



The Roman Catholic Bishop of Cubao

41 Lantana Street, Cubao, Quezon City, Philippines 1111

DECREE

"For his mercy endures forever!"

Psalm 136

Our Most Holy Father, Pope Francis has proclaimed an *Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy*, a special time when we are called "to gaze even more attentively on mercy so that we may become a more effective sign of the Father's action in our lives" (MV, 3). The Holy Year shall commence on 8 December 2015, Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and shall be concluded on 20 November 2016, Solemnity of Christ the King.

In accordance with *Misericordiae Vultus*, the Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy promulgated by His Holiness Pope Francis on April 11, 2015 proclaiming an *Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy*, it is with joy that I, HONESTO F. ONGTIOCO, by the grace of God and favor of the Apostolic See, Bishop of the Diocese of Cubao, do hereby decree and designate as Pilgrimage Church for the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy:

SAN PEDRO BAUTISTA PARISH

San Francisco del Monte, Quezon City

I will open the Holy Door in the said church on 13 December 2015, the Third Sunday of Advent, and will remain in use throughout the Jubilee Year as a means "through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons, and instills hope" (MV, 3). The Holy Door will become a *Door of Mercy*, which represents Christ who said of himself, "*I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, that person will be saved*" (John 10:9).

By mandate of the Supreme Pontiff, a *Plenary Indulgence* is conceded, under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father) to all the faithful who will make a pilgrimage to the Holy Door, open in this church.

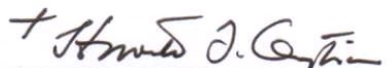
The grace of a *Plenary Indulgence* is also hereby extended to those who are impeded due to sickness, old age or grave cause when “living with faith and joyful hope this moment of trial, receiving communion or attending Holy Mass and community prayer, even through the various means of communication, will be for them the means of obtaining the Jubilee Indulgence” (*Letter of Pope Francis to Archbishop Fisichella*).

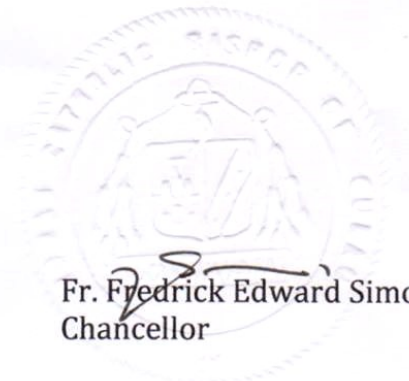

Furthermore, the ability to receive the Indulgence is also granted to those who are incarcerated. “They may obtain the Indulgence in the chapels of the prisons. May the gesture of directing their thought and prayer to the Father each time they cross the threshold of their cell signify for them their passage through the Holy Door” (*Letter of Pope Francis to Archbishop Fisichella*).

In establishing this Holy Door, I enjoin all the faithful of the diocese to “announce the mercy of God, the beating heart of the Gospel, which in its own way must penetrate the heart and mind of every person” (*MV*, 12). May we be reminded that God’s omnipotence is chiefly manifested in mercy (St. Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae* IIa-IIae, q. 30, a.4) and in relation to our neighbors, mercy is the greatest of human virtues. I earnestly ask that the Parish Priests of the said churches and priests with proper faculties to make readily available the mercy of God through the Keys entrusted to the Church that the Sacrament of Reconciliation may “enable people to touch the grandeur of God’s mercy with their own hands” (*MV*, 17) and to encourage the faithful to rediscover the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

As we cross the threshold of the Holy Door in the blessed year that lies ahead, “may the Holy Spirit, who guides the steps of believers in cooperating with the work of salvation wrought by Christ, lead the way and support the People of God so that they may contemplate the face of mercy” (*MV*, 4) and be God’s sign of mercy to others.

Given this eighth of December two thousand and fifteen, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception at the Chancery of the Diocese of Cubao.


† HONESTO F. ONGTIOCO
Bishop of Cubao



Fr. Fredrick Edward Simon
Chancellor