THE ARCHDIOCESE OF JARO

CELEBRATES THE YEAR OF PRIESTS

PRESS STATEMENT
June 17, 2009

The Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI has declared June 2009 to June 2010 as the **Year for Priests** which will coincide with the celebration of the 150th **anniversary of St. John Marie Vianney**, whom he declared the Universal Patron of Priests. In conjunction with this the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) also declared the same period as **Year of the Two Hears for Peace-Building and Lay Participation in Social Change**.

The celebrations will open on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart on June 19, 2009, nationally; and, in the Archdiocese of Jaro, the celebrations will commence with Parish activities in the morning of June 19, 2009 and a Solemn Procession in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus at four o’clock in the afternoon. This will be followed by a Concelebrated Mass at the Metropolitan Cathedral of St. Elizabeth of Hungary (Jaro Cathedral).

The theme for the year-long Year of the Priests celebration is: **Faithfulness of Christ, faithfulness of priests**.

Committees were formed to facilitate the celebration and the details of the activities for the whole year will be announced through the **Vicars Forane** or the Vicariate Lay Representatives.

Everyone is thus encouraged to pray for our priests that they might always be faithful to their sacred calling.

For more information you may contact:

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