

**Pondo ng Pinoy 5th Year Anniversary
Circular 2009-13**

To: All Parish Priests, Parish Pastoral Council President, and Parish Pondo ng Pinoy Coordinators

This year **Pondo ng Pinoy (PnP)** celebrates its 5th year anniversary with the theme “**Keeping Hope Alive!**” (**ABOT NATIN ANG BUKAS**). This carefully chosen theme goes well with the spirit of the recent Encyclical of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI “*Spes Salvi*” which literally means “saved by hope,” words echoing St. Paul’s letter to the Romans, “*In hope you are saved!*” (8: 24). It is on this Pauline soteriological theme that **PnP** reflects on its five (5) years of bring hope to the poorest among the poor.

This theme is truly Filipino; we are always hopeful and hope-filled. In spite of the political upheavals, global and local economic slowdown and moral degradation leading to a spiraling of our despondency we believe that “Man’s great, true which hold firm in spite of all disappointments can only be God – God who has loved us and who continues to love us ‘to the end’, until all ‘is accomplished’”. (*Spes Salve*, no. 27). Our Holy Father has pointed us to the power of hope as the Christian response to crisis. The **PnP** hopes to realize this as a living reality among our people.

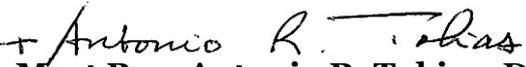
Our Diocese, a stakeholder in the **PnP** program, is one with the suffragan dioceses of Manila in celebrating the gains of **PnP** in the last five years. Among our main social programs in the diocese is the implementation of the **PnP**, especially because we have the most number of people who will benefit from the program. We have been strengthening our participation, through the systematic and consistent collection of “crumbs” which when gathered together is more than enough to distribute to our poor. For this, I am so thankful to our Pastoral Program, PnP program coordinators and parish priests in the diocese. With our collective efforts, the word of Cardinal Rosales becomes true. **PnP** stands also to mean “**Pag-ibig ng Panginoon**” and “**Pag-asa ng Pilipino.**” Let me add that, in the spirit of Benedict XVI’s of *Spes Salvi*, **PnP** in this diocese also means, “**Programa ng Pag-asa**” (A Program of Hope).

Come July 26, 2009, Sunday, this fifth year celebration will culminate with the Gospel reflection on multiplication of the fish and loaves (cf. John 6: 1-15). In all parishes, I wish to direct all parish priests to post or read this circular in all Masses and to focus their homilies on **PnP** theme, “Keeping our Hope Alive.” To help priests in this, the **PnP** desk will provide materials for distribution to parishes. I also ask that if possible, this celebration be given

importance and the program be properly explained. I have attached the **PnP** primer to help our priests get the message across to all their parishioners.

May the spirit of hope, which our **PnP** has started to ignite, find all of us in a hope-filled in the midst of crisis.

Given in the Chancery in Fairview, Quezon City, this 9th day of July in the Year of Our Lord, 2009.


Most Rev. Antonio R. Tobias, DD
Bishop

Attested by:


Rev. Fr. Jerome U. Rosalinda
Chancellor