

PARISH PROJECT 2010

Working for Love, Hope & Justice



Fr Clarence in the Philippines. © Brad Chapman/ABM2007

Clergy and Lay Specialisation

Target: \$10,000 in 2010

For a church to grow and maintain its outreach to members of the congregation and others within the community, it relies on its clergy and lay people. The Episcopal Church in the Philippines (ECP) recognizes that it is important to train all clergy and lay members so that they can minister effectively within their parishes.

Plans for this project can involve specialized training for those with interest and skills in particular fields of ministry. It is estimated that about 50 percent of ECP clergy will be trained on specialized ministries. By updating their skills and continuing to develop themselves in their roles, ordained clergy will enhance their relationships within the church.

Training institutes that professionalise training of lay people will be established within existing institutions of the ECP. There are plans for five lay people from each of the six dioceses to be trained in specialized ministries. A total of 30 people will graduate from these institutes every year.

The Church looks forward to expanding congregations in all dioceses, and to offer an effective healing ministry, professional pastoral and counselling services over the next few years through the Enhancing Ministry Program.

What your gift can do:

- **\$115** trains a lay person in a specialist ministry
- **\$10,000** funds clergy and lay specialisation training of the ECP for a year

Prayer Points:

- Pray for the growth and development of the ECP; that more people will come to hear the Good News
- Pray for the clergy and lay people taking part in the training programs
- Give thanks for the work and witness of the Episcopal Church in the Philippines and all its ordained clergy and lay members

Dina Coping is a lay member of the Cathedral and a Seminarian at St. Andrew’s Theological College in Manila.

Dina volunteers in the Cathedral of St. Mary and St. John sometimes as lector, acolyte or communion assistant, and at services in the seminary.



The Cathedral also has a Choir, Healing ministry and Bible studies. Dina participates in the Prison Ministry twice a month. She goes with the staff at CIW prison in Mandaluyong and talks to the women prisoners.

“I find it very good because our visit is a big help to the prisoners. Even if they are in prison, they can still feel that there are other people who still love them and who are concerned about them.

“What I like in my church work is the help, comfort and education that I am able to give to other people. Between the clergy and the members of the church, they also help each other in working. Each one works. They help each other. No one will say that he/she is the boss. There is unity.”

The Philippines Facts:



Location: Southeastern Asia, archipelago between the Philippine Sea and the South China Sea, east of Vietnam

Population: 97,976,603 (July 2009 est.)

Languages: Filipino (official; based on Tagalog) and English (official); eight major dialects - Tagalog, Cebuano, Ilocano, Hiligaynon or Ilonggo, Bicol, Waray, Pampango, and Pangasinan

Religions: Roman Catholic 80.9%, Muslim 5%, Evangelical 2.8%, Iglesia ni Kristo 2.3%, Aglipayan 2%, other Christian 4.5%, other 1.8%, unspecified 0.6%, none 0.1% (2000 census)

(CIA-The World Factbook)



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