



(Left photo above) Archbishop Ioan Robu officiates mass concelebrated by Fr. Eduardo. Special Holy Mass attended by Filipinos and Romanians at the St. Joseph Cathedral. (Right photo above) Mr. Rouen Reyes, Filcom leader, reads the "Se" and the two Romanian priests listen while Mr. Rouen Reyes, Filcom leader, reads the "Se"

20 July 2012- The Philippine Embassy in Bucharest celebrated the 114th anniversary of the proclamation of Philippine Independence with a thanksgiving mass held on June 24 at the Cathedral Sfantul Iosif (St. Joseph Cathedral) in Bucharest.

This was the first time that a mass for the Filipino community was officiated by the Metropolitan Archbishop Ioan Robu of Bucharest.

The Holy Mass was concelebrated by Romanian priests Fr. Eduard Giurgi and Fr. Ioan Ciobanu. It was celebrated in the Romanian language but the English readings, Filipino hymns and offerings were done by the community and members of the Embassy. The Homily of Archbishop Robu was dedicated to the Filipinos in Romania who were mostly overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) in domestic employment.

Archbishop Robu said that the Filipino workers were motivated to go to Romania to work for their family in the Philippines. Their strong faith in the Lord will help them provide better life for their families through their work in Romania and to endure hardships and sacrifices. He reminded churchgoers to show their faith through love of country, family and creation (nature).

After the mass, Charge d'Affaires (CDA), a.i., Ms. Maria Fe T. Pangilinan thanked the Archbishop for celebrating the special mass. She said that it is under the House of God that all Christians (Catholics) no matter their nationalities feel united as members of the family of Christ. She encouraged the continuation of the monthly masses in order to maintain cohesion among Filipinos especially in Bucharest.



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(Photo above) Charge d' Affaires Maria Fe T. Pangilinan with staff of the Emb (left) Mr. Emmanuel Gonzalbo; Mrs. Marina V. Gonzalbo, Cultural Officer/ Administrative Officer/Attache; Mr. Ignacio I. Pagsuyoin, Finance Officer/Attache; Mr. Antonio Gorordo, Protocol Officer/Attache and Mr. Antonio Gorordo). (Left photo below) Romanian Ambassador to the Philippines Radu Homescu, Archbishop Robu, the Romanian Embassy in Manila), Fr. Eduard Giurci and Fr. Martin Cabalas

