



**Joint Declaration of the Archdiocese of Caceres and the Naga City Government  
on the year 2020 138th Divino Rostro and 310th Our Lady of Peñafrancia Festivities**

The Archdiocese of Caceres and the Naga City Government,

*Grateful* for the gift of Faith, cultural heritage, and special devotion to the **Divino Rostro** and **Ina**, Our Lady of Peñafrancia and the Bikol People's patroness who for over 300 hundred years has interceded for God's untold miracles and blessings for her millions of devotees here and elsewhere,

*Anticipating* our regional celebration of the Annual Festivities of the **Divino Rostro** on September 2 to 11 and **Ina** on September 11 to 20, 2020,

*Privileged* with the Nation's distinct recognition of Naga City as a "Pilgrimage Capital" of the Bicol Region and a top Tourist destination of the Philippines through Presidential Proclamation No. 33 dated 10 September 2010,

*Tasked* to conduct the Peñafrancia Festival in an atmosphere of peace and order that must be assisted and maintained by the government, and that the solemnity and sensitivity of the nature and character of the festivities must be preserved,

*Mindful* of the present state of national public health emergency due to the deadly COVID-19 global pandemic requiring physical or social distancing and other measures to avoid infection and contamination,

*Deepful thankful* of the special Divine protection over Bicol through the **Divino Rostro** and **Ina**, which then impels us to do our part by taking utmost care and precaution, avoiding being reckless and exposing one another to possible massive scale of COVID-19 contagion,

*Conscious* of everyone's religious, moral, and civic duties and responsibilities to maintain the life, health, and well-being of all devotees, pilgrims, and the people at large,

*Determined* to secure the free exercise and expression of religion, faith, and devotion while ensuring adequate preventive measures against the spread of COVID-19 for the common good, public health, and community welfare,

1. **Decide** to hold our Peñafrancia celebrations by way of home-based, BEC-based or parish-based novena masses and other religious practices for which purpose all devotees are strongly encouraged to stay and remain in their respective localities and no longer travel to Naga City,
2. **Cancel** this year's holding of Processions: *Traslación*, *Fluvial*, *Dawn*, *Perdon*, *Harubay* and any procession whatsoever,
3. **Suspend** the kissing and touching of *Ina*'s miraculous images enshrined at the Peñafrancia Basilica and other churches, including the imposition of her Manto for healing and consolation,
4. **Cancel** all civic and commercial activities such as the *Voyadores Festival*, *Civic and Military Parades*, *Trade Fairs*, *Exhibits*, *Competitions*, *Concerts*, and all other mass gatherings,
5. **Enjoin** everyone to celebrate the Feasts of the **Divino Rostro** and **Ina** in a safe, prayerful and blessed environment.

June 27, 2020, Peñafrancia Basilica, Naga City, Philippines. **VIVA LA VIRGEN!**

**✠ ROLANDO OCTAVUS J. TRIA TIRONA, OCD, DD**  
Archbishop of Caceres

**HON. NELSON S. LEGACION**  
Naga City Mayor