

PRESS RELEASE:

Archdiocese, interfaith organizations to stage pro-life prayer rally

The Archdiocese of Cagayan de Oro will be hosting a pro-life prayer rally opposing the Reproductive Health Bill (HB 4244) and promoting Natural Family Planning (NFP) in Cagayan de Oro City on Saturday, April 30, 2011. The rally is to be headed by San Antonio de Padua parish priest Msgr. Eutiquiano "Tex" Legitimas and key members of Catholic lay organizations from the Archdiocese of Cagayan de Oro. The pro-life rally has the blessing of Cagayan de Oro Archbishop Antonio J. Ledesma, S.J. and carries the theme "FILIPINOS: UNITE FOR LIFE AND FAMILY – STOP THE RH BILL!".

Protesters are to converge at two points in the city: Limketkai Center and Gaston Park before marching on to the Provincial Capitol at 3 pm, where they will be welcomed by Msgr. Legitimas. A Holy Mass will follow the first speech to be delivered by Dr. Rene Bullecer of Human Life International on "The History of Anti-Life Agenda: From Genesis to Congress". Other speakers invited include Windyl Salapang, Mary Josephine Quimpo, and EJ Aguila representing the youth, Congressmen Pedro Romualdo (Camiguin) and Jess Paras (Bukidnon), and Mrs. Norma Barcelita of the Christian Family & Life Apostolate, who will present NFP as a better alternative to contraceptives. Gynecologist Dr. Marites Echavez will be discussing the side effects of contraceptives on women, followed by pediatric surgeon Dr. Nestor B. Lumicao, who will explain the negative effects of contraceptives on children. Mr. Lito David of Prolife Philippines will be giving a situation report on the RH Bill in the House of Representatives. Msgr. Rey Monsanto, parish priest of Jesus Nazareno Parish and canon lawyer will present a synthesis before the candle-lighting ceremony closing the event.

All parishes, ministries, and lay organizations of the Archdiocese of Cagayan de Oro have been urged to participate in this rally. Those who support the pro-life cause are strongly encouraged to join.

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