

I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2009 (FIRST) Regular Session

Resolution No. 259-30 (COR)

Introduced by:

E. J.B. Calvo
F. F. Blas, Jr.
J. V. Espaldon
Telo Taitague
Ray Tenorio
T. C. Ada
F. B. Aguon, Jr.
B. J.F. Cruz
Judith P. Guthertz, DPA
T. R. Muña Barnes
Adolpho B. Palacios, Sr.
v. c. pangelinan
M. J. Rector
R. J. Respicio
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed.D.

Relative to expressing *Biba Kompliaños* and congratulations to the *Redemptoris Mater* Archdiocesan Missionary Seminary of Guam on the celebration of its Tenth (10th) Anniversary, and to extending a sincere *Un Dangkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* to Archdiocese and the Seminarians for their continuous contributions towards the improvement of the quality of life for our island community.

1 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF I**
2 **MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:**

3 **WHEREAS**, Pope John Paul II wrote an historic message to the bishops
4 of the 1998 Episcopal Conference of the Pacific (CEPAC), affirming that the
5 Church in Oceania “has no task more important than the new evangelization
6 which is needed as a response to the demands of the present day
7 circumstances which are changing rapidly. This will demand no less
8 imagination and courage than that which the early missionaries have shown”;
9 and

10 **WHEREAS**, Father Pius Sammut, OCD, Pat Cottman, and Javier
11 Santaballa met with Archbishop Anthony S. Apuron, OFM, Cap., D.D.,
12 Archbishop of *Hagåtña*, Father David C. Quitugua, Vicar General of the
13 Archdiocese, and Father Adrian Cristobal, Chancellor of the Archdiocese.
14 Father Pius Sammut, OCD, Pat Cottman and Javier Santaballa, the Catechists,
15 presented to the Archbishop the possibility of requesting a *Redemptoris Mater*
16 Seminary to the initiators of the Neo-Catechumenal Way for Guam for the
17 New Evangelization of the vast region of the Pacific; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Archbishop Anthony Sablan Apuron O.F.M., Cap., D.D.,
19 Archbishop of *Hagåtña* and President of CEPAC, decided to accept the
20 recommendation to create the first-ever major seminary in the three hundred
21 (300) plus years of Catholic history in the area, to form presbyters for the New

1 Evangelization, believing in the vision of the Pope and witnessing the serious
2 challenges Micronesia is facing today because of secularization and the
3 growing shortage of priests; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Guam’s catechist team, led by Father David C. Quitugua
5 and Father Adrian Cristobal, drafted a letter, blessed by the Archbishop, to
6 the initiators of the Neo-Catechumenal Way requesting for a *Redemptoris*
7 *Mater* Seminary for Guam on February 2, 1999, and Archbishop Apuron made
8 a presentation to the Archdiocesan Priest Council regarding the petitioning in
9 early September 1999. Archbishop Apuron then made a formal request for
10 the Seminary when he was in Porto S. Giorgio, Italy, at a convivence of the
11 initiators of the Neo-Catechumenal Way with aspirant seminarians from all
12 over the world, and at that time there was also a petition from Dallas, Texas,
13 thus reducing the chances to open a seminary in Guam; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Kiko Argüello, Carmen Hernández and Father Mario Pezzi,
15 initiators and international responsible team of the Way, granted the petition
16 of Archbishop Apuron on September 8, 1999, to the amazement of many, of
17 opening a *Redemptoris Mater* Seminary in Guam. Father Pius was appointed
18 as the Provisory Rector, and Saint Patrick was assigned as the Patron Saint,
19 and his relic was given to the Seminary. Twelve (12) seminarians started the
20 amazing project, which included: Fabio Faiola, Italy (October 26, 1999);
21 Miguel Angel Cervantes Pardo, Spain (November 5, 1999); José Alberto
22 Rodriguez Salamanca, Spain (November 13, 1999); Antonino Caminiti, Italy

1 (December 8, 1999); Jason Granado and Jun Acebuche, Philippines, (December
2 28, 1999); and Daniel Herrera, USA (December 30, 1999); and

3 **WHEREAS**, Archbishop Anthony S. Apuron, OFM, Cap., D.D., signed
4 the decree of erection of the *Redemptoris Mater* Archdiocesan Missionary
5 Seminary of Guam in Denver, Colorado, on December 8, 1999, the feast of
6 *Santa Marian Kamalen* (patroness of the Diocese of *Hagåtña* and the beloved
7 *Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral Basilica*), in the presence of the local itinerant
8 team of the Way, the national team, and the canon law adviser of the Neo-
9 Catechumenal Way, Adelchi Chinaglia. Together with *Santa Marian Kamalen*
10 and St. Patrick, the Patron Saints of the Seminary are St. Francis, Blessed
11 Diego Luis de San Vitores, a Jesuit who evangelized the island in the
12 seventieth century, Blessed Pedro Calungsod, lay catechist from the
13 Philippines and companion of Blessed Diego, and St. Therese of Lisieux; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Archbishop Anthony S. Apuron, OFM, Cap., D.D.,
15 appointed the first rector, Reverend Father Raymond Labranche from the
16 *Redemptoris Mater* Seminary of Newark, New Jersey, who arrived on Guam on
17 December 30, 1999. Reverend Labranche, assisted by Seminarian Wojciech
18 Jaskowiak from Poland, was sent to help form the seminarians in the initial
19 and crucial stage of the Seminary and to mark a direction for the following
20 years; and

21 **WHEREAS**, José Alberto was the first “guarantor” of the Seminary
22 because of his experience of four (4) years in the seminary, and who was
23 transferred from the Hong Kong *Redemptoris Mater* to assist the rector in

1 Guam. Together with seminarians from abroad, including Aurelio Stoia, Italy
2 (January, 2000); Julio César Sánchez Malagón, Columbia (July 2000); and
3 Osman Urueta Ortiz, Columbia (July 2000), two (2) local young men, Felix
4 Babauta and William De Guzman entered the Seminary; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the Archdiocese of *Agana* purchased the eighteen (18) acre
6 Accion Hotel in July 2002, for the Seminary, and the House of Formation was
7 used only to celebrate the Eucharist, to pray together, and study, while the
8 seminarians were housed by the brothers of the communities, two (2) in each
9 of the homes of Ms. Jovi Camacho, Ms. Conception Cristobal, Mr. and Mrs.
10 Danny and Percy Perez, Mr. and Mrs. Danny and Rosalia Santos, Mr. and
11 Mrs. Patrick and Bernardette Artero, and Mr. and Mrs. John and Loretta
12 Garcia, who really formed part of the foundations of the Seminary. Super
13 Typhoon *Pongsona* totally destroyed the Centre on December 8, 2002, less than
14 a month after the seminarians moved to their new permanent location in *Yoña*
15 on November 18, 2002; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the First Annual Gala Dinner was held at the Seminary on
17 May 26, 2003 hosting Honorees Mr. Edward Terlaje, Knight of St. Sylvester
18 and Mr. Albert Tsutsui, AIA Inc. The first *Chamorro* seminarian arrived on
19 October 1, 2003. In 2004, Father James E. Starasinich was the Rector of the
20 *Redemptoris Mater* Archdiocesan Missionary Seminary of Guam, housing
21 eighteen (18) seminarians: four (4) from Italy, four (4) from Columbia, two (2)
22 from the United States, two (2) from Spain, two (2) from the Philippines, two
23 (2) from Venezuela, and one (1) each from Poland and Haiti. The ordination

1 to the transitional diaconate of Jose Alberto Rodriguez Salamanca was held at
2 the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, *Yona*, on March 17, 2004. Mrs.
3 Veronica M. Calvo was inducted as an Honoree on May 7, 2004, during the
4 Second Annual Gala Dinner held at the Hyatt Hotel; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the number of seminarians increased to twenty-seven (27)
6 in 2005, and the first Family on Mission, Mario and Audrey Borg, and their
7 four (4) children: Naomi, Gabriel, Mathiass, and Mary arrived on February 10,
8 2005. The first St. Patrick's novena and fiesta was celebrated at the Seminary
9 on March 17, 2005. Mrs. Eugenia Aflague Leon Guerrero was inducted as an
10 Honoree on May 15, 2005, at the Third Annual Gala Dinner held at the Hyatt
11 Hotel. Father Jose Alberto Rodriguez Salamanca was ordained on May 21,
12 2005, from the Seminary to the Sacred Order of the Presbyterate for the service
13 of the Church of the Archdiocese of *Agana*; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the Seminary inducted Honoree Mrs. Maria Santos on May
15 21, 2006, during the Fourth Annual Gala Dinner at the Hyatt Hotel. Father
16 Ivan Schiberras arrived on July 21, 2006, to be Father Wojciech Jaskowiak's
17 replacement as Vice Rector, and the Seminary's Rector, Father Pablo Ponce
18 Rodriguez, arrived on September 30, 2006; and

19 **WHEREAS**, thirty (30) seminarians and five (5) extraordinary students
20 representing thirteen (13) countries called *Redemptoris Mater* Archdiocesan
21 Missionary Seminary of Guam home in 2007. From Brazil: Edivaldo da Silva;
22 from Colombia: Carlos Alzate, Harold Colorado, Julio Cesar Sanchez
23 Malagon, Osman Urueta and Pedro Durango Agudelo; from Croatia: Drazen

1 Hosi, from Ecuador: Jorge Roberto Yandun; from Guam (USA): Luis
2 Camacho, Jr., Peter Daniel Peredo Perez and Preston Daniel Peredo Perez;
3 from Ireland: Kenneth Paul O'Reilly; from Italy: Antonino Caminiti, Aurelius
4 Stoia, Fabio Faiola, Francesco Asproni, Giovanni Ulisse and Simone Sorge;
5 from Mexico: Jose Santos Hernandez; from Nicaragua: Cesar Javier Izaguirre;
6 from Paraguay: Aldo Gonzales and Omar Silevestre Caceres; from the
7 Philippines: Diomedes Jr. Acebuche, Jason Granado and Joselito Sangoyo;
8 from Poland: Michal Niemierski; from United States of America: Michael V.
9 Jucutan; from Venezuela: Endrit Urbina, Gabriel Ramos and Willmer A.
10 Chirino; from Spain: Jesus Garcia Yelo and Miguel Angel Cervantes; and

11 **WHEREAS**, Father Thomas E. Dansak, CHC, USN, S.T.M., Captain, U.S.
12 Naval Forces-Marianas, Guam was inducted as an Honoree on May 6, 2007, at
13 the Fifth Annual Gala Dinner held at the Seminary in *Yona*. The Seminary
14 celebrated the induction of Honoree Mr. Norberto "Bert" Unpingco during its
15 Sixth Annual Gala Dinner held at the Seminary on June 1, 2008. The
16 priesthood ordination of Antonino Caminiti (Sicily), Jason Granado
17 (Philippines) and Fabio Faiola (Rome) was held at the *Dulce Nombre de Maria*
18 Cathedral-Basilica in *Hagåtña*, on November 8, 2008, followed by Agape
19 prepared by the Communities of the Neo-Catechumenate of the three (3)
20 candidates, which was held at the Gym of the Academy of Our Lady of
21 Guam; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the *Redemptoris Mater* Archdiocesan Missionary Seminary
23 of Guam was host to the February 17-18, 2009, Permanent Council Meeting of

1 CEPAC (Conferentia Episcopalis Pacific/Episcopal Conference of the Pacific)
2 Bishops. Four (4) seminarians were ordained to the Diaconate: Miguel Angel,
3 Julio Cesar Sanchez Malagon, Edivaldo da Silva and Aurelio Stoia at the *Dulce*
4 *Nombre de Maria* Cathedral-Basilica, followed by dinner at the Academy of
5 Our Lady of Guam Cafeteria. On March 30, 2009, five (5) seminarians
6 studying towards the Sacred Priesthood for the Archdiocese of *Agana* received
7 the Ministry of Acolyte during a Mass celebrated by Archbishop Anthony
8 Sablan Apuron, OFM Cap., at the *Redemptoris Mater* Seminary in *Yona*.
9 Honoree, Senator Edward Baza Calvo, was inducted at the Seventh Annual
10 Gala Dinner at the Seminary for promoting family and life issues in *I*
11 *Liheslaturan Guåhan*. Father Giovanni Rizzo arrived on Guam on June 17,
12 2009, to replace Father Ivan Sciberras as Vice Rector; and

13 **WHEREAS**, September 2009 received Joshua Blaise Quitugua Aglubat,
14 Gabriel Camacho, Ashton Ignacio Francisco Wong and Andrew Cesar
15 Ramirez into the Seminary. The priesthood ordination of Father Miguel,
16 Father Julio, Father Edivaldo, and Father Aurelio was celebrated on
17 November 7, 2009; now, therefore, be it

18 **RESOLVED**, that the Committee on Rules of *I Mina'Trenta Na*
19 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* and the
20 people of Guam, express *Biba Kompliaños* and congratulations to the
21 *Redemptoris Mater* Archdiocesan Missionary Seminary of Guam on the
22 celebration of its Tenth (10th) Anniversary, and to extending a sincere *Un*
23 *Dangkolo Na Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* to Archdiocese and the Seminarians for their

1 continuous contributions towards the improvement of the quality of life for
2 our island community; and, be it further

3 **RESOLVED**, that the Speaker and the Chairperson of the Committee on
4 Rules certify, and the Legislative Secretary attest to, the adoption hereof, and
5 that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Archbishop Anthony S.
6 Apuron, OFM, Cap., D.D.; and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I*
7 *Maga'lahaen Guåhan*.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES
OF I MINA'TRENTA NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN ON THE 18TH DAY
OF DECEMBER 2009.**



JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed.D.

Speaker



RORY J. RESPICIO

Chairperson, Committee on Rules



TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES

Legislative Secretary