

NEWSLETTER

EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA TO THE HOLY SEE

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2016

2nd issue 2016



Inside this issue:

- Message from the Ambassador of Malaysia to The Holy See
- Canonization of Mother Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997)
- Engagements with the Pontifical Universities affiliated to the Vatican City
- Dialogue on “ Assisi 30 (1986-2016): Thirst for Peace”
- Hari Sukan Negara 2016
- Meeting with the Delegation from the Royal Institution of Surveyors Malaysia
- ASEAN Group lunch
- Visit to the Community of poor and homeless
- Visit to the Organization of Opus Dei
- Visit to the Mill Hill Missionaries
- National receptions by diplomatic missions accredited to The Holy See
- Religious understanding gone a step ahead with the installation of the First Cardinal of Malaysia
- Engagement with Malaysian diaspora in Vatican City

MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY TAN SRI BERNARD GILUK DOMPOK



Greetings from Rome!

Time flies and we are now at the end of 2016. I must say that 2016 has been a historical and memorable year for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as we established the Embassy of Malaysia to The Holy See in Rome.

Our first year at the Vatican has introduced us to the world of a different type of international diplomacy. The Head of Chancery has led a small but dedicated team to record some milestones at Vatican City and the activities and programmes we organised or participated in. Grazie.

Nine months since our establishment, we share the joy of Malaysians and the country's Christian communities as the first Cardinal from Malaysia was appointed by His Holiness Pope Francis on 19 November 2016. Malaysia's role in worldwide conversation of religious harmony has not gone unnoticed. This augurs well for Malaysia's initiative in the promotion of Global Movement of Moderates (GMM).

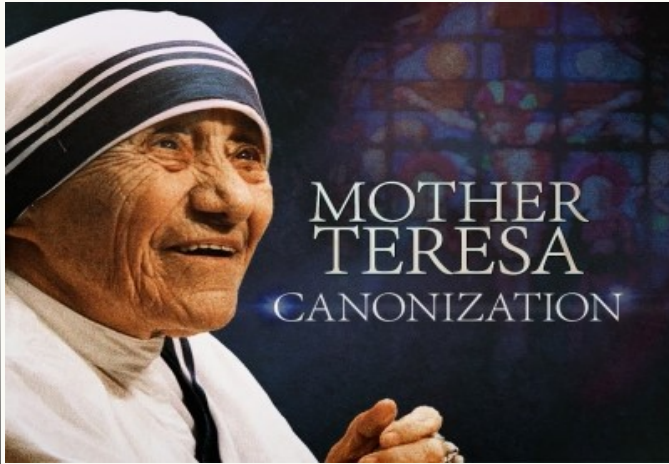
I am optimistic that Malaysia will continue to have an important role to play in the international discourse on promoting peace and harmony through interreligious dialogue and education.

The year 2017 brings with its promises of happiness and prosperity. Enjoy pursuing their fulfilment!

Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok

Ambassador of Malaysia to The Holy See

Canonization of Mother Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997)



Mother Teresa has been known to the world as a popular figure of compassion, a voice for the poor as well as a modern – day Saint. She has devoted her life to live and work among the poorest of the poor and in slums in Calcutta, India.

On 4 September 2016, His Holiness Pope Francis officially declared her a Saint. Hundreds of thousands of pilgrims gathered at Saint Peter's square to witness the historical moment of the canonization of Mother Teresa.

His Excellency Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok led the Malaysian delegation to the event. The Canonization of Mother Teresa was also attended by Prelates from Malaysia.

Among the Prelates from Malaysia participated in the event are Most Reverend Archbishop Julian Leow Beng Kim (Archbishop of Kuala Lumpur), Bishop Simon Poh (Auxiliary Bishop of Kuching) and Bishop Anthony Bernard Paul (Bishop of Melaka-Johor).

The event was also participated by His Grace Archbishop Joseph Salvador Marino, Apostolic Nuncio to Malaysia.



Saint Teresa founded the Missionaries of Charity, a Catholic order of nuns dedicated to helping the poor. Her selfless effort to help those in need has caused many to regard her as a model of humanitarian.

During the homily of Canonization of Mother Teresa, Pope Francis said, "Mother Teresa, in all aspects of her life, was a generous dispenser of divine mercy, making herself available for everyone through her welcome and defence of human life, those unborn and those abandoned and discarded."

Saint Teresa has been an inspiration to the world and has been regarded a Mother to all. She has been the Mother that provides love, peace and hope to everyone.

“ Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love. “

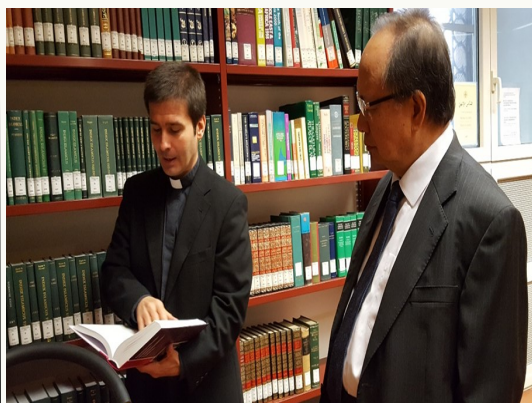
~ Mother Teresa ~

EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA TO THE HOLY SEE
Ambasciatori Palace Hotel
Suite 114, 115 and 116
Via Veneto, 62, 00187 Rome, Italy

Telephone and fax: +39 06 4201 2893
E-mail: mwholysee.kln@1govuc.gov.my

**ENGAGEMENTS WITH THE PONTIFICAL UNIVERSITIES
AFFILIATED TO THE VATICAN CITY TO PROMOTE EDUCATION**

Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies



The Meeting between His Excellency Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok, Ambassador of Malaysia to The Holy See with Reverend Fr. Diego Sarrio Cucarella, Director of Studies, Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies (PISAI) was held on 15 September 2016. The Meeting was followed by a brief tour to the Institute.

The Meeting was held as part of Malaysia's initiative to engage with institutions of higher learning to advance our agenda in promoting moderation through interreligious dialogue and education with the establishment of diplomatic relations between Malaysia and the Holy See.

The Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies (PISAI) was the only academic and research centre recognised by the Vatican that offers teaching and scientific activities, crucial for the preparation of an informed theological dialogue with the Muslims.

University of Urbaniana



The Meeting between His Excellency Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok, Ambassador of Malaysia to The Holy See with Reverend Father Alberto Trevisiol, Rector of the Pontifical University of Urbaniana and Reverend Fr. Roberto Cherubini, Head for External Affairs, Pontifical University of Urbaniana (PUU) was held on 10 October 2016.

PUU was established in 1627 and is currently an international University and research centre for students. The University has received students coming from over 120 countries, representing variety of cultures, social and religious belief. Most students came from Asia, Africa, Latin America, Oceania and a small number from North America. The language of teaching in PUU is Italian.

PUU also offers summer school programmes for a duration of one (1) month in Rome, Italy. The purpose of the Summer School is to allow and encourage students from non-Christian majority Countries to experience Catholic education which emphasises on universal values that underlies the importance of peaceful cohabitation among its communities from different cultures and religions.

Malaysia was one of the beneficiary for the Summer school programme. The most recent student that has benefitted from this programme was Mr. Wan Norhaziki Wan Abdul Halim, who is currently undertaking research on comparative religion at the Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies (PISAI) in Rome, Italy for his Doctorate.

DIALOGUE ON “ASSISI 30 (1986-2016): THIRST FOR PEACE”



His Excellency Tan Sri Bernard Gilik Dompok participated in The Dialogue on “Assisi 30 (1986-2016): Thirst for Peace” which was held on 19 September 2016 in Assisi, Italy. The dialogue was organised by the Community of Sant’ Egidio in collaboration with the Diocese of Assisi and Franciscan Families.

The Dialogue was special as it also commemorates the 30th Anniversary of the Day of Prayer of 1986, summoned by Saint John Paul II which calls for renewed responsibilities of man and women of religion to follow the spirit of Assisi to construct peace in a world increasingly hurt by violence and war.



Vatican officials, religious leaders, lay people, representatives of civil society, priests and nuns, journalist as well as diplomatic corps. accredited to the Holy See attended the event.

There were 30 parallel sessions held during the Dialogue which discussed ‘pressing issues happening in today’s world and the challenges faced in ensuring peace to all mankind.

His Excellency Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok with Dr. H. Marsudi Syudud, Chairman of the Central Board of Nahdlatul Ulama Indonesia

EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA TO THE HOLY SEE
Ambasciatori Palace Hotel
Suite 114, 115 and 116
Via Veneto, 62, 00187 Rome, Italy

Telephone and fax: +39 06 4201 2893
E-mail: mwholysee.kln@1govuc.gov.my

HARI SUKAN NEGARA 2016



Permulaan Acara di Pizza Le. Ugo La Malfa (depan Roman Forum)

Kedutaan Besar Malaysia ke Holy See telah meraikan Hari Sukan Negara 2016 peringkat Malawakil Holy See pada 8 Oktober 2016 di Rome, Itali. Ini merupakan kali pertama Kedutaan Besar Malaysia ke Holy See menganjurkan Hari Sukan Negara peringkat Perwakilan sejak penubuhannya pada 21 Mac 2016. Aktiviti sukan yang telah dipilih pada tahun ini ialah *Brisk Walking*.

TYT Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok, Duta Malaysia ke Holy See telah mengetuai aktiviti *Brisk Walking* tersebut sejauh 1.5 kilometer bermula dari Pizza Le. Ugo La Malfa (depan Roman Forum) merentasi beberapa lokasi bersejarah seperti Colloseum, Circo Massimo, Rose Garden dan Aventine keyhole sebelum ia berakhir di Tram De pot.



Peserta-peserta Hari Sukan Malaysia 2016 yang hadir telah memberikan maklum balas yang positif terhadap pelaksanaan aktiviti sukan tersebut. Aktiviti-aktiviti sedemikian juga secara langsung meningkatkan imej dan profil Malaysia serta merapatkan lagi jalinan silaturahim di kalangan rakyat Malaysia di Vatican City dan Rome.

Seramai 13 orang peserta telah menyertai Hari Sukan Negara peringkat Malawakil Holy See merangkumi pegawai-pegawai dan ahli-ahli keluarga Home Based Staff (HBS) serta pelajar-pelajar Malaysia yang kesemuanya merupakan paderi dari Malaysia yang sedang melanjutkan pelajaran di Universiti-universiti Vatican City. Turut serta ialah dua orang penduduk tempatan dari Rome, Itali.



EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA TO THE HOLY SEE
Ambasciatori Palace Hotel
Suite 114, 115 and 116
Via Veneto, 62, 00187 Rome, Italy

Telephone and fax: +39 06 4201 2893
E-mail: mwholysee.kln@lgovuc.gov.my

MEETING WITH THE DELEGATION FROM THE ROYAL INSTITUTION OF SURVEYORS MALAYSSIA



TYT Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok met with the delegation from Royal Institution of Surveyors Malaysia (RISM) on 18 October 2018. The delegation from RSIM was led by Dato' Sr. K. Sri Kandan, President of RISM. His Excellency Tan Sri Bernard is incidentally also a Chartered Surveyor.

The Delegation from RISM conducted a technical and study tour to Southern Italy, Sicily and the Republic of Malta. During the Meeting, the President of RISM updated His Excellency Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok, Ambassador of Malaysia to The Holy See the outcome of the technical and study tour; challenges in the field of surveying as well as the challenges and impact of liberalisation of services resulting from the various Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and globalization.



EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA TO THE HOLY SEE
Ambasciatori Palace Hotel
Suite 114, 115 and 116
Via Veneto, 62, 00187 Rome, Italy

Telephone and fax: +39 06 4201 2893
E-mail: mwholysee.kln@1govuc.gov.my

ASEAN GROUP LUNCH



From left : Mr. Charlie Manangan, CDA a.i. Philippines; His Excellency Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok and His Excellency Mr. Antonius Agus Sriyono, Ambassador of Indonesia

His Excellency Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok hosted the ASEAN Ambassadors luncheon on 17 October 2016. To-date, there were only three (3) ASEAN countries accredited to The Holy See, with residence in Rome. The 3 ASEAN Member States were Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines.

During the luncheon, the Ambassadors discussed current regional and international issues evolving ASEAN as a regional bloc. The Ambassadors also flagged the idea for a potential of cooperation in hosting a Symposium to promote interreligious dialogue in 2017 in collaboration with The Holy See. The Symposium is timely and it dovetails with the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of ASEAN in 2017.



ASEAN 50
PHILIPPINES 2017
PARTNERING FOR CHANGE. ENGAGING THE WORLD

EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA TO THE HOLY SEE
Ambasciatori Palace Hotel
Suite 114, 115 and 116
Via Veneto, 62, 00187 Rome, Italy

Telephone and fax: +39 06 4201 2893
E-mail: mwholysee.kln@1govuc.gov.my

VISIT TO THE COMMUNITY OF POOR AND HOMELESS



His Excellency Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok visited the community of the poor and homeless in Rome, Italy on 14 December 2016. The event was organised by the Community of Sant' Egidio.

Sant' Egidio is worldwide community movement of lay people, based on prayers, solidarity, ecumenism and dialogue.

During the visit, His Excellency Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok met with the volunteers (mainly lay people) dedicating their time to serving the poor and homeless in the Centre. He also took the opportunity to spend time with the volunteers and the poor and homeless people in the centre.



VISIT TO THE ORGANIZATION OF OPUS DEI



His Excellency Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok visited the Organization of Opus Dei on 21 October 2016. He met Monsignor José Javier Marcos, Vicar Secretary of Opus Dei. The Meeting discussed various activities and programmes undertaken by the Organization.

Opus Dei is an organization of the Catholic church with majority of its membership are lay people.

*EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA TO THE HOLY SEE
Ambasciatori Palace Hotel
Suite 114, 115 and 116
Via Veneto, 62, 00187 Rome, Italy*

*Telephone and fax: +39 06 4201 2893
E-mail: mwholysee.kln@1govuc.gov.my*

VISIT TO THE MILL HILL MISSIONARIES



His Excellency Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok visited the Mill Hill Missionaries on 28 September 2016. He was greeted by Reverend Father Josef Schmolzer, Procurator General of Mill Hill Missionaries. Father Josef has also served in Sabah in his earlier days as a young priest.

The visit was also part of Malaysia's appreciation to the contributions of the Mill Hill Missionaries to the development of education in Malaysia, particularly in Sabah. Their contribution in the field of education had benefitted not only the first few generations of Malaysians back in the earlier years, but also now.



From left clockwise : Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok, Fr. Josef Schmolzer, Fr. Albert and Fr. Gerard

EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA TO THE HOLY SEE
Ambasciatori Palace Hotel
Suite 114, 115 and 116
Via Veneto, 62, 00187 Rome, Italy

Telephone and fax: +39 06 4201 2893
E-mail: mwholysee.kln@1govuc.gov.my

NATIONAL RECEPTIONS BY DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS ACCREDITED TO THE HOLY SEE



71st Anniversary of the Republic of Indonesia on 14 September 2016



*National Day of Ivory Coast
on 29 September 2016*



National Day of Spain on 12 October 2016



October Fest on 3 October 2016 by the Embassy of Germany

EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA TO THE HOLY SEE
Ambasciatori Palace Hotel
Suite 114, 115 and 116
Via Veneto, 62, 00187 Rome, Italy

Telephone and fax: +39 06 4201 2893
E-mail: mwholysee.kln@lgovuc.gov.my

RELIGIOUS UNDERSTANDING GONE A STEP AHEAD WITH THE INSTALLATION OF THE FIRST CARDINAL OF MALAYSIA

VATICAN CITY: His Holiness Pope Francis installed 17 new Cardinals from various continents on 19 November 2016 at the event known as a “Consistory”. It was a historical milestone for Malaysia and its Catholic communities when Archbishop Emeritus Anthony Soter Fernandez was officially installed as the first ever Cardinal for the country.



The Consistory to install the 17 Cardinals was attended by more than 60 Malaysians, led by His Excellency Bernard Giluk Dompok, Ambassador of Malaysia to The Holy See. It was indeed a moving moment when Pope Francis ceremonially installed the 84-year old prelate, the 2nd Archbishop of Kuala Lumpur, with the red hat ‘zuchetto’.

Held in St. Peter’s Basilica on the eve of the close of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, the nomination of Soter, as he is more popularly known, came rather as a pleasant surprise to many as well as jubilant joys for Malaysian Catholics in particular.



*EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA TO THE HOLY SEE
Ambasciatori Palace Hotel
Suite 114, 115 and 116
Via Veneto, 62, 00187 Rome, Italy*

*Telephone and fax: +39 06 4201 2893
E-mail: mwholysee.kln@1govuc.gov.my*

RELIGIOUS UNDERSTANDING GONE A STEP AHEAD WITH THE INSTALLATION OF THE FIRST CARDINAL OF MALAYSIA (CONTINUE..)



Following Cardinal Fernandez's elevation to the College of Cardinals, he has been assigned to the Title of Sant' Alberto Magno in Rome and held his first Vespers at the Church on 21 November 2016.

The surprise announcement was made on 9 October 2016 during Sunday Angelus that would see thirteen (13) Cardinals under the age of 80 and four (4) Cardinals over the age of 80 be elevated to the rank. Cardinal Fernandez's appointment continued to demonstrate the Holy Father's preference for the peripheries and places not previously represented in the College of Cardinals.

Tan Sri Bernard Dompok, the first Ambassador to the Holy See when asked had this to say:

“Coming hot on the heels of the establishment of diplomatic ties between Holy See and Malaysia, and the setting up of Malaysia's Embassy at Vatican City, this elevation of one of Malaysia's own to the College of Cardinals marks the ‘coming of age’ of Catholicism in the country. It also augurs well for Malaysia's readiness to be an active participant in the worldwide conversation on religious harmony. Malaysia's role in the promotion of Global Movement of Moderates (GMM) has not gone unnoticed in Rome.”

The diplomatic relations between Malaysia and The Holy See was formally established on 27 July 2011. Malaysia was the 179th country that established diplomatic relations with The Holy See. Two years later, the Apostolic Nunciature was opened in Kuala Lumpur with the appointment of Archbishop Joseph Salvador Marino as the first Apostolic Nuncio to Malaysia till today.

Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok is the first Malaysian resident Ambassador to The Holy See and the 83rd resident Ambassador accredited to The Holy See. The Embassy of Malaysia to The Holy See, residence in Rome was established on 18 March 2016.

ENGAGEMENTS WITH MALAYSIAN DIASPORA IN VATICAN CITY



The Embassy of Malaysia to The Holy See hosted a Malaysian get-together on 23 December 2016 in conjunction with the Christmas and New Year celebration. The event was attended by students studying in the various Pontifical Universities affiliated to the Vatican City. His Excellency Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok hosted the dinner which was attended by 50 participants consisting of students, priests, nuns, seminarians and lay community serving in the various Community centres in Rome, Italy.

The event was also attended by YB Dato' P. Kamalanathan, Deputy Minister of Education and YB Snowden Lawan from Kuching, Sarawak.

During the dinner, Tan Sri Bernard took the opportunity to wish everyone Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. The event was also part of *Program Mendampingi Rakyat Malaysia* aimed at fostering greater relationship and people-to-people contacts, particularly with Malaysians residing in Rome and Vatican City.



EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA TO THE HOLY SEE
Ambasciatori Palace Hotel
Suite 114, 115 and 116
Via Veneto, 62, 00187 Rome, Italy

Telephone and fax: +39 06 4201 2893
E-mail: mwholysee.kln@l.govuc.gov.my

CONTACT DETAILS

For more information, please contact:



*Embassy of Malaysia to The Holy See
Ambasciatori Palace Hotel
Suite 114, 115 and 116
Via Veneto, 62, 00187 Rome, Italy*

*Telephone : +39 06 4201 2893
Fax: +39 06 4201 2893
E-mail: mwholysee.kln@1govuc.gov.my*

Home - Based Officials:

*His Excellency Tan Sri Bernard Giluk Dompok
Ambassador of Malaysia to The Holy See
Bernardd.kln@1govuc.gov.my*

*Ms. Clara Soon May Lynn
First Secretary and Head of Chancery
Clara.kln@1govuc.gov.my*

*Mr. Karunanithi Ranoo
Second Secretary
Karuna.kln@1govuc.gov.my*

*Mr. Mohd Shaifuddin Daud
Office Secretary
Shaifuddin.kln@1govuc.gov.my*