



IMPACT OF SOMASCAN SPIRITUALITY ON PERSONAL AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT

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ABSTRACT. Somascan Spirituality gave a great as well as a major impact on dealing with learners and individuals as a whole. Somascan Spirituality greatly affects the spiritual manner of Grade 10 learners. There were seventeen different activities provided to Grade 10 learners, out of these activities, attending Christian Living formation classes ranked 1 with a frequency of fifteen, followed by Participation during First Friday Mass with a frequency of fourteen. There was Somascan Spirituality in School activities manifested through an interview by joining and being a choir member, participating in the event of Rosary month and St. A learning development plan on Somascan Spirituality is proposed to effectively deepen Somascan Spirituality among Grade 10 learners. The seventeen activities were: 1) attending Christian Living formation classes; 2) participating during First Friday Mass; 3) interviewing by joining and being a choir member; 4) participating in the event of Rosary month. A learning development plan on Somascan Spirituality is proposed to effectively deepen Somascan Spirituality among Grade 10 learners. The objectives of the learning development plan are the following: 1) to increase the knowledge of the Grade 10 learners about Somascan Spirituality; 2) to enhance the Grade 10 learners' understanding of the importance of Somascan Spirituality; and 3) to encourage the Grade 10 learners to apply the Somascan Spirituality in their daily lives. The proposed activities in the learning development plan are as follows: 1) Research about Somascan Spirituality; 2) Discussion about the research findings; 3) Sharing of personal experiences about Somascan Spirituality; 4) Writing of reflections about Somascan Spirituality; and 5) Integration of Somascan Spirituality in daily life.

KEYWORDS: SOMASCAN SPIRITUALITY, PERSONAL AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT

INTRODUCTION

The Church tells us to grow in personal holiness in living our spirituality. In response to the call of holiness, the church made various programs to uplift the spirituality of the faithful and from the different congregations it enlightens the spirit of the

people in this material world and one of those congregations is the Somascan Order that has undertaken various apostolic activities inspired by the love of Christ. Jerome's mission by living in communities pursuing holiness through prayer and ministry to the poor living in humility and kindness loving poverty and working and praying to the

Crucified Jesus and Mary Mother of the Orphans being either priests or brothers. Jerome.

Jerome's spirituality. «In the specific case of the Somascan spirituality, the members of their institute, in the footsteps of Jerome Emiliani, tend to imitate and incarnate here and now the Christ poor and merciful, the one who is assisting the poor and the orphan, to build up and reform the Church of all times. The Somascan Spirituality leads to believing in love, dwelling in love to dwell in God, and being His dwelling. It makes of us signs of the paternal love of God, who is a refuge, help, support, and advocate of the orphans and the poor.

The Somascan Spirituality emanates from the contemplation of the Crucified, as a Gospel of love active «to the utmost.» The Crucified discovered the true face of the gather, who limitlessly loves in total gratuitousness, as well as the face of every human being who suffers, especially the face of the innocent, scarred by loneliness, discrimination, injustice, and violence. In almost five centuries of life, the Congregation of the Somascan Religious has developed an intense educational activity in different fields. Born for the care of orphans, the Somascans offered a remarkable contribution to the seminaries and expanded their commitment to the schools for the poor. » Jerome.

« He appointed out the study and work as the reliable and dignified tools for an integral formation of the individual». They enable us to feel the love and care of God through Somascan Spirituality. With the same intense love of her Founder, the Congregation continues to devote herself to the material

and spiritual care of orphans and the poor and undertakes the human and Christian education of youth and pastoral ministry. In response to making present the Spirituality, the expression of the Somascan Spirituality manifested here in the Philippines particularly in Sorsogon last 1985.

Each community, in its various areas of the apostolate, is to engage the poor and needy youth and build a school for them that highlights the spirituality of a learner. 75 of their constitution states «Our educational action is to aim at building up an environment inspired by mutual acceptance and common responsibility and at fostering a relationship of lively friendship among people with different conditions, involving youngsters, educators, and parents in the formation program». Jerome's example is to train the young people sensitive and committed to the need to take part in initiatives in favor of the poor and to gradually take responsibility. By their commitment to the Christian formation of Youth, the Somascan Spirituality devotes herself to the formation of youth through teaching, educational institution, and youth ministry.

In 35 years of the Somascan mission here in the Philippines particularly in Sorsogon, its spirituality became a huge impact on students, religious, and people within their mission areas. Providing the students with human, moral, and spiritual formation to witness our catholic faith, providing activities and opportunities in favor of the needy individuals/community, as a way of life and embedded in the teachings of St. Jerome Emiliani to produce God-loving faithful. as established by the Somascan continue the spirituality that follows the guidance by the

charism of St. Jerome Emiliani dedicated herself to form competent and compassionate professionals through the enrichment of academic and religious instructions, advancement of skills, and extension of relevant services to the church and the community. ACI's vision and mission are anchored on developing well-rounded individuals, focusing not only on the academic aspect but more so on honing learners holistically.

As a Catholic School run by the Somascan Community, Somascan priests and brothers educate and train Aemilianus following the teachings of St. Jerome Emiliani. As a learning institution, one of its goals is to produce learners whose academic performance and well-being are at their peak. These two key factors are the guiding light as this study seeks to find the impact of Somascan spirituality on the academic performance and well-being of the Grade 10 learners. While there has been an increased in the study of the impact of spirituality on health, stress, social work, and many others little is known about the impact of Somascan Spirituality on academic performance and well-being among its students.

The researcher was inspired to conduct this study to confirm that Somascan Spirituality on the academic performance of a learner that they were able to reach out and relay its benefit to their everyday life. This is where the socio-economic factor of self-esteem plays a big role in a learner's academic performance. It may not be direct at all but building programs and activities for the youth to be engaged in is the biggest factor that Somascan Spirituality is a big factor for academic performance.

Spiritual exercises or activities have all been recognized to contribute to the study and living of the learners within school and society. It is generally felt that Somascan Spirituality has a great impact on the minds and hearts of Grade 10 learners. Thus, the study "The impact of Somascan spirituality on personal and social engagement of Grade 10 learners," was conceived by the researcher.

SUMMARY

This study was conducted to determine the impact of Somascan Spirituality on the personal and social engagement of the selected Grade 10 Learners.

Specifically, it sought answers to the following sub-problems:

1. What are the different school activities provided to Grade 10 learners to inculcate and deepen Somascan Spirituality?
2. How do Grade 10 learners manifest their Somascan Spirituality in their engagement:
 - a. School Activities
 - b. Friends and Classmates
 - c. Church Activities
 - d. Cope with peer pressure like smoking, drinking alcohol, and escaping class.
3. What is the impact of Somascan Spirituality among Grade 10 learners in terms of responding to the different social and peer pressures?
4. What learning development plan on Somascan Spirituality can be proposed to effectively deepen Somascan Spirituality among Grade 10 learners?

Leading principles and theories about Spirituality were utilized in this technical

piece. Rivelria's Strategies Scale Theory, Tuliao's Theory of Mental Health, Vicki Zakrzewski's Social Emotional Learning Theory, and Carol Ann Tomlinson's Theory of Differentiated Instruction guided the researcher to formulate his theory called Spiritual Nourishment Learning or S.N. Learning.

This study employed descriptive analysis and correlation. These were used to determine the impact of Somascan spirituality among Grade 10 learners. There were research tools used, such as constructed and validated questionnaires for interviews with the participants. The respondents of this study were 15 came from the selected Grade 10 learners of Aemilianum College Inc.

To interpret the data, rank, average, and descriptive rating scales were used to arrive at a valid conclusion.

Findings

The following were the salient findings of this study:

1. There were seventeen (17) different activities provided to Grade 10 learners, out of these activities, attending Christian Living formation classes ranked 1 with a frequency of fifteen(15), followed by Participation during First Friday Mass with a frequency of fourteen(14). Visiting the orphanages and Home for the Aged, Participation in Novena and other Activities during the Feast of St Jerome, Listening and Respecting Elders, and Following the teaching of the Church got the second to the last rank with a frequency of 8 and Attending Retreat got the last ranked with a frequency of 7.

2. There was Somascan Spirituality in School activities manifested through an interview by joining and being a choir member,

participating in the event of Rosary month and St.Jerome feast, joining religious activities in Christian Living Education, showing respect to people in their own beliefs, opinions, culture, etc., and Sharing with others what I have and show them the tender love of God. Thus, Somascan Spirituality expresses ways of dealing with others, particularly with friends and classmates through helping them when they need help, loving one another, giving comfort to each other, being a good influencer to lead them to study hard, and being honest with them at all times, being simple and humble in communicating with them and talking about the bible, talking to them about the Friday gospel message, helping without the expectation of them reciprocating it back and by being considerate, and assisting or helping them in their needs, loving them, and comforting them in times of difficulties. Moreover, Somascan Spirituality helps coped with peer pressure like smoking, drinking alcohol, and escaping from class by enlightening and giving life direction, sharing talent in singing by joining the choir, reflecting on the message of the gospel every mass, and giving a positive mindset, reminding that life is a gift from God that need to take care of it. Help himself to evaluate what is good and bad, become more aware of his surroundings, and improve his emotional state of mind.

3. There is a major and great impact in responding to the different social and peer pressure. Among the seventeen indicators, there were 13 great impacts and 7 major impacts.

4. A learning development plan on Somascan Spirituality is proposed to effectively deepen Somascan Spirituality among Grade 10 learners.

Conclusions

Based on the above findings, the following conclusions are made:

1. Attending Christian Living Education and Participating in Friday Masses are the main aspect that developed Somascan Spirituality of the Grade 10 learners
2. Good values and strong spirituality are inculcated in the minds and hearts of Grade 10 learners.
3. Somascan Spirituality gave a great as well as a major impact on dealing with learners and individuals as a whole.
4. Somascan Spirituality greatly affects the spiritual manner of the Grade 10 learners.
5. Grade 10 learners lived by the Somascan education way of life.

Recommendations

Based on the presented conclusions, the following recommendations are offered:

1. The campus ministry must create a program that inspires the learners in their spiritual growth.
2. Educate on devotion and loyalty to the values of the Catholic tradition and create a stable atmosphere of charity with communal acceptance of all and love for the poor.
3. Major as well as the great impact of Somascan Spiritual be shown by the individual by avoiding all the vices and inculcating the virtues of a Christian learner.
4. To the Values and Religious Teachers, the researcher recommends that they need to maximize the spiritual growth of the learners

by following the Catholic teaching pages on social media.

5. The researcher encourages the parents to boost the spirituality of their children by actively engaging their children in church activities.
6. The researcher suggests that the learners should also join different ministries of religious organizations in their parish.