



Newsletter: Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021

Dear All,

One item of news which really interested me this past week was the upcoming celebration of 500 years of Christianity in the Philippines. Pope Francis announced it with a special Mass in St Peter's on Sunday last. There will be a whole year starting Easter Sunday, the theme being "Gifted to Give" – a focus on Evangelization. Cardinal Taglia, formerly Archbishop of Manila, who is now Prefect for the Congregation of the Evangelization of Peoples, thanked the Holy Father on behalf of some 110 million Filipinos on the islands and 10 million Filipinos of the Diaspora across the world.

The first Mass celebrated in the Philippines after the arrival of Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan is said to have been on 31<sup>st</sup> March 1521. We can look forward to Filipino gatherings in the year to ahead.

The first of a series of Conferences on the new Catechetical Directory, arranged by Maryvale Institute in association with the Diocese, took place on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March. Key speakers included Archbishop Fisichella, who leads the roll out of the Directory from Rome. The recordings and paper copies of Session 1 are available on "Moodle". If you have difficulty accessing it, contact the marketing manager, Wioleta Pater, at the Maryvale Institute.

You may like to note that a special "Year of the Family" begins tomorrow, the Feast of St Joseph. Information on this can be accessed through Leanne Papp at Maryvale Institute.

Attached, as usual, is my Reflection/Homily for Sunday coming and a Podcast for the Solemnity of the Annunciation.

With prayers and all good wishes,

Mgr Daniel McHugh

**Monsignor Daniel McHugh**

Co-ordinator for Ethnic Chaplaincies in the Archdiocese