



## Editor's Note

**Sonia D. Bermejo**  
Publisher/Executive Editor

*Sweet, somber November*.....here you are at last. The leaves, after such magnificent explosive display of colors, have finally fallen on the ground. The change in nature is abruptly felt. Not the subtle one brought in by the month of October. We have transitioned into the *temperamental weather*, the windy, sometimes sunny, sometimes foggy, oftentimes crisp month of November.

The eleventh month of the year, based on the Georgian calendar, and the ninth ('*novem*' in Latin, where its name was derived from) during the early Roman calendar. Known in Old English as '*Blotmonath*' (blood month), when animals are slaughtered for food, and prepared for the onset of the winter months. Crops have been harvested, as well, and placed in storage. Pickles and jams to the ready. The month also known as the *Peanut Butter lovers' month*, jam and jelly will always come in handy...

*"Our Father, fill our hearts, we pray,  
With gratitude Thanksgiving Day;  
For food and raiment Thou dost give,  
That we in comfort here may live."* -  
Luther Cross, [Thanksgiving Day](#)

Being designated as the Thanksgiving month, people are more inclined to express their gratitude, otherwise often forgotten in the hustle and bustle of this thing called LIFE. Families take the time to get-together, creating more wonderful memories they can look back to with a smile on their faces, to be passed on to the next generations. It is a great time for reflection, to be reminded of the things we ought to be thankful for.

*Always grateful for God's graciousness, Manila Up! International Magazine has so much to be thankful for.* A lot have transpired since our first

issue was published. Our masthead has grown tremendously. The word 'International' had to be inserted into our title, the result of the acquisition of contributing writers representing different parts of the globe, introducing us to different cultures, different aspects of life, the connectivity issue taken very seriously to heart. Drawing more followers.

*Launched in Manila last June through the generosity of Governor Chavit Singson*, we are looking forward to a *second launching this month, on November 10 at the Century Park Hotel in Malate, Manila, this time hosted and sponsored by Philippine Airlines*. I am so humbled by the outpouring of support. It is quite overwhelming, that this little undertaking, a not even one-year old magazine, is honored this way. It is hard to express the tremendous feeling of gratitude and happiness emanating from my heart.

*Indeed, it was a journey full of wonderful blessings. The challenges have made us patient, the obstacles made us stronger, every suffering, endured, created in us a heart full of thanksgiving, a great faith in the One Who gave it all to us. Snags were met with a smile on our faces, knowing full well that whatever it is, it too will pass. God is behind everything that we've gone through, be they good or bad. It had taught us to keep our focus on Him, to always ask for His guidance, that the magazine be an instrument, a testament of His unfailing love, not just in our lives, but to the lives of the people who are kind enough to be featured in our humble publication. And as it has brought wonderful blessings to us, may it be used to bless others as well.*

In behalf of my Manila Up! family, I thank you all from the bottom of my heart. Our very supportive loved ones, sensational friends, admirable sponsors, and fantastic readers.

**TO GOD BE THE GLORY!!!**

**Note: Cover page by: Paul Mirador**