



The Roman Catholic Archbishop
OF SAN FERNANDO
City of San Fernando, Pampanga
PHILIPPINES

DECREE

WHEREAS, a formal request has been presented from the Archdiocesan Council of Extraordinary Ministers for the Distribution of Holy Communion (EMDC) through the Archdiocesan Liturgical Commission (ALC) to revise the official designation of their ministry. Specifically, a request that the terms “Special Eucharistic Ministers” (SPEM) and “Extraordinary Ministers for the Distribution of Holy Communion” (EMDC) be renamed to “Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion” (EMHC).

WHEREAS, this request arises from a desire for greater alignment with the terminology used in the broader Catholic Church. “Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion” (EMHC) being the more universally recognized and commonly used term across many dioceses and national bishops’ conferences. This includes usage in official Church documents, catechetical resources, and liturgical books and the code of canon law. (cf. Sacred Congregation for the Discipline of the Sacraments, Instruction, *Immensae Caritatis*, 29 January 1973, no. 1; General Instruction of the Roman Missal, no. 100; Code of Canon Law, Canon 230, 3 and 910, 2.

WHEREAS, the appropriate terminology – Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion – not only accurately reflects their role but also simplifies communication within the community, enhances their identity, and promotes unity with the universal Church. It emphasizes their ministerial connection to the Holy Eucharist without limiting the scope of their function to distribution alone, thus recognizing their broader participation in the ministry of the Church.

WHEREFORE, I, FLORENTINO G. LAVARIAS, D.D., by the Grace of God and Favor of the Apostolic See, fourth Metropolitan Archbishop of the Archdiocese of San Fernando, decree that in the Archdiocese of San Fernando: “Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion” (EMHC) shall be the official term and designation for this ministry and the appropriate *Kapampangan* translation is “*Kasaup a Talasuyu king Banal a Pamakinabang*”.

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.

Given at our Chancery, Arzobispado de San Fernando, San Jose, City of San Fernando, Pampanga, Philippines, this 11th day of September, in the Year of our Lord 2025.

(Sgd.) ✕ FLORENTINO G. LAVARIAS, D.D.

Archbishop of San Fernando
Pampanga

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