

Dearest sisters and brothers in Christ,

Let us pray for peace and compassion amongst all of God's children. Let us use our life to shine God's light in the world. Do you wonder how you can be *MAD*? I would say that each day I try hard to be *MAD*! I ask myself: *am I Making A Difference?* I know in my heart that all I have in life is given to me by our Lord, exactly when I need it, and more. This is the power of faith, courage, and gratitude in action!

"Remain in me, as I remain in you, says the Lord.

Whoever remains in me will bear much fruit." John 15: 4 a, 5b

Faith is strengthened by cultivating gratitude. As we come to deeply immerse ourselves in God's eternal and unceasing love and compassion, we come to stand more fully in our faith. We become one with God as He is within us always. How will we use our life to give to others, the least among us, those who suffer, those who are ill, those who need love most? How will we use what we have, from wherever we are, to do the best that we can, in service to our Lord? An unexamined life, as the poet opined, is worth examining. Let us use our blessings to nurture others with respect, compassion, with our energy and time, all for the glory of God. Amen.

Fr. Vincent Phung