



Statement by the Most Rev. William T. McGrattan, Bishop of Calgary, and President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops on the Lapu-Lapu Filipino Festival Tragedy

28 April 2025, Ottawa - As President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, I join all Canadians in offering my deepest, heartfelt sympathies to the victims, families, and all those impacted by the violence that occurred at the Lapu-Lapu Day Festival in Vancouver this past weekend, during one of the most joyful and special gatherings of the Filipino community.

I invite all of the Catholic faithful in Canada to remember in prayer those who lost their lives and the injured, as well as the people who witnessed this senseless violence as it unfolded and those in mourning. At this agonizing time, let us also communicate our support and solidarity with the Filipino-Canadian community.

May the Risen Christ, who triumphed over death, be the hope of those who call out to him.