



UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

UST:SO06-00-CI61
A.Y. 2021-2022

TO : THE THOMASIAN COMMUNITY
FROM : OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
RE : 2022 CELEBRATIONS OF THE BACCALAUREATE MASSES
DATE : 19 MAY 2022

In reference to OSG Circular No. 56 dated 7 May 2022, the in-person celebrations of the 2022 Baccalaureate Masses at the UST Grandstand and Athletic Field is scheduled as follows:

A. Baccalaureate Mass for the Class of 2022 (3 June 2022, Friday)

Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, OP
Rector, University of Santo Tomas
Main Celebrant and Homilist

B. Baccalaureate Mass for the Class of 2020 and 2021 (4 June 2022, Saturday)

Very Rev. Fr. Filemon I. dela Cruz, Jr, OP
Vice-Chancellor, University of Santo Tomas
Prior Provincial, Dominican Province of the Philippines
Main Celebrant and Homilist

The events include a Pre-Mass Program, the Eucharistic Celebration proper, and a Post-Mass Program. The *Ceremony of Light* will precede the most anticipated *Recessional March* through the Arch of the Centuries. Attached is a copy of the **guidelines and information** for the celebration of *back-to-back Bacc Masses* for your reference.

The **seating assignments** and the **route of entrance to the Athletic Field** as well as the **order of academic units for the Processional/Recessional parade**, will be sent to the respective offices of the academic units as soon as it is available.

All administrative and academic officials, academic staff, and graduates/graduating students are enjoined to attend this significant University activity.

We thank and praise the Lord for guiding us through in our academic journey amidst the challenges of the times. Thank you.


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



UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS
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**GUIDELINES AND INFORMATION
FOR THE CELEBRATION OF BACCALAUREATE MASSES
AND POST-MASS PROGRAM**

**3 June 2022 (Friday) – Class of 2022
4 June 2022 (Saturday) – Class of 2020 and 2021
UST Grandstand**

PREPARATORY GUIDELINES

- The graduates/graduating students will be dropped off and fetched.
- The Safety and Security Personnel shall screen the participants by requiring them to
 - a) wear their face masks and frequently sanitize their hands;
 - b) present their vaccination cards and health declaration via the StaySafe.PH app or ThoMedSS; and
 - c) undergo a thermal screening and inspection.
- Students should wear **clean and proper official TYPE A uniform**. As the case may be, old uniforms may be altered.
- The participating graduates/graduating students and faculty advisers are encouraged to carry with them their **umbrellas, light snacks, and drinking water (in personal tumblers and NOT disposable bottles)** during the event.
- Each Academic Unit is encouraged to come up with its own *gimmicks* for a triumphant ambience and celebratory spirit of gratitude. However, please be guided by the following:
 - Masks, hand-held props and other similar materials to add color and happy mood can be used for the gimmicks during the processional and recessional parade.
 - There should be **no fireworks/firecrackers, sky lanterns, candle balloons, helium balloons, floating balloons, confetti, foam sprays, paint sprays, colored powder, party poppers (blizzards), glitters, animals, camera drones (except the official photography drones), and ac-powered gadgets/props**, during the processional and recessional parade.
- The *Thomasian Mission Crosses* to be used for the Imposition Ceremony; the *candles and candle holders* for the Ceremony of the Light; and the *Thomasian Pledge bookmarks* should be claimed by the representative of the Academic Units from the Office of the Secretary-General on **2 June 2022 (Thursday)**. We request the respective Academic Units to determine the system of distribution of the aforementioned materials to the graduates/graduating students. However, please be advised that **the Crosses should already be with them before they proceed to the Athletic Field.**



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PRE-EVENT ACTIVITIES

3:00pm

ASSEMBLY

- The graduates/graduating students of the different academic units **assemble inside their respective buildings.**

4:30pm

PROCESSIONAL

- The graduates/graduating students start to **walk toward the Athletic Field** passing through their designated entry points.
- Members of the *Reception/Welcome Committee* of the respective Academic Units will lead them to their assigned seats upon arrival at the venue.

5:30pm

PRE-MASS PROGRAM

- **Introduction** of Academic Units with flag bearers
- Entrance of the **Philippine Flag** and the **UST Flag**
- **Philippine National Anthem**
- The Faculty/College Secretaries are requested to choose the **flag bearers** of their respective Academic Units.

MASS PROPER (6:00 pm)

- Class of 2022
Main Celebrant and Homilist - **Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, OP, PhD**
Rector, University of Santo Tomas
- Classes of 2020 and 2021
Main Celebrant and Homilist - **Very Rev. Fr. Filemon I. dela Cruz, Jr., OP**
*Vice-Chancellor, University of Santo Tomas and
Prior Provincial, Dominican Province of the Philippines*
- **Offertory:** The Faculty/College Secretaries are requested to choose a representative graduating student from their respective Academic Units, who will walk in procession bringing their love offerings to the altar.
- The participants of the Mass are expected to dispose themselves properly for the full, conscious, and active participation in the Liturgy.
- To ensure the solemnity of the Mass, observe silence and listen attentively to the Homily, which is whole-heartedly dedicated to the graduates/graduating students.





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POST-MASS PROGRAM (7:15 pm)

1. RECOGNITION OF ACADEMIC UNITS

2. VIDEO PRESENTATION

3. GRADUATION MESSAGE

4. BLESSING AND IMPOSITION OF THE THOMASIAN MISSION CROSS

- Academic Units will be called according to the order of the foundation year.
- Every Academic Unit, represented by one candidate for graduation, carrying their respective Mission Crosses will be invited to come up the stage for this ceremony.
- Each graduate/graduating student will be accompanied by their respective Deans and Regents, who will impose on them the symbolic Thomasian Mission Cross.
- For the graduates/graduating students in the audience, the Thomasian Mission Crosses will be *simultaneously* imposed by a student on the student next to them.

5. THOMASIAN PLEDGE OF LOYALTY

6. CEREMONY OF LIGHT (LUMINA PANDIT)¹

- Each graduate/graduating student should already have his/her candle with him/her during the Processional. The academic unit should advise them that the candles should be lighted *only* during the *Ceremony of Light*.
- One of the servers will hand over the symbolic torch to the Presider (Father Rector/Father Vice-Chancellor). The Deans and Regents will light their corresponding torches from the Presider's torch. Graduates/Graduating students will receive their own light from the torches of their respective Deans and Regents.

7. UST HYMN

8. RECESSIONAL PARADE

- The Presider and the Secretary-General, together with the administrative and academic officials and the Marching Band will lead the parade wherein the graduates/graduating students from the different Academic Units triumphantly walk through the Arch of the Centuries.

¹ *Lumina Pandit* could be translated in English as “spreading the Light”



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Note:

In solidarity with our sisters and brothers who have been greatly affected by the pandemic, our celebrations will be solemnly and meaningfully staged without the traditional fireworks (cf. *OSG Circular No. 56*, dated 7 May 2022).


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

