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📷: Souvenir photo for Ferdinand Blumentritt taken in Paris, France, dated 10 January 1900, Ernst Blumentritt Collection.

To know more about Felipe Agoncillo, follow the NHCP Museum of Marcela Mariño & Felipe Agoncillo's Facebook page 🐦  
facebook.com/museoninamarce...

12h

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As lawyer known to give pro bono services, he took on the libel case Americans filed vs. Filipino newspaper El Renacimiento, becoming the paper's defense counsel. He was Interior Secretary (1923-1925) & president of the 1st session of the Philippine Independence Congress in 1930.

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Today is the 161st birth anniversary of Felipe Agoncillo, the first 🇵🇭 diplomat. In 1898, he represented the #PH revolutionary gov to the negotiations leading to the Treaty of Paris but was not allowed to be heard. He was elected as Batangas assemblyman in 1907. #MakeltHistoric



12h

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Did you know?

The Philippine flag's sun originally had a human face on it, similar to the sun on the flags of some South American republics that became independent from Spain, namely the flags of Argentina (1812) and Uruguay (1828). #MakeltHistoric #FlagDays #Kasaysayan



14h

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"Agroforestry has massive potential to meet the dietary and food needs of the most vulnerable sectors of society,...it helps enhance the ecosystem services of landscapes, such as their water flows and carbon-storage potential." -Rodel Lasco, ICRAF  
Philsworldagroforestry.org/blog/2020/03/2...



**The role of agroforestry...**  
Agroforestry in the Philippines  
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17h

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## *Fr. Centina washed himself for another wake*

Posted on *May 2, 2020* by *Pepe Alas*

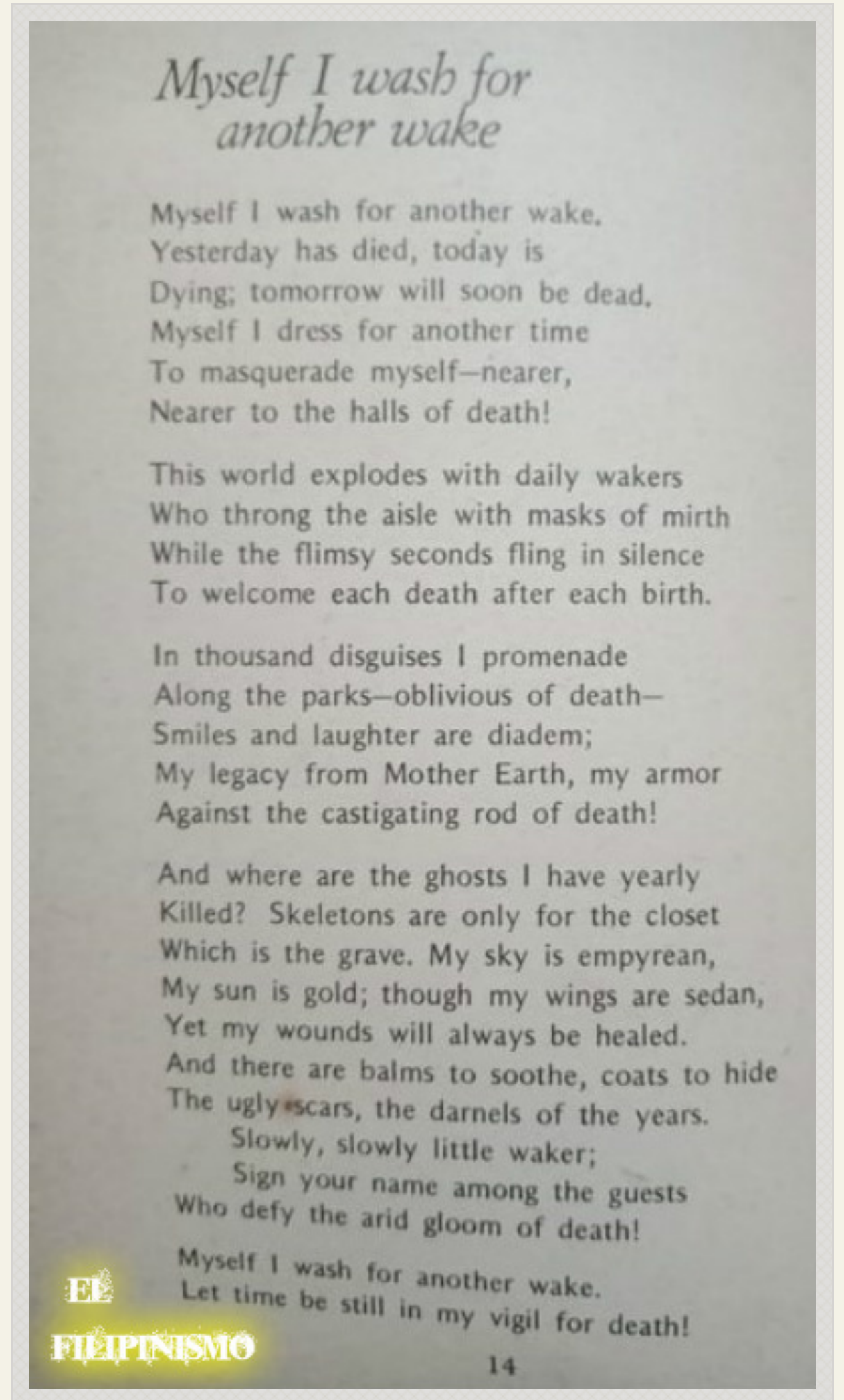
The dreaded coronavirus pandemic has taken another notable person who is a pillar of contemporary Filhispanic poetry as well as a vanguard of rare Catholic poetry.

Fr. Gilbert Luis R. Centina III, O.S.A. (19 May 1947–1 May 2020), was a rarity. An award-winning friar-poet, he has authored several books of poetry as well as other writings in four languages: English, Spanish, Tagalog, and Hiligaynón. He entered the Augustinian Monastery in Intramuros and graduated cum laude in each of his four ecclesiastical degrees from the [University of Santo Tomás](#) (BA classical, Ph.B., STB, and STL). He later earned an MA in comparative literature at the University of the Philippines and briefly served as a missionary in Perú after his ordination where he taught literature as a professorial lecturer. He also served as a school chaplain for many years and as pastor of a parish church in Manhattan, New York.

Throughout all his priestly and administrative tasks, Fr. Centina still found time to edit a scholarly journal on Saint Augustine and write hundreds of newspaper columns, magazine articles, and verses in four languages. When he was still in Filipinas, he wrote maintained a column for the now-defunct Newsday under the pen name *Jorge Seurat*. He also dived on history. Many years ago, he maintained a column in *People's Tonight*. I wrote him two reaction letters which he published in full (I was then in my early 20s). I am forever grateful for that.

His final years were spent in Spain, one of the hardest hit countries of the ongoing pandemic. He succumbed to COVID-19 on Labor Day. His death is a big blow to Filhispanic poetry which is suffering from a dearth of writers.

I am now sharing to you one of his poems, “Myself I wash for another wake”, which was included from his collection of poetry “Glass of Liquid Truths” (Bayanihan Books, 1979). This poem somehow eerily echoes his exaunt yesterday (Yesterday has died, today is | Dying; tomorrow will soon be dead) as well as a reflection on today’s global crisis (This world explodes with daily wakers).



*Que descanse en paz eterna, Padre Gilbert. Vaya con Dios.*

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