



CÀLUGURAN NANG FELIPE SONSONG

(*Friends of Felipe Sonsong*)

01 May 2024
Version 1, 2024

STATUTES

PREAMBLE

The Càluguran nang Felipe Sonsong (*Friends of Felipe Sonsong*) (*which is referred to as “Group” throughout this document*) is a Catholic group that is comprised of volunteers based here in Pampanga and overseas who have been actively ministering in order to make known the life, virtues, and martyrdom of *Felipe Sonsong* to his fellow *Kapampangans* and beyond. The Group was officially recognized by the Most Reverend Florentino G. Lavarias, DD, the Archbishop of San Fernando, Pampanga, Philippines, as the *Main Actor* in *Felipe Sonsong’s* Cause of Beatification and Canonization through his letter dated 11 April 2024.

First and foremost, the Group’s primary mission and goal are to promote the spread of Jesus Christ’s teachings, which emphasize the importance of Prayer. The Group is responding in obedience to repeated invitations to Prayer by the Catholic Church, in accordance with her tradition so excellently conveyed by the Ecumenical Councils, especially by the Second Vatican Council. The secondary mission and goal are offering one of the many examples for the Catholic faithful to emulate. That is highlighting the life, virtues, and martyrdom of *Kapampangan Felipe Sonsong*, who, during the time of his death, “all revered him as a saint” and who continues to exude an odor of sanctity even until the present time.

The Group propose to follow the general principles which includes:

- A. Obedience and Humility** – Total and unconditional adherence to the teachings of the Catholic Church, guided by the Pope and the Bishops, and obedience to the Pope and the Bishops.
- B. Liturgical and Prayer Life** – Prayer with the Church, through the Church and in the Church. By this is meant an active participation in the liturgical and sacramental life of the Church as an essential means of intimate union with God.
- C. Apostolate** – Generosity and self-sacrifice in undertaking works of charity, especially for the suffering and needy, as a practical demonstration of the group’s love of God.



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The Statutes, especially the specific tasks and responsibilities of the Group as the *Main Actor* of this Cause (***promotion and funding***), must be read in conjunction with the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints' document, [Regulation of the Postulators](#).

CENTRAL OFFICE

Art. 1 – The Group is guided by the norms set out in these Statutes. The central administrative office is housed *ad hoc* at The Juan D. Nepomuceno Center for Kapampangan Studies, 1 Holy Angel Street, Angeles City, Philippines.

MEMBERSHIP

Art. 2 – Any baptized Catholic faithful—lay, clergy, and religious—can be members of the Group. An existing member nominates a would-be member to the Central Governance Council for approval (in consultation with the other officers). Members' names are to be inscribed in a suitable Register by the Secretary.

GOVERNANCE

Art. 3 – A member elected or appointed for a position in the Group has to exercise his or her office with the spirit of service and charity.

Art. 4 – The general governance of the Group is vested with the **President**, assisted by the **Vice-Presidents** and **Committee Heads** under the spiritual guidance of the **Postulator General** (appointed by Group and recognized by the local ordinary).

ELECTIONS AND TERMS

Art. 5 – All bonafide members of the Group have the right to vote and to be elected to any of the offices and assignments.

Art. 6 – Elections are convoked by the **President** every three (3) years. This will also be the duration of terms of all elected and appointed officers (the case of the **Postulator General** is an exemption as the recognition of the local ordinary is required, among other practical and canonical implications).

Art. 7 – The election, to be valid, needs the majority of the members who have the right to vote.



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Art. 8 – All elected and appointed officers will automatically be members of the Group's Central Governance Council, which decides on matters affecting the Group's goals, missions, and planning.

ELECTED OFFICER

Art. 9 – The **President** is the overall responsible and moderator in actualizing the finalities of the Group and promoting the cause of the Group for which he or she has legal representation.

Art. 10 – The **President** collaborates closely with the **Postulator General**.

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Art. 11 – The **President** appoints the following officers following his or her election:

- A. Vice-Presidents (Internal and External)**
- B. Secretary-Coordinator**
- C. Committee Head on Historical Research**
- D. Committee Head on Liturgy and Apostolate**
- E. Committee Head on Social Communications**
- F. Committee Head on Finance**

Art. 12 – The **President** has the task of issuing, reviewing, and revising role descriptions and adding roles as he or she deems necessary.

THE POSTULATOR GENERAL

Art. 13 – The appointment of a Postulator General was already confirmed by the Most Reverend Florentino G. Lavarias, DD, the Archbishop of San Fernando, Pampanga, Philippines through his letter dated 11 April 2024. Following the Group's Central Governance Council receipt of the *placet* from the OAD Prior General, the Group formally appoints the Rev. **Fr. Dennis Duene G. Ruiz, OAD**, as the **Postulator General** of *Felipe Sonsong's* Cause of Beatification and Canonization.

Art. 14 – The **Postulator General's** appointment is for an indefinite period.

Art. 15 – The **Postulator General's** tasks and responsibilities are outlined in the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints' document, [Regulation of the Postulators](#).

Art. 16 – The **Postulator General** appoints his **Vice-Postulator(s)**.



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MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Art. 17 – Meetings are held with the prior consent of the **President**. There are no fixed times for these meetings. The **Secretary-Coordinator** is to give adequate instructions if there is a question about the meeting's details and modality.

Art. 18 – Retreats, spiritual exercises, days of recollection, apostolate, and other works of piety must be done regularly. They are arranged, in accordance with the directives of the Group's Central Governance Council.

CONCLUSION

Art. 19 – All other Statutes or Rules now existing, lapse with the coming into force of the present Statutes with due regard for the prescriptions of the Preamble and Article 13.

Art. 20 – Any modification of the present Statutes can be proposed by the **President**, having consulted the Group's Central Governance Council. It becomes binding only after approval by the Group's Central Governance Council.

----- *Nothing follows* -----