

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

RE: THE PRACTICE OF THE “CONVERSATION IN THE SPIRIT” IN OUR SYNODAL JOURNEY

Greetings of Grace and Peace!

“Conversation in the Spirit is a tool that, even with its limitations, enables listening in order to discern ‘what the Spirit is saying to the Churches’ (Rev. 2:7). Its practice has elicited joy, awe and gratitude and has been experienced as a path of renewal that transforms individuals, groups and the Church.” (No. 45 Synod Final Document 2024)

The CBCP *Sulong Padayon* Implementation Framework (SPIF) invites us to continue the synodal journey in the context of the local church’s pastoral/institutional/organizational realities. The SPIF outlines the five characteristics of becoming a synodal Church, namely:

1. Listening, Discernment, and Accompaniment
2. Formation Towards Conversion and Mission
3. Accountable and Collaborative Leadership/Governance Structure
4. Inclusive Participation – BECs, Grassroots, Marginalized Sectors
5. Partnership and Outreach

Drawing inspiration from the fruits of the Conversation in the Spirit, we therefore enjoin all our clergy, religious, lay leaders, and the faithful to continue to implement the *Sulong Padayon* by using the Conversation in the Spirit as our primary method of communal discernment and dialogue in all pastoral gatherings, planning, meetings, and formation activities. The Conversation in the Spirit is a prayerful process that helps a group discern by the sharing of personal experience, speaking from the heart, listening with the heart, and invoking the Holy Spirit to guide us while we look for convergences and divergences.

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

13 August 2026