



We wish to remind you once again that Mr. Efren Avenido has been dismissed from the clerical state by the Vatican last March 2017. This page has received information regarding his whereabouts and that he is still celebrating the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist using the name Fr. Lorenzo Avenido in Metro Manila. We deemed it necessary to share with you the copy of the circular regarding the decree of his dismissal from the clerical state released by the Chancery Office of the Diocese of Daet last November 2017. We want to reiterate what is stated in the circular that he can no longer refer to himself as "father", he no longer has the rights of the cleric and all the sacraments he will perform are not legitimate sacraments. Please be guided accordingly.



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**CIRCULAR**  
No. 12, Series of 2017

**TO : ALL CLERGY AND RELIGIOUS OF THE DIOCESE OF DAET**  
**RE : DECREE OF DISMISSAL FROM THE CLERICAL STATE**



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This is to inform Your Reverences that our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has approved the **Dismissal from the Clerical State of EFREN AVENIDO as a penalty for acts of sexual abuse of minors**. The decree (Prot. 469/2016) was issued last March 2, 2017 by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith through its Prefect, Gerhard Cardinal Müller and Secretary, Archbishop Luis Francisco Ladaria, SJ. He acknowledged receipt of the same decree last Sunday, November 19, 2017.

This means former priest Efren Avenido is no longer bound to the duties and obligations he incurred upon ordination to the priesthood in 2005, and he no longer has the rights of a cleric under Church law. As a result, he can no longer refer to himself as "reverend," and "father." Thus, any ceremonies — baptisms, weddings, confessions, and the anointing of the sick — performed by former priest Efren Avenido, are not legitimate sacraments for Catholics and would not be recognized by the Catholic Church.

You are kindly requested to disseminate this information to the lay faithful under your care by posting this document in your barangay chapels and other Church associated buildings and institutions.

Given on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of November, in the year of our Lord 2017, at the Chancery Office, Diocesan House, Diocesan Compound, Gahonon, Daet, Camarines Norte, Philippines.

In Christ,  
  
**Fr. Ronald Anthony P. Timoner**  
Diocesan Administrator