

## **CHURCH PEOPLES' PROPHETIC VOICES AGAINST STATE TERRORISM IN THE PHILIPPINES**

Second PCPR Australia Online Forum on Human Rights  
Co-sponsored by the Filipino National Conference in the Uniting Church in Australia  
16 September 2020, Wednesday  
7-8:30PM Sydney/Melbourne Time, 5-6:30PM Manila Time

*"Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless,  
plead the widow's cause." Isaiah 1:17*

In the Philippines, oppression is systematic and institutionalized and we hear God speak through God's modern-day prophets. The Church as Christ's Body is called to act in faith in the context of:

- > intensifying vilification and killing of human rights and peace advocates including church peoples
- > the passing and implementation of the Anti-Terror Law
- > militaristic response to the pandemic and the thrashing of the peace talks
- > militarization of the civilian bureaucracy and government corruption
- > the untimely push for a charter change and move to reinstitute death penalty

State terrorism is so evident in the aforementioned realities. The powers-that-be and their cohorts are hellbent to stay in power through repression and suppression of the human and civil rights of the people. To respond in solidarity with the oppressed children of God we are asked to be of one mind and heart. We come together through an online forum to listen, reflect and respond.

### Order of the Forum

1. Opening Prayer and Acknowledgement of Country (3 Minutes)
2. Welcome, house rules, introduction of the speakers and reactors (4 Minutes)
3. **Prophetic Voices in the Time of Tyranny**  
Bishop Broderick Pabillo,  
Apostolic Administrator of Manila, Philippines (7 Minutes)
4. **The Prospect of Peace in the Face of Escalating Attacks on Human Rights**  
Bishop Reuel Norman O. Marigza, NCCP General Secretary (7 Minutes)
5. Cultural presentation from Australia (3 Minutes)
6. **A Personal Testimony and Reflecting Theologically**  
Sr. Mary John Mananzan, Office of Gender and Women's Concern, AMRSP (7 Mins)
7. **Responses from Australian Churches** (3 Mins each)  
Bishop Philip Huggins, President, National Council of Churches in Australia  
Dr Mark Zirnsak, Senior Social Justice Officer, Uniting Church in Australia Synod of Victoria and Tasmania  
Fr Joselito Asis, Filipino Catholic Chaplaincy of Melbourne
8. Cultural presentation from the Philippines (3 Minutes)
9. Questions and Answers (15 Minutes)
10. Statements and Solidarity Messages from Church leaders, organizations (15 minutes)\*
11. Synthesis and Closing Remarks (5 Minutes)

