

## SPES NON CONFUNDIT!

*Greetings of peace, love, joy, and hope.*

*As we embrace the Ordinary Jubilee Year of 2025, themed “Pilgrims of Hope,” we are reminded of St. Paul’s words to the Romans: “SPES NON CONFUNDIT,” “Hope does not disappoint” (Rom 5:5). This Jubilee Year is a beautiful invitation from our Holy Mother Church to embark on a journey that reignites our hope in the world we live in.*

*As we celebrate Christmas, let us rejoice in the great light of Jesus Christ, who fills our hearts with the goodness of God. Let our hearts overflow with joy and gratitude for the blessings we have received, especially the profound virtue of hope.*

*Today, we praise God for the greatest gift: His beloved Son, our Lord and Savior. Despite the challenges we face—natural calamities, violence, and instability—our hope remains strong in Jesus. What a glorious day it is!*

*We have been tested by daily life, family, work, and uncertainties. Yet, we hold on to Hope, Jesus Himself, who carries our burdens. Celebrating His birth is joyous, and reflecting on His suffering, death, and resurrection reminds us of God’s power to guide us through trials.*

*Many of you have answered Christ’s call to share your stewardship of hospitality, prayer, formation, and service. Every act of kindness is significant in God’s eyes.*

*Our liturgy at the Cathedral inspires many. Gathering as a faith community to celebrate the Sacraments, especially the Holy Eucharist, is meaningful. As we trust in God’s care, let us enter the New Year with hope, especially for the restoration of our Cathedral Basilica and the growth of our community.*

*The past years have brought challenges, but we possess the resilience to confront adversity. With faith and trust in God, we can navigate trials and embrace life fully. Living humbly in God’s hands brings comfort and peace. We are pilgrims of hope.*

*As we celebrate Christmas, let us enrich our Faith, Family, and Service. May we treasure the greatest gift, our Lord Jesus Christ, who loves us unconditionally.*

*May the miracles of this season fill your hearts with joy and love, granting you peace in the New Year.*

*Christmas Blessings to you and your loved ones!*

*Fr. Pascual, with Fr. Lazarus and Staff*