

Invocation

**HIS EXCELLENCY,
THE MOST REVEREND ARCHBISHOP ANTHONY S. APURON**

Let us pray. Gracious God, we gather this day with specialists from Guam, Hawaii and Tokyo in order to discuss the problem of Guam toxic seaweed which, unfortunately, has taken the lives of several of our people. It is our hope and prayer that through this conference we, as a concerned community, may foster a relationship with research partners in the scientific, medical and environmental fields that will eventually find the cause of this tragic event. Father, bless all those assembled here; the specialists, doctors, officials and all those who are concerned that we find a solution to the problem of our toxic seaweed. Bless, in a special way, the organizers of this conference, Drs. Edwardo Cruz, Aurora Cabanero, James Stadler and John Steele, the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority and its Board of Trustees and all those who, in one way or another, were involved in this project. May our gathering prove successful and be but the beginning of a more intensive search for answers and cures, in the hope that someday soon we may rid ourselves of this blight which preys upon our most precious ones. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen. In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.