THE PARISH

The Parish News

NOTICES, SERVICES AND NEWS

FREE MONTHLY

Issue 1 · YOUR PARISH · November 2026

THE ROOF APPEAL REACHES ITS HALFWAY POINT

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When you have replaced everything, delete any paragraphs left over rather than stretching the text to fill. White space at the foot of a column is normal in a newspaper and looks far better than padding.

Quotations do more work than description. One sentence from somebody who was there is worth three of your own, and it gives the reader a second voice to listen to halfway down a column.

Cut the first sentence you wrote. It is almost always a run up rather than a start, and the second sentence usually turns out to be the one the story wanted to open with.

Read the whole column aloud before it goes to the printer. Sentences that trip you when you say them will trip the reader too, and on paper there is no way to fix them afterwards.

Photographs need names. A picture with no caption is decoration; a picture with the names of the people in it, left to right, is the reason somebody keeps the paper in a drawer for thirty years.

Leave the last paragraph short. Editors cut from the bottom when a story does not fit, so anything you would hate to lose belongs higher up the column than you first want to put it.

A letter from the vicar

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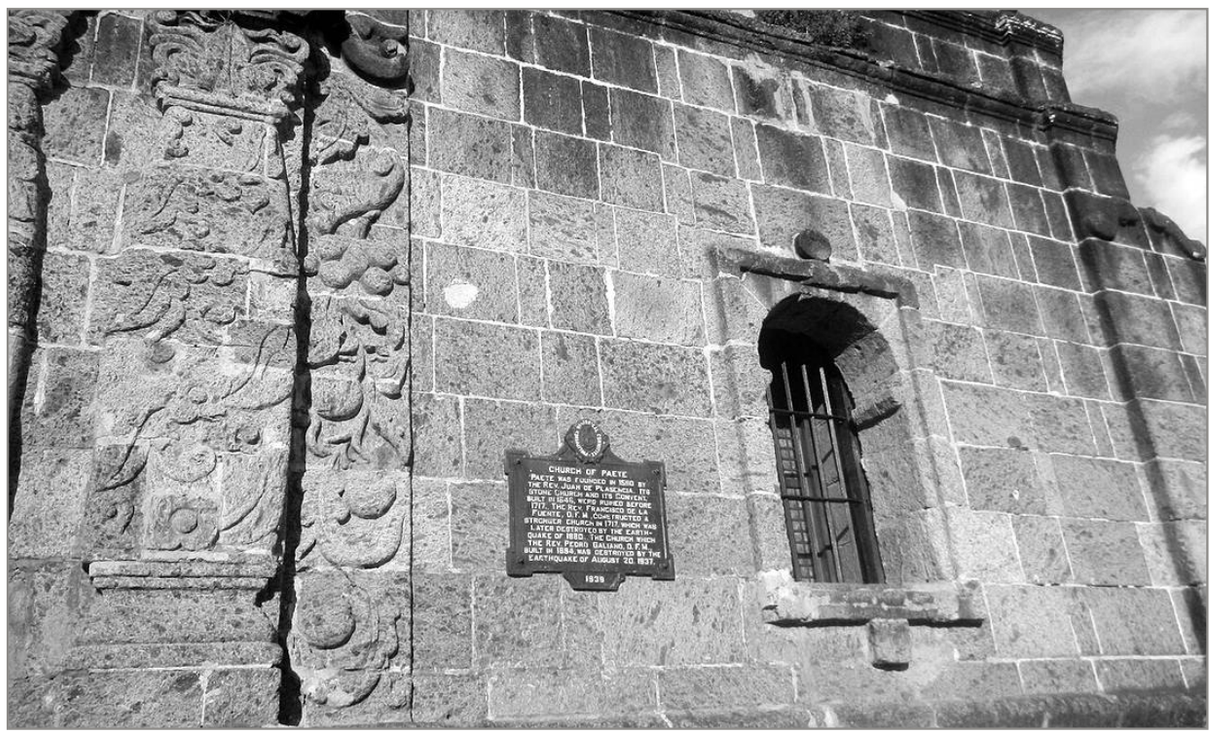

A photograph of people, not of the building. Buildings do not make anyone come back.

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A line worth reading twice, set large so it gets read once properly.