



UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

UST:SO06-00-CI40
A.Y. 2021-2022

TO : THE THOMASIAN COMMUNITY
FROM : OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
RE : ASH WEDNESDAY 2022 IS A DAY OF PRAYER
AND FASTING FOR PEACE
DATE : 28 FEBRUARY 2022

His Holiness Pope Francis made a heartfelt appeal to the faithful for peace in Ukraine and declared **2 March 2022, Ash Wednesday, a Day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace**: “I would like to appeal to everyone, believers and non-believers alike. Jesus taught us that the diabolical evil of violence is answered with the weapons of God, with prayer and fasting. I invite everyone to make next March 2, Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting for peace. I encourage believers, in a special way, to devote themselves intensely to prayer and fasting on that day.”¹

In observance of the Lenten Season and in response to the Pope’s appeal, the University and the Santísimo Rosario Parish-UST prepared and organized the following:

1. EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS with Imposition of Ashes

- *Venue*: UST Chapel/Parish Church
- *Special Intention*: Reconciliation and Peace in the World
- The faithful may participate *virtually* through the official Facebook page of the [University](#), or *on-site*, in accordance with the standard health protocols.

- 6:15 AM - Conventual Mass integrated with Morning Prayer (*Lauds*)
(c/o Priory of St. Thomas Aquinas)
- 7:30 AM - Parish Mass (c/o Santísimo Rosario Parish-UST)
- 10:00 AM - College Mass (c/o UST College of Education)
- 12:00 NN - Parish Mass (c/o Santísimo Rosario Parish-UST)
- 2:00 PM - College Mass (c/o UST College of Science)
- 4:00 PM - Parish Mass (c/o Santísimo Rosario Parish-UST)
- 5:30 PM - **University Mass**

Presider and Homilist:
Rev. Fr. Pablo T. Tiong, OP
Vice-Rector for Religious Affairs

¹ cf. Pope Francis, *Appeal during the General Audience*, Vatican City, 23 February 2022.
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2. SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

- The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)² shall be celebrated on Ash Wednesday (March 2) at 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM near the UST Chapel/Parish Church.

3. FASTING, ABSTINENCE AND ACT OF CHARITY

- Fasting and Abstinence are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.³
- On all Fridays of Lent⁴, the faithful are to abstain from meat and/or do some exercise of piety or act of charity.⁵
- Abstinence from meat is binding upon Catholics aged 14 and onwards while Fasting is binding upon Catholics aged 18 to 59.⁶
- Persons who are excused from fasting and abstinence are those outside the age limits, the physically or mentally ill, the frail, pregnant or nursing women, and manual laborers among others.
- For questions and clarifications, kindly send an e-mail to campus.ministry@ust.edu.ph

4. PRAYER AND SILENCE

- The Thomasian community is encouraged to observe moments of intense prayer and silence on Ash Wednesday and throughout the season of Lent.

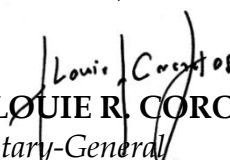
5. LENTEN SET-UP IN THE CAMPUS

- Purple flaglets, which symbolize repentance and reconciliation, are placed in the lampposts inside the campus.
- The *Stations of the Cross* at the Benavides Garden are also prepared.
- Also, the UST Chapel/Parish Church is already prepared for the Lenten Season.

6. LIGHTING OF THE CAMPUS

- In solidarity with the suffering Church in Ukraine, the UST Main Building, Benavides Garden, Arch of the Centuries, and the UST Chapel shall be lighted with the colors of the flag of Ukraine from March 2 to March 4, from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

As we begin the Lenten Season, the call to conversion, symbolized by the imposition of the ashes, resounds even louder and clearer as a call to penance, reconciliation and peace. "If today you hear His voice, harden not your hearts" (cf. *Ps* 95:8).


FR. LOUIE R. CORONEL, O.P., EHL
Secretary-General

² cf. Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines, *Guidelines for Lent and Holy Week*, 22 February 2022, no. 11.

³ cf. *Code of Canon Law* (CIC), canon 1251; Fasting and Abstinence are spiritual disciplines that lead to repentance and the return to God. When fasting, a catholic is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. When abstaining, a catholic renounces the eating of meat.

⁴ The Solemnity of the Annunciation (March 25), which falls on a Friday of Lent this year, is an exemption; cf. *ibid*.

⁵ cf. González, Javier OP, "CBCP Norms and Authentic Interpretations" in *Boletín Eclesiástico de Filipinas*, Vol. LXXIII, no. 802, September-October 1997, pp. 543-584; *Code of Canon Law* (CIC), canon 1253.

⁶ cf. *Code of Canon Law* (CIC), canon 1252.

