



MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

MESSAGE

My warmest greetings to all Filipino Catholics here in the Philippines and in various parts of the world as we honor the **Feast of the Black Nazarene**.

This venerated religious tradition, which commemorates the transfer of the image of Jesus Christ from its original place in Intramuros to its current shrine in Quiapo, is also a precious time for every devotee to understand the value of suffering and its saving grace.

Faith is the conviction of things that we hope for, even if unseen. Although we may not be able to take part in the usual Traslacion activities that have marked the celebration for centuries, let us keep on demonstrating our faith by praying for our country's recovery and for humanity's complete healing, especially from the ill effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As a predominantly Catholic nation, may we remain united in spirit and in truth as we continue to build a future that is truly blessed with peace, prosperity, love and goodwill for all.

I wish you a peaceful, safe and meaningful observance.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rodrigo Roa Duterte".

RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE

MANILA
9 January 2022