



ARCHDIOCESE OF AGAÑA
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

Dec. 11, 2025

Prot. No. 02-48

A Pastoral Update to the Faithful
Regarding the Case of Luis Camacho

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The Archdiocese of Agaña has received official notification that on September 19, 2025, the *Congresso* of the Vatican's Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith completed its review of the case involving Rev. Luis Venancio B. Camacho, who was ordained a priest for our Archdiocese on November 9, 2013. The *Congresso* confirmed that Mr. Camacho was found guilty of *delicta graviora cum minore* — grave offenses involving a person under the age of eighteen—and it upheld the penalty previously imposed: dismissal from the clerical state.

In simpler terms, Luis Camacho has been laicized. This means that he is no longer recognized as a priest and is permanently prohibited from exercising any form of priestly ministry in the Catholic Church. This decision is final and takes immediate effect.

The Dicastery's review included the 2015 arrest of then-Fr. Camacho, the canonical investigation that followed, and a subsequent petition for recourse that he himself submitted in an effort to have the penalties removed and to be restored to priestly ministry. As Metropolitan Archbishop of Agaña, I received authorization from the Dicastery on November 5, 2024, to initiate an administrative penal process. To ensure impartiality and fairness, Bishop Robert M. McGuckin, Bishop Emeritus of Toowoomba, Australia, was appointed as Delegate to oversee this process.

Following the canonical investigation, a Penal Decree was issued on May 6, 2025, finding Rev. Camacho guilty of *delicts contra sextum*, meaning violations of the Sixth Commandment (sexual misconduct) committed with a minor, and imposing the penalty of dismissal from the clerical state. This decision, as mentioned above, has now been fully confirmed by the *Congresso*.

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As your shepherd, I carry the responsibility of informing you about the resolution of this very painful matter that has caused profound hurt among the faithful and had remained unresolved for many years. I share this update with you in a spirit of openness and with sincere pastoral concern for all who have been affected.

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I also share this update with the Catholic faithful and with the wider public as part of our Archdiocese's continuing commitment to transparency, accountability, and the protection of minors and vulnerable persons, as we continue the long and difficult work of restoring trust.

This moment is filled with genuine sadness. As Archbishop, I bear deep responsibility for the spiritual welfare of God's people. The pain is intensified when the one who has fallen is a priest—someone entrusted with sacred ministry and called to reflect Christ the Good Shepherd.

Yet, even amid sorrow, we acknowledge that persistence has brought progress. This resolution represents another necessary step toward truth, justice, and responsibility. In our ongoing mission to bring healing and hope to survivors of abuse, and to safeguard the young and the vulnerable, we place our trust not in our own strength, but in the grace of God.

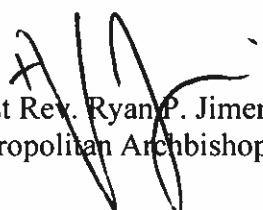
Sacred Scripture reminds us, *"the Lord your God is a merciful God; He will not abandon you nor destroy you."* (Deuteronomy 4:31)

May this promise give us courage as we continue the work of renewal and healing.

I humbly ask you to keep in your prayers the victim and her family, all survivors of abuse, our local Church, and yes, Luis Camacho, entrusting him to God's mercy and to the call of repentance and conversion.

May the Lord accompany all of us as we seek to walk more faithfully in truth, compassion, humility, and hope.

A blessed Advent to you and your families.



Most Rev. Ryan P. Jimenez, D.D.
Metropolitan Archbishop of Agaña