them in a situation where the only thing left to do is to relax, to be more understanding, to be more positive.

S stands for SISTERS. Prior to coming here I have always said to myself that whenever I have problems, some kind of difficulty along the way, I could always count on my brothers to help me. They have my back. As I leave today, I am assured of sisters and mothers praying for me, admonishing me to be good and to be faithful to my vocation.

Wherever the journey will take me, will take all of us, I am most grateful for the friendship, for the concern and the motherly reminders you have imparted me with. Thank you RGS sisters for teaching me to confront reality and allowing me to grow in respect. Thank you for the many gifts of our encounters and for enabling me to be generous with myself. And finally, thank you because we are friend... There's nothing more I could ever ask for.

I assure you of my prayers and I keep all your motherly reminders, pondering them in my heart.



**The Blessings of the Baguio Community
go with you, Brother Nico!**