



**Philippine Consulate General
Sydney**

MIS- 34 -2008

16 January 2008

Mr. Roberto Corpuz
Deacon-elect
Filipino Chaplaincy- Chatswood Parish
Diocese of Broken Bay
94 Archer Street
Chatswood NSW 2067
E-mail: coordinator@filipino-chaplaincy.org

Dear Mr. Corpuz,

Greetings!

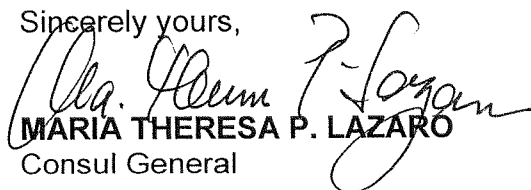
I write to convey my deepest appreciation to the Filipino Chaplaincy and your fellow-parishioners on the successful campaign with the Australian Government to grant permanent residency for Mr. Joel Cabides and his immediate family on humanitarian and compassionate grounds. I thank in particular our concerned Filipino-Australian *kababayans* and Australians who responded to your call and gave their support in the undertaking.

This is a shining example of what the Filipino community and their friends can achieve if there is genuine concern, selfless dedication and commitment to the welfare of others, and a well-focused and sustained effort in doing so.

As Australia celebrates its national day, I commend our unnamed Filipino-Australian *kababayans* and friends who have translated the value of good citizenship into concrete social action through this campaign. Indeed, the essence of good citizenship and civic duty within democratic societies consists of not only of simple obedience to the laws of these countries, but also in continually reminding governments of their fundamental obligation to listen to the voice of their citizens.

Mabuhay kayo at maraming salamat sa inyong tulong kay Joel!

Sincerely yours,


MARIA THERESA P. LAZARO
Consul General

Cc: The Filipino community media.
Rev Fr. Hamilton Ureta, Filipino Chaplain Chatswood Parish
Email: chaplain@filipino-chaplaincy.org