

ARCHDIOCESE
OF
LINGAYEN-DAGUPAN

August 18, 2020

ALD Circular 2020-30
RE: Caritas Day

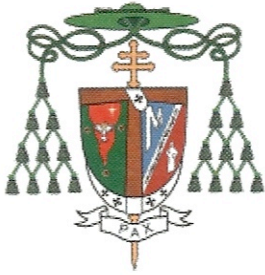
Reverend Fathers:

As we have always traditionally observed, September 5, the memorial of Saint Teresa of Calcutta, is Caritas Day for the Archdiocese of Lingayen Dagupan. Although we are unable to gather for an archdiocesan-wide celebration due to the restriction protocols of the pandemic, this is still a golden opportunity to thank the Lord for the grace to serve and love and to renew our commitment to live the Gospel of mercy and compassion. Let us focus our celebrations this year on the heroism of our front liners against COVID19.

You are encouraged to observe the following on the parochial level:

1. That a liturgical rosary novena be held in all parishes in honor of St. Teresa of Calcutta from August 27 until September 4 at a regular time when most people can join either physically or on livestream.
2. That within the same novena days, you set aside one day to honor the COVID19 front liners from the parish by giving them a special blessing within the Mass. Those with hospitals within the parish are requested to celebrate one Mass in the hospital in the presence of the front liners.
3. That on the principal Mass of August 30, the twenty second Sunday in ordinary time, the commissioning of the ministers of social services be done, which includes the Ministry of Social Action, Ministry with the Poor, Health Care Apostolate, Prison Apostolate, Ministry on the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People and ACN.
4. That in coordination with the parish youth ministry, the parish conduct a formation program for the training of young ministers of social action aged 21 to 39 targeting to have at least two young ministers of social action per barangay.
5. That the *Question Answer Catechism on the Death Penalty* previously issued, be disseminated and discussed, keeping in mind that the mandate to protect life springs from Christian charity.

ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE
Jovellanos Street, Dagupan city
Pangasinan, Philippines
Telephone: 075 523 5357 * Telefax: 075 522 1878



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6. That on September 5, a parish Mass in honor of St Teresa of Calcutta be celebrated and while observing the restrictions against mass gatherings, conduct some of the customary I CARE activities such as: I Care, I Feed I Care, I Give (Food Packs to Indigent) I Care, I Plant, I Care, I Clean, I Care, I Heal (Healthcare Services).

Caritas is the mandate and soul of our Christian life through all the seasons of our lives. This annual observance only highlights what we must do every day of the year.

Sincerely yours,

+SOCRATES B. VILLEGAS
Archbishop of Lingayen Dagupan

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Pangasinan, Philippines
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