

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **ST JOHN'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL, PORTSMOUTH**

#### **RELEASE IMMEDIATE**

**Date of release: 20 April 2005**

Fr John Azarcon STL from the Capiz in the Philippines, a devout Roman Catholic country, has recently arrived at St John's Roman Catholic Cathedral where he will be working over the coming summer months. At 1400 hrs on Sunday 8 May 2005, at St John's RC Cathedral, Fr John will be celebrating Mass in Tagalog, the native language of the Philippines.

Fr John is the Vice Rector and Professor of Sancta Maria Mater et Regina Seminarium, Roxas City, Philippines. He obtained his Licentiate in Sacred Theology at the Pontificia Universitas Lateranensis, Rome, Italy. Fr John is a Catholic diocesan priest of the Archdiocese of Capiz, Philippines.

## **STARTS**

### **FILIPINO MASS IN TAGALOG**

Fr John Azarcon STL from the Philippines has recently arrived at St John's Roman Catholic Cathedral where he will be working over the coming summer months. On Sunday 8 May at 1400 hours, Fr John will be celebrating Mass in Tagalog, the native language of the Philippines at St John's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Edinburgh Road, Portsmouth.

As Fr John explained: 'I think this must be the first time that Mass has been celebrated in Tagalog at the Cathedral. I hope many of the Filipinos living in and around Portsmouth will be able to attend ... not to mention others interested in a Filipino Mass'.

Tagalog, the native language of the Philippines, belongs to the Indonesian group of the Malayo-Polynesian languages. In the words of Fr John asking anyone from the Philippines to be in touch: 'Kung kayo ay taga Pilipinas, sana makipag ugnayan kayo sa amin'.

## **ENDS**

Notes to Editors

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