

25 July 2011

To whom it may concern:

I am pleased to certify that I have known the SISTERS OF MARY and their charity works for quite sometime already, especially those who are assigned at the Sisters of Mary Girlstown and Boystown in the Archdiocese of Cebu when I was still Cebu's Auxiliary Bishop.

I can vouch and can testify how God's ever-abundant grace has worked well in these committed and faithful religious as they take care and educate thousands of children at their boarding schools. The sisters provide food, clothing, and shelter and the high-quality secondary education with intensive vocational training totally free of charge for the poor but deserving children. The perseverance, courage and simplicity of the sisters with Sr. Michaela Kim's leadership, who continue to fulfill their mission and mandate of their founder, have been very impressive and commendable too.

The growth and development of the children they care for, and the sisters' ability to discipline them altogether is remarkable indeed. The test of the children's formation under the Sisters of Mary is best gauged in the good examples they have set, which serve as inspiration to the companies and communities where they are presently employed.

In this regard, I strongly commend the Sisters of Mary to your kind and generous heart. I am grateful as well to all the donors for the financial and moral support which they have generously shared through the years and encourage them all the more to continue sharing what the Lord has abundantly bestowed upon then so that the less fortunate children would have the opportunity to dream and aim for a brighter future ahead of them.

With my prayers and blessing, I remain

Yours in Jesus, Mary and Joseph,

JOSÉ S. PALMA, DD Archbishop of Cebu