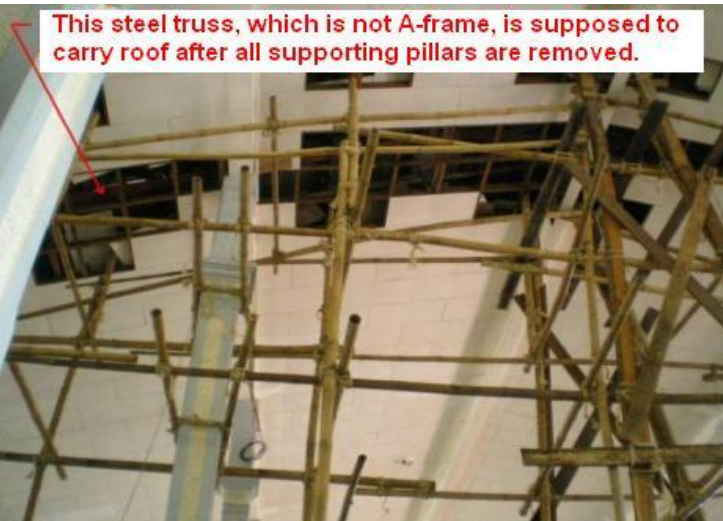


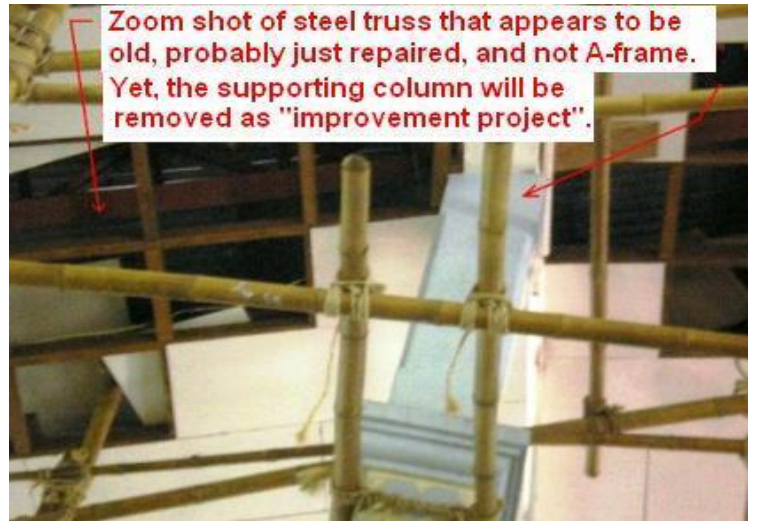
PICTORIAL HISTORY OF TANJAY CHURCH'S DECONSTRUCTION



Since I don't have a clear "Before" photo of the church interior & all its posts, above is a blowup showing two posts near the altar, taken during the Balik-Tanjay event in Oct 2007. Photo on right shows one of the posts being demolished about May 2008.



This steel truss, which is not A-frame, is supposed to carry roof after all supporting pillars are removed.



Zoom shot of steel truss that appears to be old, probably just repaired, and not A-frame. Yet, the supporting column will be removed as "improvement project".

See photos above and on rightside below and read RED comments. An A-frame prevents two sides of the roof from splaying apart and pushing the walls outward. Medieval churches had flying buttresses to prevent this.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS
OFFICE OF THE BUILDING OFFICIAL

TANJAY CITY
DISTRICT/CITY/MUNICIPALITY
AREA CODE 6204

PERMIT NO. 08072900VJ
DATE ISSUED January 29, 2008

APPLICATION NO. 01701217Z
DATE OF APPLICATION Dec 17, 2007

FORM OF OWNERSHIP BUILDING PERMIT
1 [] ORIGINAL 2 [] RENEWAL

BOX 1 (TO BE ACCOMPLISHED BY DESIGNATING ARCHITECT/ CIVIL ENGINEER, IN PRINT)

NAME OF OWNER/APPLICANT: Sr. Brother Nilo Bohol Albert Prado G.
LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, M.I.
TAX ACCT. NO.
ADDRESS: No. 2, Pinaron St., Tanjay City, Neg. Or.
NO. STREET, BARANGAY, CITY/MUNICIPALITY
TELEPHONE NO.
LOCATION OF CONSTRUCTION: Pinaron St., Tanjay City, Neg. Or.
NO. STREET, BARANGAY, CITY/MUNICIPALITY

SCOPE OF WORK
1 [] NEW CONSTRUCTION
2 [] ADDITION OF
3 [] REPAIR OF
4 [] RENOVATION OF
5 [] DEMOLITION OF

USE OR TYPE OF OCCUPANCY
RESIDENTIAL
11 [] SINGLE
12 [] DUPLEX
13 [] HOUSEHOLD/ACCESSORIA
19 [] OTHERS (SPECIFY)
COMMERCIAL
21 [] BANK
22 [] STORE
23 [] HOTEL/MOTEL, ETC.
24 [] OFFICE, CONDOMINIUM/BUSINESS OFFICE BUILDING
25 [] RESTAURANT, ETC.
26 [] SHOPPING CENTER (TAILORING SHOP, BARBER SHOP, ETC.)
27 [] GASOLINE STATION
28 [] MARKET
29 [] CORNERSHOP OR OTHER LODGING HOUSE
30 [] OTHERS (SPECIFY)
OTHER CONSTRUCTION
60 [] (SPECIFY)

INDUSTRIAL
31 [] FACTORY/PLANT
32 [] REPAIR SHOP, MACHINE SHOP
33 [] REFRIGERY
34 [] PRINTING PRESS
35 [] WAREHOUSE
INSTITUTIONAL
41 [] SCHOOL
42 [] CHURCH AND OTHER RELIGIOUS STRUCTURES
43 [] HOSPITAL OR SIMILAR STRUCTURE
44 [] WELFARE AND CHARITABLE STRUCTURE
45 [] THEATER, AUDITORIUM, GYMNASIUM, COURT
46 [] OTHERS (SPECIFY)
AGRICULTURAL
51 [] BARN/S, POLYTRY HOUSES, ETC.
52 [] GRAIN MILL
53 [] OTHERS (SPECIFY)

STREET FURNITURE, LANDSCAPING & SIGNBOARDS
71 [] PARKS, PLAZAS, MONUMENTS, POOLS, PLANT BOXES, ETC.
72 [] SIDEWALKS, PROMENADES, TENNIS/LAMPOUS, ELECTRIC POLES, TELEPHONE POLES, ETC.
73 [] OUTDOOR ADS, SIGNBOARDS, ETC.
74 [] FENCE ENCLOSURE

BOX 2 (TO BE ACCOMPLISHED BY THE RECEIVING & RECORDING SECTION)

[] SITE DEVELOPMENT AND LOCATION PLAN (FIVE SETS EACH)
[] ARCHITECTURAL PLAN SPECIFICATIONS (MECHANICAL PLANS & SPECIFICATIONS)
[] STRUCTURAL DESIGN & COMPUTATIONS (LOOKBOOK (1 COPY))
[] SANITARY/PLUMBING PLANS & SPECIFICATIONS
[] ELECTRICAL PLANS & SPECIFICATIONS

BOX 3 (TO BE ACCOMPLISHED BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL)

ACTION TAKEN:
PERMIT IS HEREBY GRANTED SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS

1. THAT THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION/ADDITION/REPAIR/RENOVATION/DEMOLITION/INSTALLATION, ETC., SHALL BE IN CONFORMITY WITH THE NATIONAL BUILDING CODE (P.D. 1096) AND ITS CORRESPONDING IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS.
2. THAT A DAILY LICENSED ARCHITECT/CIVIL ENGINEER HAS BEEN ENGAGED TO PREPARE PLANS & SPECIFICATIONS AND TO UNDERTAKE THE SUPERVISION/CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROJECT.
3. THAT A CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION DULY SIGNED BY THE ARCHITECT/CIVIL ENGINEER IN CHARGE OF CONSTRUCTION AND THE CONTRACTOR IN CASE THE CONSTRUCTION IS UNDERTAKEN BY CONTRACT TO BE CONFIRMED BY THE OWNER SHALL BE SUBMITTED NOT LATER THAN SEVEN (7) DAYS AFTER COMPLETION OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROJECT.
4. THAT A "CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY" SHALL BE SECURED PRIOR TO ACTUAL OCCUPANCY OF THE BUILDING.

CHESTER C. REYL
CITY ENGINEER
BUILDING OFFICIAL

Right photo is the renovated roof of the old church in Badoc, Ilocos, A-frame but no ceiling yet.

On left is the a building permit dated 29 Jan 2008 which OKs just the "renovation of roof truss".

On that basis, the work was stopped after vice mayor Nilo Tam instructed the City engineer to do so. This was his job as head of the City Council, as concerned Tanjayanons met with the City Officials. The following scans presented below document the communications and meetings during May and June 2008.



If these cross members were removed, then this roof structure would effectively be similar to the one in Tanjay Church, after the posts removal.

There even was a petition started by Mr Art Gaso of DepEd to Bishop Du to stop Fr Bohol from doing this project. See last page.

But unfortunately, there were ramifications **we were not privy to**, and eventually, Fr Bohol **got his building permit to demolish** all the church's posts. See first photo next page.

DEMOLITION PERMIT

June 12, 2008

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Province of Negros Oriental
City of Tanjay

DATE OF PERMIT: June 12, 2008

PERMIT NO. 0566903

BUILDING PERMIT NO. 0566903

DATE OF PERMIT: June 12, 2008

NO. 1 TO BE ACCOMPLISHED BY THE OWNER/APPLICANT

OWNER/APPLICANT: St. James the Greater Parish

LAST NAME: BOHOL

FIRST NAME: ALBERT ERASMO

M.T. FIN: GARCIA

FOR CONSTRUCTION OWNED

FORM OF OWNERSHIP: Institutional

USE OR CHARACTER OF OCCUPANCY: Institutional

BY AN ENTERPRISE

ADDRESS: Rizal St., Brgy. 2, Tanjay City, Negros Oriental

CITY/MUNICIPALITY: Tanjay City

ZIP CODE: 6204

TELEPHONE NO.: 5270-226

LOCATION OF DEMOLITION WORKS: LOT NO. BLK NO. TCT NO. TAX DEC. NO.

STREET: Rizal

SARANGAY: 2, Tanjay City

CITY/MUNICIPALITY OF: Tanjay City

SCOPE OF WORK: Demolition of concrete posts

OTHERS (Specify):

NO. 2 TO BE ACCOMPLISHED BY THE ENGINEER OF DEMOLITION WORKS

Address: Guithungan, Neg. Or.

PER. No. 0154753

Valid until: March 23, 2009

Issued at: Guithungan, Neg. Or.

NO. 3 (TO BE ACCOMPLISHED BY THE APPLICANT)

APPLICANT: REV. FR. ALBERT ERASMO G. BOHOL

WITH MY CONSENT: REV. FR. ALBERT ERASMO G. BOHOL

Address: 0566903

Date: Jan. 14, 2008

Place Issued: Tanjay City

C.E.P. No. 0566903

Date: Jan. 14, 2008

Place: Tanjay City

Demolition 20 pcs concrete posts

Approved May 21, 2008

Above, is a blowup of the demolition permit approved by City Engineer Chester Reyes on May 21, 2008.

On the right is the May 15 letter of Mr Gaso to the City where he asks that they stop Fr Bohol's project.

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Negros Oriental
City of Tanjay

May, 15, 2008

Hon. Vice Mayor Nilo R. Tam
Tanjay City hall
Tanjay City

Sir,

Our beloved City of Tanjay is the oldest town in the entire province of Negros Oriental, for more than 400 years, Tanjay stood because it is endowed with rich natural resources and blessed with ever rich culture.

One way of relating the present to the past is through seeing the antique structures built by our ancestors many centuries ago.

At present, old churches are being preserved in order to retain its antique beauty and of course to attract Tourist, one fine example is the famous Baclayan Church in Bohol, visited by local and foreign tourist every year.

In our case, our church's centuries old pillars are being destroyed without consulting the will of the Tanjayanos. Such move is inviting an inevitable disaster of the Church goes because it reduces the structural integrity of our Church. Earthquakes are occurring now a days in other parts of the world destroying so many lives and properties.

Tanjay would soon be a victim if we will just allow this undesirable act by people managing the Church who are not a Tanjayanon. Clamor to stop the destruction of our centuries old pillars are now gaining resistance by the majority of the people of Tanjay City.

In this connection, I would like to request the City council through the Honorable Presiding Officer Vice Mayor NILO R. TAM to conduct fact finding investigation and to put a stop on the destruction of our Church's Century- Old pillars.

Your immediate action and preferential attention is highly appreciated.

Very truly yours,
ARTURO T. GASO
DepEd Supervisor
In - Charge of Physical Facilities

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Negros Oriental
CITY OF TANJAY

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY TO THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

May 19, 2008

THE REV. FR. ALBERT ERASMO G. BOHOL
Team Priest Moderator
Parish of St. James, The Greater
Tanjay City

Dear Fr. Bohol:

In response to the letter of one Mr. Arturo Gaso, DepEd Supervisor sent to this August Body for immediate action and preferential attention dated May 15, 2008 re: "to stop the destruction of our centuries old pillars..."

Please may we invite your good self to a dialogue with concerned parishioners on Friday, May 23, 2008 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning at the Plaza Central School grounds to discuss matters relevant to the issue.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,
JOSELITA C. FLODELIZ
Secretary
Sangguniang Panlungsod

Cc:
Most Reverend Bishop John Du
Bishop
Diocese of Dumaguete

Received by: Guard: Granadan Cam...

Above is the letter of the City dated May 19 asking Fr Bohol to come for a dialogue. All of these communications went back and forth, and the international YahooGroups Loop of Tanjayans buzzed with all these reports. Most were against Fr Bohol.

DIocese OF DUMAQUETE
Parish of St. James the Greater
P. O. Box 03 * 6204 Tanjay City, Negros Oriental
Philippines
Tel. # (035) 5270-226 / (035) 415-8605

May 20, 2008

MRS. JOSELITA C. FLODELIZ
Secretary
Sangguniang Panlungsod

Dear Mrs. Floreliz:

Greetings of peace.

I am writing your good office in response to the letter you sent in regard to one Mr. Arturo Gaso, DepEd Supervisor on his letter to the Sangguniang Panlungsod dated May 15, 2008 as stated in your letter. I appreciate very much the effort of the SP in good faith to respond the letter of Mr. Gaso. However, as I understand that the issue brought by Mr. Gaso is a matter of the Church, and not a civil matter, I would therefore like to ask from your good office to advise Mr. Gaso to come to the rectory to discuss his issue as we have our own way in resolving issues pertaining to Church matters.

Hope and pray that this letter will be given importance for the good of the parish. May God bless us all.

Fraternally yours,
Fr. Albert Erasmo G. Bohol
Team Priest Moderator

Cc:
Hon. Lawrence S. Teves
City Mayor
Tanjay City

Hon. Nilo R. Tam
City Vice-Mayor
Tanjay City

Most Rev. John F. Du, D.D.
Bishop of Dumaguete

Mrs. Rosalinda T. Gravador
PPC President

Above is Fr Bohol's May 20 declining reply, and instead telling that it is a church matter so Mr Gaso should see him at the church.

In just 2 days from May 16, 2008, there were 12 pages of email. Mr Gaso also wrote to Bishop Du of Dumaguete, and started a write-in campaign, which we helped out on. In the meantime, we met with Nilo Tam and some of his engineers to analyze the blue prints and calculations that Fr Bohol made available. None of us were licensed structural engineers, so we couldn't come to a firm conclusion. Nilo Tam was willing to bring in some engineers from Manila, but since Fr Bohol wouldn't dialogue, it was moot. Another oddity: blue prints and plans were signed by different people, companies & dates.



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Negros Oriental
City of Tanjay

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

May 27, 2008

Mr. Arturo T. Gaso
Dep Ed Supervisor – In Charge of Physical Facilities
Tanjay City Schools Division

Dear Mr. Gaso:

This is to respectfully furnish your office a photocopy of the letter of Rev. Fr. Albert Erasmo G. Bohol, Team Priest Moderator, St. James the Greater Parish, a response to our invitation for a dialogue to iron out things regarding the "...destruction of our centuries old pillars".

For your information and guidance.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


JOSELETA C. FLORDELIZ
Secretary



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Negros Oriental
CITY OF TANJAY

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY TO THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

May 19, 2008

Engr. & Mrs. Danny Gil
Tanjay City


Dear Engr. & Mrs. Gil:

Please find time to attend a Dialogue on Friday, May 23, 2008 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning at the Plaza Central School grounds re: rehabilitation of old pillars of St. James, the Greater Parish church per letter request sent by Mr. Arturo Gaso and addressed to this August Body dated May 15, 2008 for comment and possible action.

This invitation is also extended to the rest of the Officers/Members of the Parish Pastoral Council.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

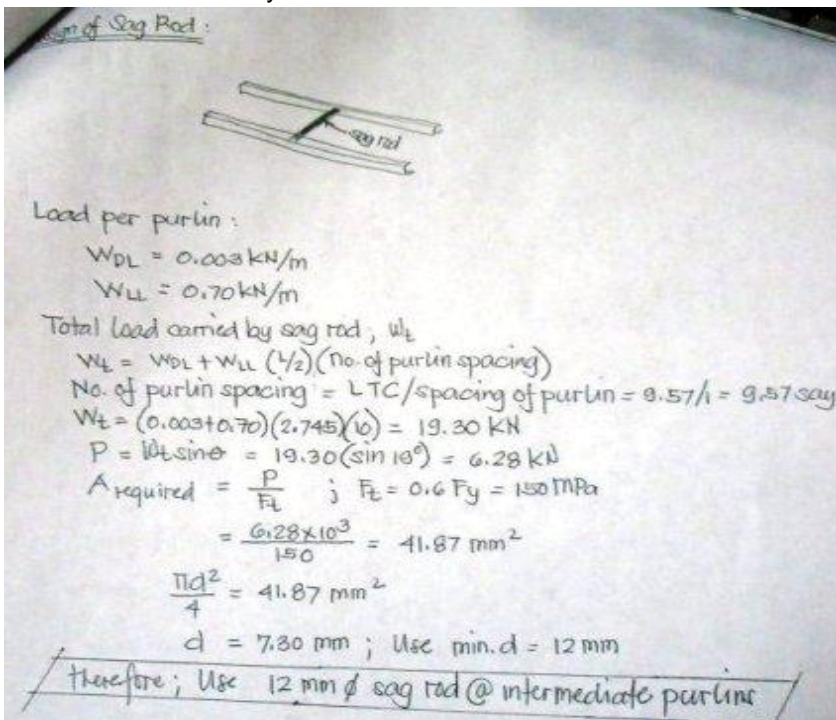

JOSELETA C. FLORDELIZ
Secretary
Sangguniang Panlungsod

Above: City's letter to Mr Gaso, telling him of Fr Bohol's response.

Above: City's letter to us, inviting for dialogue.



Photos during some of the dialogues. Left photo shows Mayor Teves, Vice Mayor Tam, and Board member Cidni Mapa. Right photo shows Lisa Gil, Chopoy Tabasa, Eng'g Chester Reyes, and Mayor Boy Teves. I do not recall now why Mr Gaso couldn't make it.



One of the calculation sheets. The conclusion seems to indicate that this is for a totally new roof. Fact is, the existing roof seemed to be more of renovation, not replacement. See photos above.

CONCERNED TANJAYANONS
May 28, 2008

| NAME | SIGNATURE |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| HAIDE S. CADAVERAL | |
| GLINDY T. OCHAUTAN | |
| RITCHIE C. BARRERA | |
| RODRIGEA R. DURAN | |
| Janet S. Villagosa | |
| ROBOLIE A. MANSO | |
| GERALD B. ABALUS | |
| BERNARDA A. PALLETO | |
| BENJAMIN G. ABACOS | |
| FRANK Z. ADREA | |
| ARNOLD A. KIRA | |
| EDUARDO G. CABET | |
| FLORONDA V. ZERRAN | |
| Bro. L. B. Joma | |
| ADONIS A. TORRES | |
| Niel D. Caracutan | |
| EPSON T. OCHAVILLO | |
| MARCO D. OCHOA | |
| MAX O. LACOSTA | |
| ELSA T. SORIANO | |
| MA. CRISTINA A. CARIAS | |
| FRANK F. VILLAPROSA | |
| LEONORA B. TORRES | |
| Roderick U. RUI | |
| Janice L. Reyes | |
| Ma. Florida M. Galante | |
| DARIN A.C. GUSTIN | |
| DIANA T. COMEL | |
| SHARLINE M. MANAYARAN | |
| RUEL P. LIPO | |
| MARIA V. OLINA | |
| RODIE P. ESTAS | |
| RICHEL S. CADAVARAL | |
| LITO T. MANESERO | |
| Cristoforo C. Del | |
| LARAINA C. ARIZA | |
| THE BENEDICT P. SORIANO | |
| MARGARITA G. SORIANO | |
| Philomena Manayaran | |
| P. Monte | |
| Berlin B. Banozon | |
| Dona M. Banozon | |
| Cate J. C. | |
| Cecilia S. Roxas | |
| Theresa Umillo | |
| Chela C. Labande | |
| Ma. B. Labande | |
| ELSA T. SORIANO | |
| ANASTOLIO M. GUSTIN | |
| ANASTOLIO M. SILVA | |

One of the many signed petition sheets.

BISHOP JOHN DU
Diocese of Dumaguete City
Province of Negros Oriental

Highly Esteemed Bishop Du,

Greetings!

The Philippine Cultural Heritage Law aims to provide for the protection and preservation of the Philippine Cultural Heritage. The First Omnibus Cultural heritage Law considers existing laws pertaining to culture and cultural properties, international conventions, heritage laws of different countries and most importantly our local needs.

This above-quoted reference has a bearing on the **current issue of the on-going renovation project of the church of St. James the Greater Parish, Tanjay City under the management of Fr. Albert Erasmo Bohol, Team Priest.**

The concerned group of parishioners and Tanjayanons whose signatures appear in the attached document express their strong and heartfelt concern regarding the above-mentioned project with the following reasons:

1. Our church structure is centuries-old and reflective of the culture and heritage of our native Tanjayanons;
2. The on-going renovation project did not pass public hearing with the parishioners to solicit their ideas and views;
3. The demolition of the pillars inside the church is inviting disaster for church-goers especially when earthquake occurs;
4. The City Engineer's Office certifies that the demolition of the pillars was conducted without demolition permit and structural analysis from the recognized structural engineer and
5. The Heritage Preservation Commission states in Subd. 6 Permit "No permit shall be issued for constructing a building, renovating a building, moving a building or demolishing a building on An Heritage Preservation Site until it has been approved by the Council upon recommendation of the Commission."

On this premise, we therefore employ your intercession for the full implementation of the Philippine Cultural Heritage law thereby giving back to Tanjay all that is due to the fullest of its morale in our cultural dignity.
May God bless us all!

Very truly yours,

CONCERNED PARISHIONERS
and
TANJAYANONS

c.c. Heritage Preservation Commission
Philippine Tourism Commission
Office of the City Mayor of Tanjay
Office of the Sangguniang Panlungsod
Office of the ABC
Fr. Albert Erasmo Bohol
Parish Pastoral Council
ABSCBN, Dumaguete City
DYGB FM, Dumaguete City

Enclosed: As stated

Above, the petition to Bishop Du, which was accompanied by numerous signed sheets, garnered at the bus stops, schools, etc. There was no response of Bishop John Du.

Informatively, many of the original Parish Council members had left. They didn't like to be rubber stamps.



The "After" view, when posts were gone and ceiling was painted. This was released by Cidni Mapa about Nov 2008. Looked good then.



The "Present" view a few weeks ago during a wake at the side altar. The main altar was undergoing repairs for another project hence it was not used. Note cloth drapings at far end. The photo does not do justice to the actual ceiling condition: warped ceiling tiles, water stains on the paint, and a general decrepit look. One of the local civil engineers here, Joel Borromeo, told us that the roof structure has probably moved, hence all the water leaks during heavy rains. It wasn't that way before.

I certainly wouldn't like to be in that church during an earthquake. Or when there is torrential rain and a typhoon blowing.

We parishioners and the church are here to stay. The parish priests are transitory; they just come and go. But this one has done so much damage already.

So what should we Tanjayanons do now?

Danny Gil
ferngil@aol.com
3 Apr 2011