One Faith. One Nation. One Voice.

Everyone will sit under their own vine, and under their own fig tree, and no one will make them afraid, for the Lord Almighty has apoken. Micah 4:4 NIV

24 February 2025

Living Out the Spirit of EDSA: A Call to the Church People

As followers of Christ, we are called to be bearers of truth, justice, and righteousness. Our faith is not passive; it demands that we take a stand against oppression and work for the liberation of the poor and the marginalized. The spirit of EDSA People Power 1 is a testament to this call—a powerful reminder that when people are united in faith and purpose, they can overcome even the most entrenched forms of tyranny.

The victory of EDSA was not just a political triumph; it was a moral and spiritual awakening. It showed us that courage, compassion, and solidarity could break the chains of dictatorship. People from all walks of life—rich and poor, religious and secular, young and old—came together with a shared hope: to reclaim their dignity and restore democracy. This was more than just an act of resistance; it was an expression of love for our country, fueled by faith in a God who sides with the oppressed.

Yet, decades later, we find ourselves confronting the same forces of greed, deception, and repression. The same powerful family that was unseated by the people now holds the reins of government once again, perpetuating a system that keeps millions in poverty, silence, and fear. The biblical mandate for justice has never been more urgent. Proverbs 31:8-9 commands us:

"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."

As a Church, we cannot be neutral. Silence in the face of injustice is complicity. The prophetic tradition of our faith calls us to be the voice of the voiceless, to expose lies with truth, and to resist evil with love. Living out the spirit of EDSA means more than remembering history—it means embracing a continuing commitment to social transformation.

We must educate ourselves and our communities about the realities of injustice, the distortions of history, and the threats to democracy. Let us root ourselves in Scripture and in the social teachings of the Church so that our faith informs our activism.

The struggle for justice cannot be fought alone. Just as EDSA was a collective movement, we must build communities of resistance and hope, standing together in the fight against corruption, disinformation, and oppression.

Faith without works is dead (James 2:26). Our commitment to Christ must manifest in concrete actions—advocating for human rights, supporting the poor, exposing lies, seeking accountability for misdeeds, and challenging the systems that perpetuate suffering.

The challenge is before us. Will we remain passive in the face of oppression, or will we rise as a prophetic voice for justice and righteousness? The spirit of EDSA is alive whenever we choose to act in faith, speak truth to power, and build a nation where justice and peace reign.

Let us stand together—for God, for people, for truth, for freedom.

Signed:

Most Rev. Broderick Pabillo, DD, Apostolic Vicar of Tatay

Most Rev Gerardo Alminaza, DD, Bishop of San Carlos

Most Rev Euginius Longakit Cañete, MJ, DD, Bishop of Gumaca

Most Rev Isabelo C. Abarquez, DD, Bishop of Calbayog

Most Rev. Joel Porlares, IFI Obispo Maximo

Rt. Rev. Dindo Ranojo, IFI General Secretary, Bishop of Tarlac

Ms. Minnie-Anne Mata-Calub, General Secretary, National Council of Churches in the Philippines

Bishop Joseph Agpaoa, UCCP Acting General Secretary

Bishop Israel Painit, Davao Episcopal Area, United Methodist Church

Most Rev. Rhee M. Timbang, IFI Diocese of Surigao, Obispo Maximo XIII

Rt. Rev. Rex RB Reyes, Jr, ECP

Bishop Roger Marquez, Iglesia Metodista ng Pilipinas

Rt. Rev. Felixberto Calang, Philippine Ecumenical Peace Platform

Bishop Ciriaco Francisco, UMC, Ecumenical Bishops Forum

Most Rev Deogracias Iñiguez, Jr, D.D., Ecumenical Bishop Forum

Rt. Rev. Ronelio Fabriquier, IFI Bishop of Romblon and Mindoro & EBF South Luzon Chairperson

Rt. Rev. Emelyn Gasco-Dacuycuy, IFI Bishop of Batac & Ecumenical Bishops Forum

Fr. Rico Ponce, O.Carm., Prior Provincial of the Philippine Carmelite Province of St. Titus Brandsma

Sr. Elizabeth Pedernal, MSCS, Delegate Superior-Asia Missionary Sisters of Sr. Charles Borromeo, Scalabrinians

Sr. Cecilia Espenilla, OP, Prioress General of the Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine of Siena - Phils

Sr. Rizalyn B Solitario, RMICM Religious of Mary Immaculate Claretian Missionaries, Provincial, Superior, East Asia Province

Sr. Antonia Redito, MMS Unit Coordinator Medical Mission Sisters

Fr. Arvin Buenconsejo Bellen, CMF, Consultor and Prefect of Apostolate Claretian Missionary of Fr. Rhoel Gallardo Province

Rev. Fr. Nazario 'Ace' Vocales, V.F., Vicar for Social Advocacies, Archdiocese of Cebu

Rt. Rev. Rowel Arevalo, IFI Bishop of Laguna

Rt. Rev. Alger Loyao, IFI Bishop of Cebu

Rt. Rev. Arly Balili, IFI Bishop of Padre Burgos, Leyte

Rt. Rev. Virmillion Tagalog, IFI Bishop of Laoag

Rt. Rev. Renielito Invento, IFI Bishop of Masbate

Rt. Rev. Allan Bert Pascual, IFI Bishop of Nueva Viscaya and Quirino

Rt. Rev. Emiliano Domingo, IFI Bishop of Cavite

Rt. Rev. Christoper Macaday, IFI Bishop of Guimaras

Rt. Rev. Allan Caparro, IFI Bishop of Negros Occidental

Rt. Rev. Conrado de Guzman, IFI Bishop of Zambales

Rt. Rev. Jed Manzano, IFI Bishop of Northern Isabela

Rt. Rev. Roberto Pamatmat, IFI Diocese of Tampa

Rt. Rev. Jovy Fodulla, IFI Bishop of Dagupan

Rt. Rev. Victor Palero, IFI Bishop of Biliran

Rt. Rev. Jojit Savas, IFI Bishop of Nueva Ecija

Rt. Rev. Warner Bulacan, IFI Bishop of Bohol

Rt. Rev. Fernando Quintans, IFI Bishop of Palawan

Rt. Rev. Virgilio Amihan, IFI Diocese of Negros Occidental

Bishop Jaime Moriles, UCCP

Bishop Jerome Baris, UCCP

Bishop Jerby Salor, UCCP

Bishop Emergencio Padillo, UCCP

Bishop Joel Tendero, UCCP

Bishop Modesto Villasanta, UCCP

Bishop Ligaya San Francisco, UCCP

Bishop Victor Paller, UCCP

Bishop Reuel Norman Marigza, UCCP

Bishop Elorde Sambat, UCCP

Bishop Arthur Asi, UCCP

Bishop Jessie Suarez, UCCP

Bishop Dulce Pia-Rose, UCCP

Bishop Mariano Inong, UCCP

Bishop Feliciana Tenchavez, UCCP

Bishop Jezer Bertoldo, UCCP

Bishop Ebenezer Camino, UCCP

Bishop Francisco "Nonie" Aviso, Jr, UCCP

Sr Ma. Lisa Ruedas, DC, Justice and Peace

Sr Maureen Catabian, RGS, Pilgrims for Peace

Sr. Derby Mercado, RSM, Chairperson, Sisters' Association in Mindanao (SAMIN)

Msgr. Manny Gabriel, Clergy Discernment Group

Fr. Wilfredo Dulay, mdj, Religious Discernment Group

Rev. Mary Grace Masegman, Promotion of Church People's Response

Fr. Rolly de Leon, Promotion of Church People's Response

Rev. Irma M. Balaba, Promotion of Church People's Response

Antonio Balbin, Executive Director, Church People-Workers Solidarity

Rev. Marie Sol Villalon, Southwest Philippines Annual Conference, United Methodist Church

Patricia Mungcal, One Voice-YOUTH

Dss. Norma P. Dollaga, Kasimbayan

Dr. Edita Burgos, EdD, Ecumenical Voice for Human Rights and Peace

Jenn Ferrariza-Meneses, NCCP Vice Chair for Women

Amelita L. Jaim, UCCP General Assembly Vice Chairperson

Rev. Raymundo P. Gelloagan, UCCP National UCWO president

Very Rev. Dr. Gloria Lita D. Mapangdol, President and Dean, St Andrew Theological Seminary

Very Rev. Eleuterio J. Revollido, S.Th.D., Rector, Aglipay Central Theological Seminary, Urdaneta

Fr. Rene Cabag, CICM, Maryhill School of Theology

Dr. Annelle Sabanal, Assistant Professor, Theology Department, Ateneo de Manila University

Rev. Dr. Frank Hernandez, President, Union Theological Seminary

Rev. Dr. Ben B. Ngaya-an, Dean of Students, St. Andrew's Theological Seminary

Dr. Carmen Alviar, Institute of Spirituality in Asia (ISA)

Ma. Crisanta Dela Peña, Saint Theresa's College

Rev. Dr. Adrin Peñamora, Exec. Director PCEC Justice, Peace and Reconciliation Commission

Rev. Dr. Federico Villanueva, Lecturer, Ateneo de Manila

Dr. Edita Burgos, Ed.D., Ecumenical Voice for Human Rights and Peace in the Philippines

Prof. Jerry Imbong, Visayas State University

Fr. Geowen A. Porcincula, CM, Congregation of the Mission, Chairman, Vincentian Social Ministry & Member. Provincial Council

Fr. Joselito Sarabia, CM, Parish Priest of Ina ng Lupang Pangako, Payatas

Sr. Jocelyn Widwid, OSA, Member, General Council

Sr. Mary John Manazan, OSB

Sr. Eleanor Llanes, ICM

Sr. Marian Badian, ICM

Fr. Delfo Canceran, OP

Fr. Mon Andrei Ebdani, CMF, JPIC/SOMI Claretian Missionary of Fr. Rhoel Gallardo Province

Fr. Ernie Larida, Diocese of Bacolod

Sr Rosalinda Maog, mms

Fr. Manuel Gatchalian, SVD

Sr. Genoveva Denoga, DC

Bro. Elmer Ulanday, MJ

Fr. Noel Octaviano, MJ

Sr Susan Esmile, SFIC

Fr. Allan Lopez, OP, Diocesan of Kalookan

Fr. Ritchie Salgado, O.Carm

Fr. Rene Mercader, MSC

Fr. Gilbert Billena, Diocese of Tandag

Fr. Eduardo Adolfo, O.Carm

Sr. Aida Casambre, RGS-WJPIC

Sr. Diane Cabasagan, RGS-WJPIC

Fr. Oliver Estor, SOLT

Br Jonel Dalimag, CICM

Sr Marina Badian, ICM

Fr. Mars R. Andres, OMI

Fr. Rene Mercader,msc

Fr. Domingo Barawid - PCPR Australia coordinator

Sr. Angelina Villanueva, RC

Sr. Rosa S. Ocampo, SFCC, Sisters for Christian Community

Sr. Maria Paule, AMP

Fr. Toni Ryan Del Moro, Diocese of Gumaca

Sr. Tess Agualada, AMP

Sr. Lynn Kaum, MMS0

Fr. Efren de Guzman, SVD

Fr. Silvino Borres, SJ

Fr. Efren de Guzman, SVD

Fr. Silvino Borres, SJ

Sr. Martha Gamolo, DC

Fr. Raymond Ambray, Diocese of Tandag

Sr. Edita Eslopor, OSB

Sr. Rowena Pineda, MMS

Fr. Efren Reyes, MJ

Religious of the Good Shepherd (RGS)

Rural Missionaries of the Philippines (RMP)

Rev. Fr. Melvin Fajardo, One Negros Ecumenical Council

Dss. Sheila Faye Dayrit Binuya, Chairpersonm Commission on Deaconess Service, Philippine Central Confernce, UMC

Dr. Marita Wasan, Responsible Parenthood and All Natural Family Planning Nerwork

Dss. Rubylin Litao, Rise up for Lofe and for Rights

Sr. Cletha Baay, Ecumenical Women's Forum

Snap Mabanta, Ecumenical Women's Forum

Felicitas "Jeff" Vito, Church People-Workers Solidarity

Rose Dalagan, Church People-Workers Solidarity

Mark Anthony Salvador, Church People-Workers Solidarity

Weena Salvador Meily, Association of Women in Theology

Rev. Seler Fuertes

Pastor Japhet Estorque

Rev. Joram H. Calimutan, PCPR-Hong Kong Rev. Berlin Guerrero, PCPR-Australia

Reference: Bp Broderick Pabillo and Bp Joseph Agpaoa, One Faith. One Nation. One Voice. simbahanparasakatarungan@gmail.com, FB: @OneFaithOneNationOneVoice, 0993-348-9307