



UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

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A.Y. 2023-2024

**TO :** THE THOMASIAN COMMUNITY  
**FROM :** OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL  
**RE :** WORLD TEACHERS' DAY 2023  
**DATE :** 4 October 2023

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The celebration of **World Teachers' Day (WTD) 2023** reminds us that teaching is a vocation, a calling, a lifelong commitment to shaping minds, nurturing dreams, and igniting the flames of curiosity within the hearts of students and learners.

The theme for WTD 2023 is "*Empowering Educators: Strengthening Resilience, Building Sustainability.*" In these challenging times, teachers, indeed, have emerged as beacons of resilience, adapting and innovating for their students and learners.<sup>1</sup>

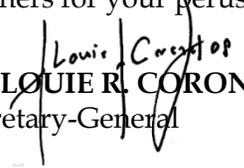
Furthermore, Thomasian educators are *magistri Christi*—teachers of Christ, teachers who belong to Christ, teachers who are deeply influenced by Christ. They are sent off by Christ in a mission (cf. *Mk 16:15*). Therefore, true *magistri Christi* are fundamentally *discipuli Christi* (students of Christ), for they learn from the supreme Teacher Himself (cf. *Jn 3:1-36*).

The University is one with the celebration of **World Teachers' Day** on 5 October 2023 (Thursday) and the **National Teachers' Month** (September 5 to October 5), and encourages everyone to be creative and find the most opportune moment to express their gratitude to their teachers for inspiring them to be competent, committed, and compassionate.

**Challenge:** *Can you recall the names of your teachers from the start of your education to your most recent educational level?* Regardless of the outcome, let's honor and remember our teachers from various stages of our education through our prayers, in social media, and any other means. Let's also take a moment to offer prayers for our teachers who have already passed away.

A **Eucharistic Celebration** will be offered for the intention of the World Teachers' Day on 5 October 2023, 7:30 am at the UST Chapel, to be presided by Rev. Fr. Paul Reagan O. Talavera, OP.

Attached is the message from the *World Union of Catholic Teachers*, and *Prayers* for our beloved teachers for your perusal. Happy World Teachers' Day!

  
**FR. LOUIE R. CORONEL, OP**  
Secretary-General

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<sup>1</sup> <https://sdgresources.relx.com/events/world-teachers%E2%80%99-day-2023>





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**BLESSING OF TEACHERS<sup>2</sup>**  
(by the Father Regent or any priest)

**L**ord our God, in your wisdom and love you surround us with the mysteries of the universe. In times long past you sent us your prophets to teach your laws and to bear witness to your undying love. You sent us your Son to teach us by word and example that true wisdom comes from you alone.

Send your Spirit upon these teachers and fill them with your wisdom and blessings. Grant that during this academic year they may devote themselves to their studies and share what they have learned from others.

Grant this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**PRAYER FOR TEACHERS**  
(by lay persons)

**L**ord God, your spirit of wisdom fills the earth and teaches us your ways.

Look upon our teacher/s (*you may state the name/s*).

Let (him/her/) them strive to share (his/her/) their knowledge with gentle patience and endeavor always to bring the truth to eager minds.

Grant that (he/she/) they may follow Jesus Christ,  
the way, the truth, and the life,  
forever and ever.

Amen.

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<sup>2</sup> Prayer Source: *Book of Blessings* by Prepared by International Commission on English in the Liturgy A Joint Commission of Catholic Bishops' Conferences, The Liturgical Press, Collegeville, Minnesota, 1989.

