

Oratio Imperata
Circular 2009-22

To: All Parish Priests, All Local Religious Superiors and School Principals in the Diocese

Fr. Michael Sinnot, MSSC, abducted from the Columban House in Pagadian City last 11 October 2009, is a devoted missionary in my former Diocese where he was the Diocesan Administrator until I came over to Pagadian as Bishop. While I was the Bishop there, Fr. Mig, as we fondly call him, served the Diocese as Parish Priest of Dumalinao. I commend him to your prayers for his safety and peaceful release and request you all that this intention be included in the Masses to be held in your Parish Churches, in all our Religious Communities, and in all schools: diocesan and congregational as well public and private non-sectarian.

On behalf of the Diocese of Novaliches, the Clergy, the Religious, and the Catholic Faithful join me in appealing to his abductors to release him safely and speedily for humanitarian reasons in the name of Peace. We empathize with the Columban Family in their pains for this lot of their confrere.

At the same time, I ask all priests and Religious Communities to pray this *Oratio Imperata* for the safety of Fr. Michael Sinnot and for our deliverance from Calamities:

Almighty Father, we raise our voices in unison for the safe release of Fr. Michael Sinnot. At the same time we raise our hearts to You in gratitude for the wonders of creation of which we are part. For your Providence sustains us in our needs and your Wisdom guides the course of the universe. We acknowledge our sins against You and the rest of creation.

We have not been good stewards of Nature.

We have confused Your command to subdue the Earth.

The environment is made to suffer our wrongdoing, and how we reap the harvest of our abuse and indifference.

Global warming is upon us. Typhoons, floods, volcanic eruption, and other natural calamities occur in increasing number and intensity.

We turn to You, our loving Father, and beg forgiveness for our sins.

We ask that we, our loved ones and our hard earned possessions be spared from the threat of calamities, natural and man-made.

We beseech You to inspire us all to grow into responsible stewards of Your creation, and generous neighbors to those in need. Amen.

Given in the Chancery in Fairview, Quezon City, this 29th day of October, in the Year of Our Lord, 2009.

Most Rev. Antonio R. Tobias, DD
Bishop

Attested by:

Rev. Fr. Jerome U. Rosalinda
Chancellor

c.c. Rev. Fr. Patrick O'Donoghue, MSSC