

Thursday, May 4, 2017

We are grateful that the Governor and oversight board have filed for the Title III bankruptcy process. We know this has been a difficult decision for you. However, this is the next critical step to reduce the debt, protect essential services and promote transparency. This process is needed to protect the dignity and wellbeing of our people in the midst of a very complex financial crisis that is difficult to explain and more difficult to understand.

It is also necessary to understand that this is only the next step in a path of recovery and economic growth for Puerto Rico. We must all continue to be vigilant. It is the responsibility of all of us to continue to question austerity measures, demand the debt be deeply cut and ensure that the court process reduces poverty on our island.

We are workers in the Lord's vineyard and we need to continue our efforts to seek transparency and justice. We are hopeful that Puerto Rico will take these critical next steps and we remain vigilant as we all walk forward together to create a better society for the people of Puerto Rico. This is our prayer. Roberto O. González Nieves, OFM, Archbishop of San Juan de Puerto Rico Reverend Heriberto Martínez, General Secretary of Puerto Rico's Bible Society

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