

November 5, 2010, at 10.30 am,

PIME Seminary - Tagaytay, Philippines.

Today we had a funeral mass for Fr. Steven W. Baumbush. The Holy Mass was celebrated by Bishop Luis Antonio Tagle, Diocese of Imus. There were other two Bishops joined for this celebration namely Romulo G. Valles Arch-bishop from Zambonga (who was the bishop of Kidapawan when Fr. Steve was a missionary in that diocese. It is also the first mission of Fr. Steve in the Philippines. He worked there around 6 years) and Romulo Tolentino de la Cruz bishop of Kidapawan (who represented all the clergy and the faithful of the diocese). There were about 50 priests attended his funeral from different parishes and congregations. There were also about 600 people coming from neighbouring Religious communities, faithful from Paranaque parish (where Fr. Steve worked as a parish priest for 3 years), and faithful also from Imus diocese. God showed mercy on us by not sending the rain as the day was very cloudy and gloomy, so also we were in sorrow and grief. During homily time bishop Tagle was unable to control his emotions and he shed his tears for Fr. Steve. Bishop's touching words in his homily are "Fr. Steve had fallen in the land of death, where we ourselves are afraid to go. He is like a grain that fell in the land in order to gain new life." Now his body lies in Paranaque. We, seminarians of PIME Tagaytay would like to express our gratitude to all the supporters who stood by us through their prayers in this time of mourning and pain. We strongly believe that our beloved father will send his blessings from heaven to carry on our journey in this time of sorrowful moment. We request all of you to continue your prayers for us. MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE!

By Kantha rao Gudipudi, PIME,