



# UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

UST:SO06-00-CI59

A.Y. 2022-2023

**TO :** THE THOMASIAN COMMUNITY

**FROM:** OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

**RE :** WORLD CANCER DAY (4 FEBRUARY 2023)

**DATE :** 31 JANUARY 2023

The University, in coordination with the UST Hospital (USTH), participates in the observance of **World Cancer Day on 4 February 2023 (Saturday)**, a global initiative to improve awareness and knowledge of cancer risks and better prevent, detect, and treat the disease.

Led by the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC)<sup>1</sup>, World Cancer Day 2023 marks the second year of the three-year theme "[Close the Care Gap](#)", acknowledging the power of working together<sup>2</sup>, which could be translated in the Church as *Synodality*, "the People of God journeying together and gathering in assembly, summoned by the Lord Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Gospel."<sup>3</sup>

The University will launch the following activities:

**1. Mass Intention for Cancer Patients, Cancer Survivors and their families**

- The Santísimo Rosario Parish-UST will hold a Eucharistic Celebration for the intention of cancer patients, cancer survivors and their families on 4 February 2023 (Saturday) at 7:30 am.

**2. Lighting of the Campus Landmarks**

- With the assistance of the Facilities Management Office, our campus landmarks will be lit in orange and blue from February 1 to 4, 2023 (Wednesday to Saturday).
- The Thomasians are encouraged to take photos of the lighted campus and post it in their respective social media accounts using #USTWorldCancerDay.

**3. Talk Show on Cancer Awareness**

- The program *Lifeline*, a health and wellness talk show, produced by the UST Tiger TV of the Communications Bureau, will feature a panel discussion with a *cancer specialist* from the USTH Benavides Cancer Institute, a *researcher on cancer* from the UST Graduate School and the Research Center for Natural and Applied Sciences, and *an academic staff who is a cancer survivor*.

<sup>1</sup> UICC takes the lead in convening, capacity building and advocacy initiatives that unite the cancer community to reduce the global cancer burden, promote greater equity, and integrate cancer control into the world health and devt agenda.

<sup>2</sup> cf. <https://www.worldcancerday.org/about/2022-2024-world-cancer-day-campaign>

<sup>3</sup> cf. International Theological Commission, *Synodality in the Life and Mission of the Church*, 2018, no. 70a.



- It will be broadcast via the UST Tiger TV and livestreamed via the [UST Facebook Page](#) on 3 February 2023 (Friday) at 3:00 pm.

#### 4. Cancer Screening and Prevention Lay Forum

- The UST Hospital will be hold a Cancer Screening and Prevention Lay Forum on 4 February 2023 (Saturday), 2:00 pm via Zoom App. Kindly register using this [link](#).
- Orange and blue ribbons will be distributed to the USTH employees.

#### 5. Cancer Awareness and Prevention via ThOMedSS

- The UST Health Service prepared video infographics on cancer awareness and prevention for information dissemination through the Thomasian Online Medical Services and Support ([ThOMedSS](#)).

Since every person has the ability to make a difference, big or small, and that together we can make real progress in reducing the global impact of cancer, may we encourage all units to creatively promote interdisciplinary discussions, formal or informal, that would genuinely raise awareness and education about cancer towards a call for more action.

May it be motivating neighbors to provide transport to cancer treatment for a fellow resident or ensuring that healthy and affordable food options are offered at our units, we can ask ourselves, what could we do to *close the gap in cancer care*?

Thank you.

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