

That Final Day

Father Steve Remembered

Here is the facebook page of Fr. Steve's tragic death from his student Rogene Pervandos.



We are grieving over the death of Fr. Steve Baumbusch PIME, our rector. I was one of his companions during that tragic turn of events. We went to a place whom we consider a beautiful and sandy beach but we do not know that it was a dangerous spot. there was no one to inquire since it was a secluded place. As we went to the sea I stop at the middle because I protested that I do not know how to swim. Fr. Steve and Luca a first year Seminarian went ahead swimming since both of them are capable swimmer, in fact fr. steve is a licensed life guard. I went back to the shore, there were people already warning me and even scolding me why we swim in that areas which is considered very dangerous. But I told them there was no one to ask when we arrived. One of them immediately help me to find a ride to look for rescue to help them in case. I went directly to fr. Giuseppe to inform about the two while my companion was able to find a fisherman who knew the area well. When we reach back we saw only Luca haggard, exhausted gasping for air alive walking toward the shore. The fisherman and I tried to see any possible floating object yet he still decided to dive and tried to find Fr. steve 20 minutes at the rough sea. There was also pumpboat coming trying to find Fr. Steve but the worst thing happen he never came back to the shore. He drowned maybe at 3:30pm and his body was found the following day at 2:00 am. He loves the place very much, Lubang, in fact, he planned that after his term as rector he wish to serve the people of Lubang since he was in love wth the place and the people as he celebrated masses with them especially during the fiesta of St. Jude Thaddeus at Binakas chapel five hours before he died.



He also plan to have the annual retreat of the seminarians at the place of Ma'am Norie and Sir Christian vacation house next year and invite Fr. Bossi PIME or Fr. Giuseppe, PIME to be the retreat master. His last wish while walking at the shore is to buy a piece of land where he can used to meditate and pray. But God has other plan for him. He is called him to his ultimate mission in life to be back at the Father's house. We missed you Father. you let us feel proud, special, important as individual unique person embraced by you with brotherly and fatherly love of God.



Pray for us... We would like to say thanks to the people of Lubang who shown their love and care as we extended our stay during the two days wake of Fr.Steve. What makes Lubang a paradise is its people whose heart are genuinely loving and caring to strangers. We missed you all and we will be back in God's gracious time. Patuloy po kayong umunlad sa Diyos at sa kapwa! Pray for us and we surely pray for you.



