

Charity This Lenten Season Circular 2011- 05

To: The Clergy and All Catholics in the Diocese:

Lent begins anew on March 9, Ash Wednesday. It is time, once again, to make an inventory of one's relationship with Christ and look deeper into our journey within with Him.

This, the Catholic Church celebrates the world over through the traditional practices of fasting, almsgiving, and prayer, which His Holiness Benedict XVI calls as “an expression of our commitment to conversion”, through which we learn “to live the love of Christ in an ever more radical way”. (*“MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS BENEDICT XVI FOR LENT 2011”*)

Why almsgiving? To quote Benedict XVI once more in his *“MESSAGE FOR LENT 2011”*:

“In our journey, we are often faced with the temptation of accumulating and love of money that undermines God’s primacy in our lives. The greed of possession leads to violence, exploitation and death; for this, the Church, especially during the Lenten period, reminds us to practice almsgiving – which is the capacity to share.

This Lenten Season, I implore you to specifically find more time to practice almsgiving, especially by participating in the fund raising campaign of Caritas Novaliches entitled, “Charity This Lenten Season”, that aims to raise funds for the Social Services and Developmental Programs:

- Share-A-Meal with a Child (Hapag-Asa Feeding)
- Share Your Extras, Send-A-Child to School (Educational Assistance Program)
- Livelihood and Socio-economic Empowerment
- Disaster Risk Reduction Management and Crisis Intervention Program

In this connection, may I request your full support to this fund raising campaign for the poor through active promotion in your parish? With this, kindly facilitate the following in your respective parishes during Sunday Masses beginning March 6, 2011 up to April 24, 2011:

1. Read the Pastoral Letter.
2. Distribute Caritas Novaliches brochure and flyers.
3. Please ask the parishioners to give their donations/pledges directly to the Parish SSDM Teams located at the Parish entrance and/or to secure probationary receipt of their donations.

4. Please ask the donors to fill-up information sheet at the back of the flyer and ask them what program they want to support.
5. For Parishes, kindly fill-up Donation Logsheets and forward to Caritas Novaliches together with the cash donation or direct deposit of the amount to Caritas Novaliches, Inc., bank account and fax the deposit slip to (02) 952-4404 for acknowledgement and issuance of Official Receipt, details as follows:
Bank Account Name: **CARITAS NOVALICHES, INC.**
 - BPI Family Bank S/A No. 6171-0074-86

For any question and inquiry, the Caritas Novaliches secretariat contact details are 952-4404 and mobile 0908-6431393 and look for Jane Trillanes or Ernesto Taza or email address at ssdmnova@yahoo.com.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, I pray that in this Lenten Season may you truly become an *Alter Christus* to those in need and may His Peace and Joy truly reign in your hearts!

Given in the Chancery in Fairview, Quezon City, 4 March 2011.

Most Rev. Antonio R. Tobias, DD
Bishop

Attested by:

Rev. Fr. Jerome U. Rosalinda
Chancellor