



UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

UST:SO06-00-CI30
A.Y. 2022-2023

TO : THE THOMASIAN COMMUNITY
FROM : OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
RE : RECOMMENDATION ON THE WEARING OF FACEMASK
DATE : 4 NOVEMBER 2022

In view of the Executive Order (EO) No. 7 series 2022, dated 28 October 2022, allowing the optional wearing of facemask in indoor establishments, the University, through the Office of Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs and Health Service, **strongly recommends wearing of facemask** in enclosed spaces and indoor areas where ventilation may be compromised. The following reminders are provided to serve as guide in making an informed decision:

1. As the number of COVID-19 cases continues to increase with the reported local transmissions of Omicron sub-variants XBB and XBC, wearing of facemask plays and important role in **reducing the risk of infection**.
2. Proper wearing of facemask will help prevent the spread and transmission of disease, providing protection to you and your family members as well as other people in the community.
3. Vulnerable populations (persons with comorbidities, non-vaccinated, senior citizens) at risk of acquiring the infection will benefit from both the wearing of facemask, and the use of facemask by the general population.

EO No. 07 reiterates the need to continue implementing minimum public health standards to effectively prevent and minimize the spread of COVID-19, including **practice of good hygiene, frequent handwashing, observance of physical distancing, and maintenance of good ventilation especially in indoor settings. Where one or more of these conditions may not be consistently observed, Thomasians are required to wear a well-fitted mask.**

For additional protection, immunization with COVID-19 booster doses must be completed at the soonest possible time.

As a Thomasian community, let us all continue doing our part in helping mitigate the risk of COVID-19. Take care and God bless.


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