

***Oratio Imperata***  
**Circular 2011-11**

**To: All Parish Priests**

For the last several Congresses of our *Batasan Pambansa*, the RH Bill issue under various names to make it sound acceptable to our people has been coming back and forth like a ghost haunting us or like a sword of Damocles on our heads to make the Church compliant and subservient to the State.

The State under various Regimes has not responded adequately to curb the increasing poverty of its people but blames the situation on population as the culprit for our poverty. The Church, on the other hand, has always maintained in its Social Teachings up and down the centuries that people are human resources for progress and development. So necessarily the Church and the State have to clash on this issue.

The need for Prayers to enlighten our Country's leaders and legislators to reject all proposed anti-life legislations is now most urgent. Henceforth, therefore, the undersigned Bishop sees the need to decree an *Oratio Imperata* (a Prayer so Ordered) in all Masses, including the daily Mass, to pray the enclosed "Prayer for Upholding the Sanctity of Life, Family and Marriage" after Holy Communion before the Mass-President says the Post-Communion Prayer.

The Prayer is to be recited in English or in Filipino, depending on the language assigned for the scheduled Mass.

Thank you so much for your cooperation that you have always accorded to me.

Given in the Chancery in Fairview, Quezon City, 30 May 2011.

**Most Rev. Antonio R. Tobias, DD**  
Bishop

Attested by:

**Rev. Fr. Jerome U. Rosalinda**  
Chancellor