



## **Asian and Pacific Islander Marian Pilgrimage – May 4, 2024**

The Asian and Pacific Island Catholic Network (APCN) is all set to celebrate its 21st Annual Marian Pilgrimage on Saturday, May 4, 2024, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. The Pilgrimage is organized in collaboration with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church, Sub-Committee on Asian and Pacific Island Affairs, with support from related offices from The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington, and the Diocese of Arlington, VA.

This Pilgrimage is an excellent opportunity for various Asian and Pacific Islander Catholic communities from different arch/dioceses in the mid-Atlantic area to come together and celebrate their faith and cultural heritage, reflecting their home countries' traditions. This is a multicultural event where representatives from over twenty (20) national and ethnic communities come together to celebrate their Catholic faith through prayer and song while dressed in their native attire.

At 12 noon, there will be priests available who speak multiple Asian languages to hear confessions. At 1:00 p.m. The Pilgrimage will officially begin at 1:00 p.m., with the traditional sound of drums being beaten in front of the sanctuary. This will be followed by a procession into the Basilica, led by banners and icons of Our Blessed Mother. Once everyone is seated, there will be a Call to Prayer at 1:30 p.m. with sacred music and movements. The Rosary will be prayed in English and various ethnic languages at 2:00 p.m., followed by the Holy Mass at 2:30 p.m., which will be presided over by His Eminence Cardinal Christophe Pierre, Papal Nuncio to the United States of America. He will be assisted by several Asian and Pacific Island priests. After the Mass, there will be a reception for all pilgrims hosted by APCN in Caldwell Hall at the Catholic University of America, which is next door.

APCN welcomes all the faithful to participate in this annual event, to join our Asian and Pacific Islander brothers and sisters in celebrating harmony in faith. The service will be in English.

Please refer to the attached flyer for further details and information.