

婦女天地 - FANNY BRAGANZA

Epifania N. Braganza 姊妹出生於菲律賓，**Fanny**是家裏八兄弟姊妹中的唯一女孩。她是菲律賓救世軍達古潘市隊的軍兵，於來港前（1996年）在菲律賓的一間物業公司負責行政工作，及至來港後，她便轉隊至本軍區的英語隊。**Fanny**是一位很重視關係的人，她臉上常帶着願意跟人分享的笑容。最近，我們聯絡了**Fanny**去聽她的故事，我會讓她親自分享.....

我與神的關係

自從我成為基督徒後，我與神的關係是充滿諸般挑戰的，但我意識到神的同在。我經歷到神會透過一些人或事，將我的注意力從自己身上轉移開去，在我發現的時候，神已消除我的憂慮或給我解決問題的方法。我深深感受到神同在所給予的一種感覺，就是一種帶給我在主裏安穩、受保護及滿足的感覺。

軍區與我

我的父母親都已離世（父親 — 1995年，母親 — 2004年）。當我還是七、八歲的時候，雖然我的父母是虔誠的天主教徒，但他們容許我和兄弟們上救世軍去，因為教會的地點很近我的家，我也成為救世軍的茉莉花家庭援助計劃的成員（現名為**CCF** — 「基督教兒童基金」），並參與部隊的主日學，先成為青年兵，後來成為軍兵了。救世軍很快就成為了我屬靈的家庭。

作為一位女性……正如大多數的女性一般，我亦十分喜歡時尚的服裝配飾及美容，但我最享受的是能當「榮譽母親」來照顧我的二十位侄子侄女，及成為社區裏每一位的朋友。我是一個「關顧人的人」，雖然單身，但卻肩負着家庭帶給我的巨大責任，因為我繼承了父母給予的土地權，所以必須為家庭成員定出很多的決策。

理想的休息日？

每星期兩日：週六和主日。

如果我能再次回到十八歲，我會告訴自己要盡情地活着，並要同情那些有需要的人。我也會跟別人說：「與父母及家人多些共處的時間」。

生活的平衡？

要達至平衡的生活並不容易 — 我們經常要處理很多的事情。我期望能更有成效地分配時間來妥善地處理生活上每一件事情。

信主的婦女能夠改變世界？

我們每一位都能夠改變世界，這是從我們如何審視自己開始的。當你確信神真的愛你，你對生命的展望會影響你的思維和行動。你的想法和理解會創造真正的分別，你的生活方式也會反映出這些來。信主的婦女在工作場所及家庭裏是以積極的態度來生活的。

我最喜歡的經文

是以賽亞書40章8節：「**草必枯乾，花必凋殘，惟有我們神的話必永遠立定。**」在我的經歷裏，無論我們面對甚麼挑戰，總沒有任何人能把我們與神寶貴的話語分離。

我對未來的願望和夢想？

我希望大家更以基督為主 — 耶穌就是真生命的全部！

謝謝 *Fanny* — 你是充滿基督熱情和活力的婦女 — 這個城市是有福的，因有您的見證！

受訪者：FANNY BRAGANZA 姊妹（英語隊）

訪問者：施韻迪上校（軍區婦女事工會長）

Women's World - Epifania N.Braganza

Born Epifania N.Braganza in the Philippines, 'Fanny' is the only girl in a family of 7 brothers. She was enrolled as a soldier of the Dagupan City corps and she worked as an administrator in a real estate office prior to coming to work in Hong Kong in 1996 and transferring her soldiership to the English Speaking Corps. Fanny is a very relational person, always has a smile ready to share and recently we connected to hear her story. I'll let Fanny tell it in her own words ...

My relationship with God Since becoming a Christian, I have had many challenges but despite these I have always been aware that God has been with me. Often He has used people or events to divert my attention from myself and before I realize it, my worries are gone or I've found the solution to what was bothering me. I feel deep in my heart that I am secure, well cared for and content in Him.

Me and the 'Army' My parents have passed away (father – 1995, mother – 2004). When I was young, while they were devout Catholics they were willing for my brothers and I to attend The Salvation Army as it was in our neighbourhood. I became a member of the Sampaguita Family Helper Project, (now CCF -Christian Children's Fund) and went to the Army's Sunday School, becoming a Junior and then Senior Soldier. The Army quickly became my spiritual home.

On being a woman... Like most women I enjoy fashion and beauty but the best part of being a woman for me is being an honorary mother to my 20 nieces and nephews as well as being a friend to everyone in the community. I'm a 'people person'. Being single, however, brings a great deal of responsibility for my large family as I inherited the land title from my parents and so must decide how to make family decisions for so many.

A perfect day off? Two in a row – Saturday and Sunday!

If I were 18 again, I would tell myself to live life to the fullest and don't forget to be compassionate to those who are in need. I would also say to others - spend more time with your parents and family.

Balance in life? Balancing the demands in life is not easy – there's always so much to do. I'd like to manage my time better, ensuring that everything in life has a perfect time for itself.

Changing the world as a woman of faith? We each can change our world beginning by how we perceive ourselves. Once you are convinced that God truly loves you, your outlook on life affects and changes your thoughts and actions. It makes a real difference as to how you think and reason and your lifestyle will reflect that. Women of faith become a positive, instead of negative influence in their workplaces and homes.

My favourite Scripture verse has to be Isaiah 40:8 'The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the word of our God stands forever'. In my experience, no matter what happens in life, no one can take away the good words that we have from the Lord.

My hope and dream for the future? That everyone would become more Christ centered – Jesus is what true life is all about !

Thanks Fanny – you're a woman of passion and energy for Christ – this city is blessed to have your testimony !

Interviewee: FANNY BRAGANZA (English Speaking Corps)

Interviewer: Lt Col Wendy Swan (CPWM)