



ARCHDIOCESE OF CEBU  
Office of the Archbishop

June 1, 2013

TO THE CLERGY, RELIGIOUS AND LAITY OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CEBU

Dear Rev. Monsignori, Rev. Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings in Christ, the Good Shepherd!

The Year of Faith and the World Synod on New Evangelization call each of us to deepen our faith, to live and to proclaim the Gospel message. The focus of the New Evangelization calls on all Catholics to be evangelized and then go forth to evangelize others. One of the ways to strengthen our faith is to reflect on the lives of the saints and those whose life witness are a source of inspiration, especially for the youth. San Pedro Calungsod and other saints best show us how to live and proclaim our faith.

In a similar way, although on a different level, I would like to call on everyone to reflect on the life and witness of the disappeared Redemptorist priest Fr. Rudy Romano, CSsR. He disappeared on and has been presumed dead since 11 July 1985. It has been twenty-eight years and we still do not know the circumstances of his death. But we need to keep his memory alive since even today, human rights violations still hound our people, especially the poor peasants, fisherfolks, workers, urban slum dwellers and other marginalized sectors.

There are activities that the Redemptorists are conducting during the week of Fr. Romano's disappearance. I would like to encourage parishioners, lay organizations, and schools to participate in these activities. On July 11, 2013, or the Sunday before or after July 11, please make the people be aware of what happened to Fr. Romano and encourage everyone to be advocates like him in addressing social concerns and legitimate human needs.

We must continue to pray and strive for human dignity to always be upheld and for the people's human rights to always be protected.

With my paternal blessing, I remain

In Christ,

**+JOSE S. PALMA, D.D.**  
Archbishop of Cebu



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ACTIVITIES TO COMMEMORATE THE 28<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
DISAPPEARANCE OF FR. RUDY ROMANO, CSsR

DATE/VENUE	ACTIVITY	HOW PARISHES AND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS CAN PARTICIPATE
<b>6 July</b> at 2:00 – 4:00 PM at St. Alphonsus conference Room, Redemptorists, Mango St. Cebu City	Submission of entries for the poster-making, poetry and essay-writing contests.	Catholic schools (both high school and college levels) and parish-based youth organizations will be asked to choose from among their students/members who will participate in this activity and will submit their entries on 6 July
<b>7 July</b> during the Sunday Masses	Reading of a statement and giving homilies relating Fr. Romano to the challenge of discipleship	Parish priests will be encouraged to have the statement read and integrate Fr. Romano’s witness in their homilies
<b>11 July 2013</b>		
9 – 10:00 am, at Tisa Labangon, Cebu City	Wreath-laying at the site of the abduction	
<b>5:30 – 6:30 pm</b> Redemptorist church	<b>Mass to remember Fr. Rudy Romano</b>	Send representatives to concelebrate/ attend the Mass
6:30 – 8:00 pm. Redemptorist Church	Human Rights Forum where prize-winning essay and poems will be read and posters to be shown.	Send representatives
14 July	Prize-winning poems and essays will be published in Cebu newspapers	