

SECOND PLENARY COUNCIL OF THE PHILIPPINES (PCP-II) - COMPENDIUM OF RESOURCES -

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The Second Plenary Council of the Philippines (PCP-II) convened from January 20 until February 17, 1991. Its avowed theme was Church renewal and evangelization in the spirit and vision of the Second Vatican Council. The 490 delegates included 94 bishops, 226 priests, 12 sisters, 2 brothers, and 156 laity. This event has been termed a “Philippine Pentecost”; participants experienced the dynamic presence of the Holy Spirit as they discerned the pathways of the Church in the Philippines. Pivotal themes of PCP-II include: Community of Disciples, Church of the Poor, Renewed Integral Evangelization, and Basic Ecclesial Communities.

This article is a comprehensive “compendium of resources” intended for Church personnel who desire to appreciate the rich theological thought and pastoral vision inherent in PCP-II. This material becomes particularly relevant as the local Church evaluates its progress twenty years after the PCP-II event (1991-2011). Filipino Catholics—bishops, pastors, religious, seminarians, laity, youth—will find much helpful material to guide them as active participants in the “ecclesial genesis” of the local Church. In particular, this compendium can serve the needs of students of theology and those preparing for ministry in the Philippine Church.

INTRODUCTION

The twentieth anniversary of the Second Plenary Council of the Philippines (1991-2011) is an opportunity to review the original vision of this “Philippine Pentecost” and to assess its impact on the life of the local Church. The visionary experience and documents of PCP-II sought the renewal and transformation of the Philippine Catholic community to become a “Community of Disciples” and a “Church of the Poor”; this vision would be accomplished through a “Renewed Integral Evangelization” and concretized in the “Basic Ecclesial Communities.”

One point of departure for this ongoing renewal and reception of the PCP-II vision of being the Church in the Philippines is to appreciate the “sources” upon which this continued revitalization of the Church is based. The modest aim of this “compendium of resources” is to provide Church personnel at all levels with foundational materials to appreciate and continue the renewal journey.

The documented materials in this presentation are arranged alphabetically by author or source; the entries under a specific name are then presented chronologically. The research for this paper emerges from several theological libraries, the advice of knowledgeable persons, as well as from the library and resource center of the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of the Philippines (CBCP); the CBCP center holds six full steel file-cabinets (24 drawers) of PCP-II-related documents. The material presented here, while extensive and assiduously researched, cannot claim to be exhaustive. Yet, it serves as a solid foundation for continued research, writing, appreciation, and implementation of the Spirit-inspired month-long PCP-II. *Veni, Sancte Spiritus.*

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