



UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

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A.Y. 2024-2025

TO : THE THOMASIAN COMMUNITY

FROM : OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

RE : CALL TO PRAYER FOR THE ELECTION OF THE NEW POPE

DATE : 2 May 2025

In communion with the Holy See and the Archdiocese of Manila, the University invites the Thomasian community to enter into a spirit of deep prayer during this sacred moment in the life of the Church, as the College of Cardinals gathers in Rome for the **Conclave**¹—the solemn and prayerful process of electing the next Pope.

On Wednesday, **7 May 2025**, at 4:30 pm (PH Time: 7 May 2025, at 10:30 pm), the entry into the Conclave and the oath-taking for the election of the Pope will take place, in accordance with the provisions of the *Ordo Rituum Conclavis* (nos. 29-44).

During this period, all are encouraged to participate in the celebration of the Eucharist, the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the Liturgy of the Hours, personal prayer, and the praying of the Holy Rosary, in spiritual communion with the universal Church (*See also attachment*).

Whether in classrooms, with friends, with one's family at home, or in personal reflection, may all Thomasians fervently implore the Lord to enlighten and guide the Cardinal-electors, and to strengthen the Church in unity as one Body in Christ (cf. *1 Cor 12:12*).

For specific liturgical directives and suggested intentions, kindly refer to the *Liturgical Notes for the Election of the New Pope* ([RCAM Circular no. 2025-31](#)) of the Archdiocese of Manila.

As pilgrims of hope, the Church turns to the Holy Spirit in steadfast prayer, trusting that through divine guidance, a shepherd after the heart of Christ will be chosen—one who will lead God's people with wisdom, compassion, and faithfulness to the Gospel. "I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding" (*Jer 3:15*). Let us remain in prayerful hope. Thank you.

FR. LOUIE R. CORONEL, OP
Secretary-General

¹ A **Conclave** is the solemn gathering of the College of Cardinals to elect a new Pope, the successor of Saint Peter and spiritual leader of the Catholic Church. The term comes from the Latin *cum clave*, meaning "with a key," symbolizing that the Cardinals are locked away—traditionally in the Sistine Chapel—until a new Pope is chosen.





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PRAYER FOR THE ELECTION OF A POPE

(To be prayed in the days leading up to and during the Conclave)

O God, eternal shepherd,
who govern your flock with unfailing care,
grant in your boundless fatherly love
a pastor for your Church, who will please you by his holiness
and to us show watchful care.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE FOR THE GIFT OF A NEW POPE

(To be prayed upon the Election of a New Pope)

Lord Jesus Christ, Good Shepherd and High Priest,
we praise you and offer you our sincere gratitude
for calling Pope N. to serve as the shepherd of the universal church.
May he lead us as a loving shepherd
who cares for his flock and seeks out the lost sheep.
May he be for us a gentle and listening father,
a faithful teacher and a steward of your sacred mysteries.
Grant him health, strength, and wisdom.
Strengthen the bonds of unity among us
so that we may serve you as one body.
Purify us and sustain us in charity
for your love for us never fails.
Grant that we may boldly answer your call to mission.
You who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
God forever and ever.
Amen.

Source: [RCAM Circular no. 2025-31](#)

