

Save Palawan!
Circular 2011-12

To: All Parish Priests

On June 21, 2010, news in the media broke out that an outspoken broadcaster and staunch environmental activist, Dr. Gerry Ortega was shot dead. To honor his legacy and advocacy, a campaign was launched calling for “No to Mining in Palawan” which is being supported by the “Save Palawan Movement” with ABS-CBN Foundation as the lead convenor and the National Secretariat for social action (NASSA) as one of its member organizations.

At present, 40% of the Country’s remaining mangrove forest is located in Palawan including 30% of our coral reefs. It also boasts of two (2) UNESCO World Heritage sites and eight (8) declared protected areas. The preservation and protection of the Island’s rich biodiversity will not only benefit the Palaweños but the entire Country as a whole.

In the spirit of solidarity, I invite all Parishes to join this campaign by way of enjoining your parishioners in all Masses for two consecutive Sundays June 12 to June 19, 2011 to affix their signature on the attached signature forms. Please take note that only those 15 years and above can participate in signature campaigns of this kind.

I count on your support and involvement in making this campaign a success not only for Palawan but for our Country’s rich biodiversity to benefit generations to come.

Kindly send back the signed forms to The Pastoral Office on or before June 25, 2011 and the same will be forwarded to NASSA. I remind you that it is everyone’s duty to preserve nature and our Environment

Given in the Chancery in Fairview, Quezon City, 1 June 2011.

Most Rev. Antonio R. Tobias, DD
Bishop

Attested by:

Rev. Fr. Jerome U. Rosalinda
Chancellor