

**Clarification on Clergy Consultations
Circular 2009-17**

To: All Parish Priests and School Principals

As much as possible, I have always gone through consultations with the Clergy on matters that I want them to do. There are times I cannot do such consultations anymore, especially when the instruction comes from national or international bodies and organizations, even of the Church. This is understandable if those instructions come from non-Church bodies. Usually from my level, I just disregard these unless I sympathize with its advocacy.

My heart is torn when instructions come from national/international Church bodies and organizations. Usually, these come to my attention quite late so that when I act upon them, I give the impression of imposing from above. I am sorry about this but such is not my intention. I only mean by it please do what you can about it.

One such to be understood in the spirit explained above are the Plans for the Celebration of National Laity Week 2009 the most important of which is the Launching of our Diocesan Celebration on 28 September 2009 with a Concelebrated Mass at 7:00 PM at Our Lady of Mercy to be followed by a Fellowship.

I now take this opportunity also to emphasize that decisions agreed upon in our Clergy meetings, even if one is absent, do not depend anymore on the priest's preference. It necessarily takes on the meaning of communion with your Bishop and your brother-priests in the Diocesan Presbyterium. I seriously expect from you your obedient compliance. I want to make this clear to everyone.

Given in the Chancery in Fairview, Quezon City, this 3rd day of September in the Year of Our Lord, 2009.

Most Rev. Antonio R. Tobias, DD
Bishop

Attested by:

Rev. Fr. Jerome U. Rosalinda
Chancellor