Circular Letter
No. 04
Series 2025
Information (White)

TO: HIS EXCELLENCY, THE REVEREND MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY, MEN AND WOMEN RELIGIOUS AND THE LAITY OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA

RE: NATIONAL BIBLE SUNDAY AND THE SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD – 26 JANUARY 2025

Greetings of Grace and Peace!

"Remember your word to your servant by which you give me hope." (Psalm 119:49)

Let us celebrate "The Sunday of the Word of God" which also coincides with the "National Bible Sunday" on 26 January 2025. With the theme: "God's Word: Source of Hope" – we continue our journey of faith in this Jubilee Year holding firm to the Word of God as our source of hope.

One recommendation from the Episcopal Commission on the Biblical Apostolate (ECBA) is to have the Gospel Book brought in procession during the Holy Masses, especially this January which we also call "Bible Month." Attached herewith is the letter from the ECBA Chairman regarding this celebration.

In our archdiocese, we have earmarked the November 16 second collection for the National Bible Collections. Please note our schedule of special collections and second collections respectively (Circular Letter 01, Series 2025). *Santo Cristo del Perdon y Caridad – pakaluluan mu kami*. *Virgen de los Remedios, Indu ring Capaldanan, Tula ring Capampangan, Talayingat ning Arkidiocesis – ipanalangin mu kami*. Thank you for the kind attention, I remain

One with you as a servant to the servants of the Gospel,

(Sgd.) ✠ FLORENTINO G. LAVARIAS, D.D.
Archbishop of San Fernando
Pampanga

(Sgd.) REV. FR. DANNY Q. NACPIL
Chancellor

08 January 2025

EPISCOPAL COMMISSION ON THE BIBLICAL APOSTOLATE
CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF THE PHILIPPINES

January 1, 2025

TO: THE ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS OF THE CBCP
RE: CELEBRATING THE SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD – 26 JANUARY 2025

"I HOPE IN YOUR WORD"
(Psalm 119:74)

On 26 January 2025 we are celebrating "THE SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD." This celebration initiated by Pope Francis from 2019 also coincides with our own NATIONAL BIBLE SUNDAY, a celebration we have with all other Faith communities. The Pro-prefect for the Dicastery for New Evangelization, His Eminence Cardinal Rino Fisichella explains:

> *"The Sunday of the Word of God is a profoundly pastoral initiative with which Pope Francis wants to make it clear how important it is in the daily life of the Church and our communities to refer to the Word of God, a Word that is not confined to a book, but which remains ever alive and becomes a concrete and tangible sign.*
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> *The motto chosen by the Holy Father for the 2025 edition, within the Jubilee Year, is a verse from Psalm 119, "I hope in your Word". It is a cry of hope: man, in a moment of anguish, tribulation, and confusion, cries out to God and puts all his hope in him."*
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> *The Pastoral Handbook is intended to help and be offered to parish communities and those gathered for Sunday's Eucharistic celebration, so that this Sunday may be resolutely lived."*

We earnestly pray that this Sunday of the Word be observed in accordance to the request of our Holy Father. As "Pilgrims of Hope" during this Jubilee Year, we wish to encourage our faithful to let the Word of God especially proclaimed in our Sunday Liturgies, inspire us to face the challenges of our day to day lives. It will be a great help if we can have the Gospel Book brought in procession during the Holy Masses, especially this January which we also call "Bible Month." We recommend that our Biblical Apostolate Commissions in our Archdioceses / Dioceses organize during this Jubilee Year programs that will make our faithful become more familiar with the Word of God. Finally, we thank one and all for your unending support for the Episcopal Commission on the Biblical Apostolate (ECBA) through your faithful remittance of the mandated Bible Collection.

Fraternally yours,

+ RENATO P. MAYUGBA
CHAIRMAN - ECBA

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