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“Deeply moved” ~Vatican Prefect visited Oura Cathedral~

His Eminence Cardinal Fernando Filoni, Prefect of Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples at Vatican Palace came to Nagasaki City on Sept. 19th and visited Oura Cathedral in Minamiyamate area, one of the component sites of the “Hidden Christian Sites in the Nagasaki Region” which is aiming to be inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site next year.

The Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples is an organization to support countries which have a small Catholic community. H.E. Cardinal Filoni came to Japan by the invitation of the Japanese Bishop’s Conference and is planning to be engaged in exchange programs with local Christians in six cities such as Tokyo, Osaka and Nagasaki. H. E. Cardinal Filoni also plans to visit Sendai on Sept. 22th to see the revival situation of the areas devastated by the Great East Japan Earthquake.

On 19th, H. E. Cardinal Filoni also visited the 26 Martyrs Museum and the Atomic Bomb Museum under the guidance Archbishop Takami and took part in holy a mass at Urakami Cathedral. During the interview at Oura Cathedral, H. E. Cardinal Filoni said “Nagasaki is such a beautiful place because it is the place of martyrs who dedicated their lives to their faith. I am deeply moved.” With regard to the question of the possibility of the Pope’s visit to Nagasaki, he said that “Let us pray that it will happen.”