



# COUPLES FOR CHRIST

Families in the Holy Spirit Renewing the Face of the Earth

July 2, 2007

**Our Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

Greetings of peace, hope and joy in the Lord!

CFC rejoiced when the Elders' Assembly was concluded last June 22, and especially during the 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in Luneta. We sincerely believe that CFC is much more united as one body in Christ. The Luneta celebration, joined by a multitude, with Bro. Frank Padilla among them, was indeed joyful and filled with gratitude to the Lord for His presence and guidance in uniting CFC.

One of our immediate acts as a Council was to visit our dear bishops. We visited Bishop Gabby Reyes, with our spouses, last June 29, 2007, to personally ask for forgiveness for the hurt that we have caused. However, we explained that we were not disrespectful of the bishops since it was clear that the agreement reached with Bro. Frank had to be submitted to the Elders Assembly for approval. Since the Elders Assembly has spoken, we also need to honor and respect its decision. We re-assured Bishop Gabby of our love and respect. We also expressed our desire to seek counsel from him on a regular basis, especially with regard to moral, liturgical, and spiritual matters. We are thankful to Bishop Gabby for the audience he gave us. We are confident that this is the start of the process of strengthening our relationship with him. We are determined to regularly seek counsel and guidance from our bishops, priests and religious.

We once again express our regret to the community that our beloved bishops were convinced by some of our leaders to get involved, unnecessarily, we believe, in our own internal organizational matters.

We are looking forward to the great things that the Lord will share with CFC in the coming years. We are filled with excitement and anticipation of how CFC will be used powerfully by the Lord for His purpose, and how the community in turn will respond to the leadings of the Holy Spirit. We believe we have become stronger as a community, having undergone the trials and threats to our unity, and yet managed to emerge largely united through Christ.

This does not mean that we are not sensitive to the sentiments of some brethren. We know that there are some who disagree with the decision of the Elders Assembly. We are also aware that Bro. Frank has his opinions on CFC and GK. But we will simply trust the Lord and our culture where we can disagree without being disagreeable, where we treat each other with honor and respect. We trust that everyone has learned the lesson that sending our disagreements publicly through e-mails is divisive.

We do not take offense if Bro. Frank has contrary views against the CFC Council. For instance, we see that CFC is largely united while he sees otherwise. The Council has expressed the joy of the community after the Elders Assembly had spoken and he thinks otherwise. That is his right and we respect that. He may continuously send his emails to us or discuss with anyone among the Council and that is alright.

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**In this light, we reiterate our request for all to stop using broadcast emails for debate and argument. We believe this is causing disunity among the CFC family. We welcome suggestions or comments, but kindly send these through your leaders or even directly to us, and not irresponsibly send the same to everyone.**

Certainly, the changes we are going through have brought difficulty, but what is also certain is the Lord's presence in all of these. CFC is the work of our Lord and not ours. The Lord has blessed CFC tremendously and expects us to work with Him in unity. Let us fight for our God by loving and encouraging each other and further the work of evangelization. Let us move as one body in Christ! Let us fight the good fight of faith!

In the service of God and community,

**CFC Council**

By: Joe Tale (sgd.)

CFC Director