



PRIVATE CIRCULATION, ISSUE 01/26

“and He shall be PEACE”

Micah 5:5

HOPE

Jan - Mar 2026

DIACONATE ORDINATION . PRAY FOR PEACE . APOSTOLIC DELEGATE FAREWELL
FIRST CONFIRMATION RETREAT . FAMINE 2026 . VICARIATE EVENTS

A group of thirteen year old Sunday School students in COOL Seria recently learned about Sarah's laugh when visiting angels told Abraham that the aged couple will have a son soon.

For too many times in our lives, and especially now, situations seem impossibly hopeless and out of our control, shaking our faith foundation and robbing us of peace of mind.

Reflecting on Sarah's laugh, one of the students put it most aptly, **"Trusting God is most difficult as we slowly lose faith in Him when everything is not going well."**

In the temptations of Lent and darkness of the Passion, we may be blind to God at times. But the Easter Candle reminds us that Light lives on in our souls, we trust that we are not alone!

This is the time for **HOPE**, especially in these challenging times, we still find many moments of joy, especially as the recent ordination of Deacon Karel Anak Tingang, the first after many years in our Vicariate.

Another student summed up, **"I trust God for He is with me always, in good and bad."**

As Jesus himself quoted, "Out of the mouth of a child !" (Matt 21:16, Ps 8:2)

He is Risen, Alleluia!

scripture inspiration

Brothers and sisters, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you.

And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil people, for not everyone has faith.

But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one.

We have confidence in the Lord that you are doing and will continue to do the things we command.

May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance.

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.

2 Thessalonians 3 : 1 - 5, 16 (abridged)



Social Communications Editor
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From The Holy Father

A VIDEO MESSAGE FROM THE POPE'S WORLDWIDE PRAYER NETWORK



“Today we lift up our prayer for peace in the world, asking that nations renounce weapons and choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy,” Pope Leo said in the video.

“Help us understand that true security does not come from control fueled by fear, but from trust, justice, and solidarity among peoples,” he added.

The four-minute video, published by the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network as part of the pope's monthly prayer intention for March, shows Pope Leo holding an olive branch inside the Church of San Pellegrino in Vatican City.

“Disarm our hearts of hatred, resentment and indifference, so we may become instruments of reconciliation,” “Lord, enlighten the leaders of the nations, so they may have the courage to abandon projects of death, halt the arms race, and place the lives of the most vulnerable at the center,” Pope Leo prayed. “May the nuclear threat never again dictate the future of humanity.”

“Lord of Life, you shaped every human being in your image and likeness. We believe you created us for communion, not for war, for fraternity, not for destruction,” the pope prayed.

“You who greeted your disciples saying, ‘Peace be with you,’ grant us the gift of your peace and the strength to make it a reality in history.”

The pope closed with a prayer for the Holy Spirit to make people faithful and creative builders of peace in daily life. “May every kind word, every gesture of reconciliation, and every choice for dialogue be seeds of a new world,” he said.

POPE LEO XIV
PRAY FOR PEACE, 5 MARCH 2026

Farewell to our Apostolic Delegate

HOPE



His Grace Archbishop Wojciech Zaluski is a Polish prelate born in 1960 and ordained in 1985. He has served as the Apostolic Delegate to Brunei Darussalam since September 29, 2020, concurrently holding the position of Apostolic Nuncio to Malaysia and Timor-Leste.

Based in Kuala Lumpur, the Apostolic Delegate represents the Vatican to the Apostolic Vicariate in Brunei, playing a vital role in promoting religious harmony and supporting the Catholic Church's mission to the 16 800 baptised Catholics in the nation (as of 2023).

On 28 February 2026, it was announced by the Holy See Press Office that Archbishop Zaluski is appointed to his next role as the Apostolic Nuncio to Malta.

Deacon Karel Anak Tingang

Under the Dalmatic and Stole
The Diaconate - What It Means
The Diaconate Ordination Mass



The Diaconate

Under the Dalmatic and Stole

Biodata

Karel Anak Tingang is of Iban ethnicity, born in Belait, Brunei.

Early vocation and formation

Karel entered seminary formation (Philosophy) at San Carlos Seminary, Manila in the Philippines. Later he pursued priestly formation (Theology) at St Francis Xavier Major Seminary in Singapore.

Ministry and diaconate

On 23 February 2026, Karel was called to receive the Sacred Order of Deacons (transitional diaconate), a step that prepares candidates for priesthood.

He will next serve in the three parishes of the Vicariate for two months in each rotation, starting with Kuala Belait, followed by Bandar Seri Begawan, and finally in Seria.



At San Carlos Seminary, Manila, The Philippines

The Diaconate

Under the Dalmatic and Stole

In the Deacon's own words

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'" (Isaiah 6:8)

St Martin de Porres and St Teresa of Calcutta, whose motto Humilitas (Humility) and quote "Do small things with great love" are my inspirations and reminder to serve the poor; materially, physically and spiritually. I commit myself wholeheartedly to serving with compassion, listening ears, and a heart open to God's call in our faith community.

I humbly ask you, dear parishioners, to keep me in your prayers, that I may remain faithful, joyful, and steadfast in my vocation journey, and may the Good Lord bless all of us here in the Apostolic Vicariate of Brunei Darussalam.



At St Francis Xavier Major Seminary, Singapore

The Diaconate

What It Means

In the Catholic Church, the diaconate is one of three ordained ministries, alongside priests and bishops. Deacons are called to serve in three key areas: the proclamation of the Word, assistance in the liturgy, and works of charity. There are two types of the diaconate.

A Transitional Deacon is a man in formation for the priesthood. Ordained as part of his seminary journey, he typically serves as a deacon for about six months to a year before being ordained a priest. His role during this period is both practical and preparatory, allowing him to gain experience in preaching, pastoral care, and liturgical service.

A Permanent Deacon, on the other hand, is ordained to remain a deacon for life. This vocation allows both celibate and married men (if married before ordination) to serve the Church.

The requirements for each path differ. Transitional deacons follow a structured seminary program oriented toward priesthood.

Permanent deacons complete several years of theological study, spiritual formation, and pastoral training within their diocese.

In terms of roles, both types of deacons share the same sacramental faculties. They proclaim the Gospel, preach, assist at Mass, baptize, witness marriages, and preside at funerals and other services. However, they cannot celebrate the Eucharist, hear confessions, or anoint the sick—ministries reserved for priests.

At Mass, a deacon's vesture also distinguishes him from a priest. He wears an alb and a stole placed diagonally from the left shoulder to the right side, often with a dalmatic over it. A priest, by contrast, wears the stole straight down over both shoulders and a chasuble as the outer vestment.

Ultimately, while their long-term vocations differ, both transitional and permanent deacons share a common mission: to serve Christ and the Church through humble service to God's people.

The Diaconate Ordination Mass









First Confirmation Retreat

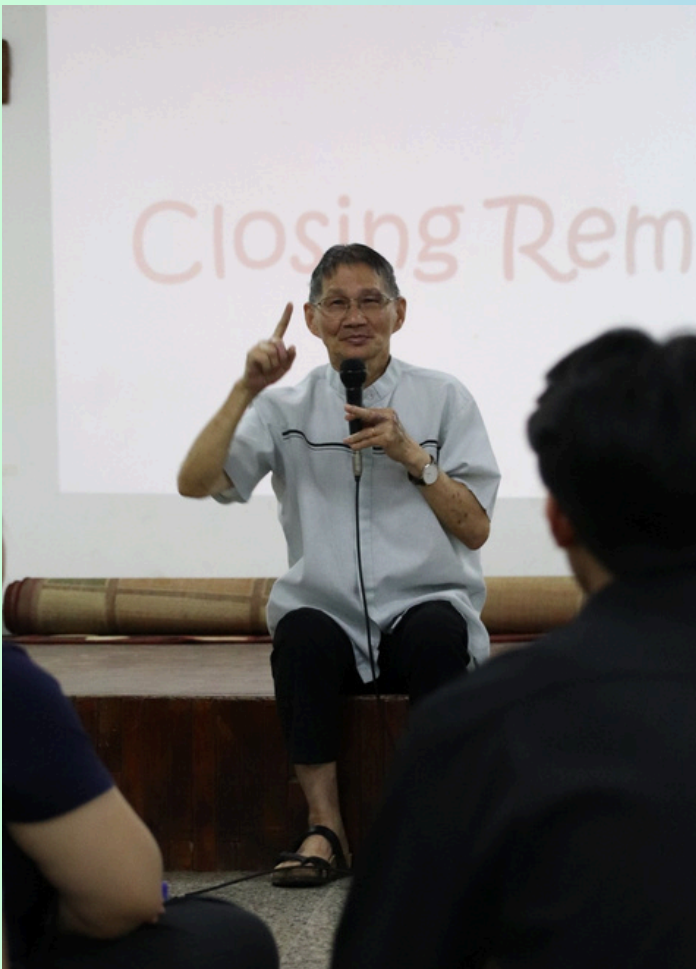








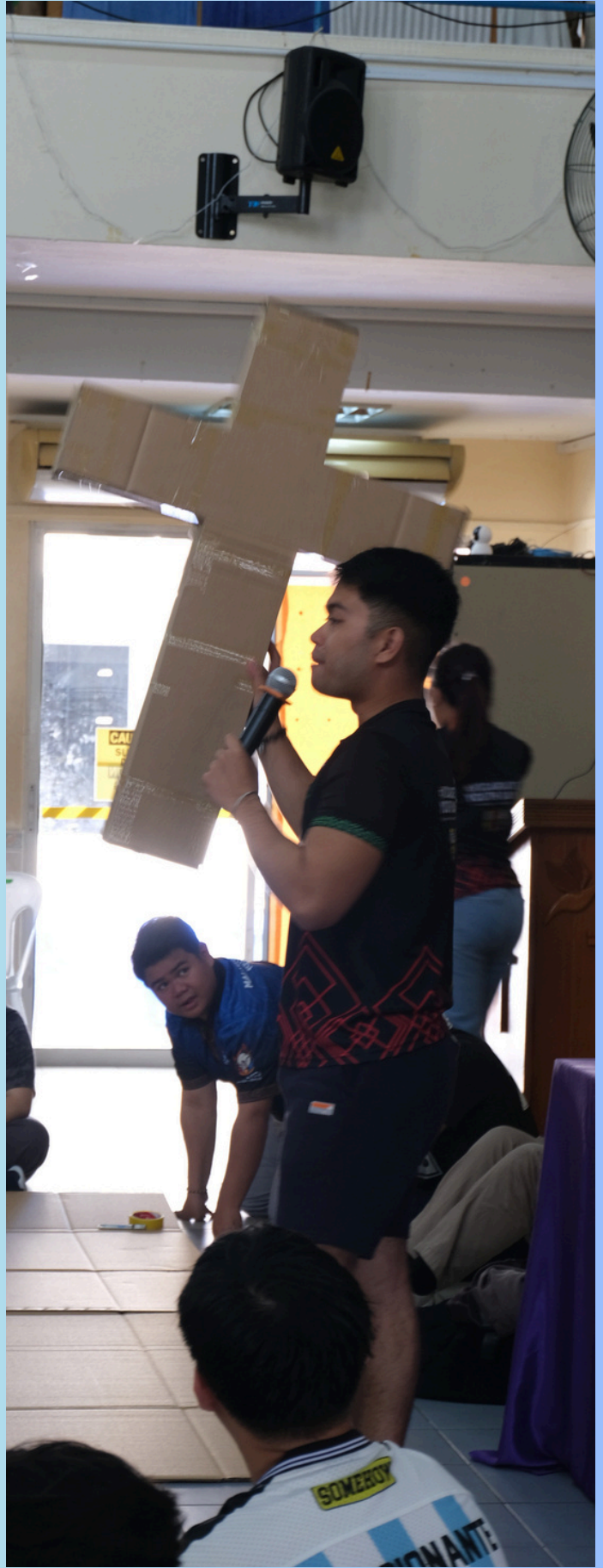




Famine

HOPE











Ash Wednesday & Lent



Laudato Si



Sunday School Registration



Catholic Community



World Day of the Sick



St Blaise Blessing



Lenten Recollection



COOL Chinese New Year

HOPE

Mass, Dinner and Visit to The Old Folks' Home





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