

**Year of the Pontifical Mission Societies
Circular 2011-28**

To: All Parishes / Schools, Diocesan and Congregational / Religious Houses in the Diocese

The CBCP has decided to declare 2012 as the Year of the Pontifical Mission Societies to commemorate the 150th Death Anniversary of Pauline-Marie Jaricot, Foundress of the Pontifical Society of the Propagation of the Faith and who herself is being considered for sainthood and the 80 years of the Establishment of the PMS in the Philippines in 1932.

In connection with this, the Pontifical Mission Society of the Philippines, under the able leadership of Fr. Socrates C. Masiona, MSP, will launch the year on 14 January 2012 with a Eucharistic Concelebration to be officiated by Abp. Socrates V. Villegas of Lingayen-Dagupan at the Shrine of St. Therese of the Child Jesus at Villamor Air Base, Pasay City.

At the same time, I am now asking The Mission Awareness Group under the able leadership of Fr. Polash Henry Gomez, SFX, to plan how the Year will be celebrated with fitting programs in our Diocese, both at its own Launching sometime in January and at its Conclusion in the *Simbang Gabi* of 2012 which will also usher in the Year of Faith in 2013 as our Holy Father mandated in his Apostolic Letter *Porta Fidei* of 2011. The Year of Faith celebration in our Diocese will be spearheaded under the auspices of the Commission on Evangelization under Fr. Aristeo M. de Leon and our Catechists.

The CBCP Commission on Mission also, under its Chair, Bishop Edwin de la Pena of Marawi, has also scheduled a **Grand Mission Festival** to be held at the Marikina Sports Complex on 18-20 April, 2012, asking the participation of those of different age brackets ranging from 10 years old and above from all the dioceses in the Philippines with a registration fee of P 500 per delegate.

Earlier the Posters for this Year's Pontifical Mission Societies have been sent only to the parishes with the hope that the Schools and the Religious within the jurisdiction of our parishes will be informed of the focus for 2012.

Now I am sending each of the concerned Institutions in our Diocese a copy of the CBCP Pastoral Exhortation and also the Prayer for Renewal in Mission that I would like to be recited after Communion in all Masses starting New Year of 2012. Please be guided accordingly.

Given in the Chancery in Fairview, Quezon City, 20 December 2011.

Most Rev. Antonio R. Tobias, DD
Bishop

Attested by:

Rev. Fr. Jerome U. Rosalinda
Chancellor