

National Seafarer's Day
Circular 2005-11

To: All Seafarer's Families in the Parishes
All Catechists in Public Elementary and High Schools in the
Diocese
All Principals and Religion Teachers in Schools of PSA-Nova,
even Congregational Ones

Do you know that for the year 2004, over-all deployment of Filipino seafarers totaled 229,002 – equivalent to 25% of the total OFWs deployed in the same year? For the past twenty (20) years, POEA statistics show an increasing rate of deployment of registered Filipino sea-based workers. Since 1975, the Philippines is considered as the #1 source of seafarers in the world.

In honor and recognition of the invaluable contribution of Filipino seafarers to national economy and development, President Fidel V. Ramos issued Proclamation No. 1094 for the annual observance of the National Seafarers' Day (NSD) since September 1996 under the lead of the Apostleship of the Sea - Manila together with the relevant government agencies, NGOs, and maritime institutions.

This year 2005, the Philippines will celebrate the 10th NSD on September 25 at 7:00 A.M. up to 12:00 Noon at the Quirino Grandstand, Rizal Park as the opening event of the National Maritime Week (September 25-30) with the theme: "Filipino Seafarers: Going Strong" or "*Marinong Pilipino: Lalong Tumatatag.*"

Therefore, along with Rev. Fr. Savino Bernardi, CS, AOS National Director and NSD Coordinator, I encourage all seafarers' families from the Parishes and our schools as well as from the maritime agencies and colleges within the Diocese of Novaliches to send some delegates as our contingent to the celebrations at The Luneta, and for all Priests and Religious in the Parishes to mention some facts above about the seafarers in their homilies in all the Masses that Sunday, including in the anticipated Masses of the

Saturday before. I also want that during the week all catechists in public Elementary and High Schools as well as all religion teachers in our member schools of the PSA-Nova the same facts above be mentioned in their Religion Classes during the week.

Please be guided accordingly.

Given in the Chancery in Fairview, Quezon City, this 12th day of July in the Year of Our Lord, 2005.

Most Rev. Antonio R. Tobias, DD
Bishop

Attested to by;

Rev. Fr. Jaime Z. Lara
Chancellor