The PHC Christmas festivities started on December 3, 2018 with the solemn celebration of the Holy Mass at Dr. Aventura Hall presided by Fr. Marven Yuyeras, MI, PHC Chaplain and Chairman of the Spiritual Committee. In his homily, Fr. Marven focused on the PHC Christmas celebration theme “Paskong Pinoy,” along with the five (5) iconic symbols that are distinctly Filipino: 1) Regalo; 2) Caroling; 3) Simbang Gabi; 4) Parol; and 5) Noche Buena and Family Gatherings.

Sharing their blessings as mass offerers were Dr. Joel M. Abanilla (Executive Director), Ms. Josephine M. Guillermo-Lopez (Deputy Executive Director for Hospital Support Services), Dr. Maria Belen O. Carisma (Deputy Executive Director for Education, Training and Research Services); Dr. Aileen V. Guzman-Banzon, Overall Chairperson of the PHC 2018 Christmas
Celebration Organizing Committee, together with her Co-Chairperson, Ms. Emilia P. Olbes (Department Manager, Administrative Services). They were joined by the different Committee Heads and Members of the PHC 2018 Christmas Celebration Organizing Committee.

As the night drew near, the excitement and joy built up as the participants gathered together at the Medical Arts Building Annex for the Christmas Lantern Parade. Bright lights and colors bursted as Christmas lanterns set Matalino Street and East Avenue in glow jointly with the rhythmic harmony provided by the Drum and Lyre Corps of Lagro High School. Participants from the four (4) Services were joined by their partner school in the Adopt-a-School ‘Kasangga Ko Ngayong Pasko’ Dance Contest – Nursing Services with Lagro High School; Medical Services with Flora A. Ylagan High School; Education, Training and Research Services (ETRS) with North Fairview High School; and Hospital Support Services (HSS) with Jose P. Laurel, Sr. High School.

Dazzling lights and beaming smiles set the mood for the Christmas Launching Program. The Opening Remarks of Dr. Guzman-Banzon and the Inspirational Message of Dr. Abanilla officially launched the much-awaited ‘Paskong Pinoy sa PHC’ celebration.

The Lantern Parade or ‘Parolkutitap’ Contest highlighted one of the iconic symbols of Philippine Christmas celebration, the ‘Parol.’ The Contest was participated by the 4 Services of the PHC - Nursing, Medical, ETRS, and HSS. Carrying their Christmas lanterns with functioning lights, each services performed a 5-minute gimmick which delighted the entire PHC community.
1st Place – Medical Services

2nd Place – Hospital Support Services

3rd Place – Nursing Services
4th Place – Education, Training and Research Services

The Adopt-A-School Dance ‘Kasangga Ko Ngayong Pasko’ Contest showcased the rich Philippine culture as the talented young students from the public high schools performed the traditional folk dances.

1st Place – Jose P. Laurel Sr. High School
(adopted school of the Hospital Support Services)
2nd Place – Lagro High School
(adopted school of the Nursing Services)

3rd Place – North Fairview High School
(adopted school of the Education, Training and Research Services)

4th Place – Flora A. Ylagan High School
(adopted school of the Medical Services)
The Lighting Ceremonies at the MAB Lobby officially unveiled the spectacle of lights of the Christmas decorations at PHC. The fusion of modern and traditional way of celebrating Christmas in the Philippines best described the decorations… a real feast for the eyes.

Christmas celebrations would not be complete without the traditional ‘salu-salo.’ The Boodle Fight featuring Philippine fiesta food was enjoyed by PHC employees, shortly after the exhilarating performances of all the Services and their adopted schools.