



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 : ONBOARDING SEASON (AY 2025-2026)

DATE : 29 July 2025

The University, through the Central Committee on University Events, issues the consolidated schedule of preliminary activities and guide for **Onboarding Season 2025-2026**¹. Further details about the events shall be provided through separate communications. (See *Annex 1 & Annex 2*).

The **Opening Exercises** on **5 August 2025** (Tuesday) will highlight the University-wide **Mass of the Holy Spirit** (*Misa de Apertura*) and the **Inaugural Lecture** (*Discurso de Apertura*). The incoming freshmen shall participate in a **Virtual ROARientation** on relevant University services on **4 August 2025** (Monday). Then, they shall take part in the traditional **Freshman Welcome Mass**, **ROARientation**, and **Thomasian Welcome Walk** on **6 August 2025** (Wednesday) for higher education and **7 August 2025** (Thursday) for basic education.

The University, through the Office of the Vice Rector for Religious Affairs, will hold **Triduum Prayers and Masses** in honor of **St. Dominic de Guzman**, the founder of the Order of Preachers, on **5-7 August 2025**. The **University Mass** in honor of St. Dominic will be celebrated on **7 August 2025** (Thursday). The **Solemnity of St. Dominic de Guzmán** on **8 August 2025** (Friday) is observed as a *school holiday*.

Regular classes officially commence on **7 August 2025** (Thursday). The academic units are likewise expected to conduct program- and course-specific orientations. (See *Annex 3*).

In consultation with the Office for Student Affairs, all recruitments, assemblies, and orientations of officially recognized student organizations, University-wide and College-based, shall be scheduled not later than December 2025, for more active engagements throughout the year.

In the spirit of the Jubilee of Hope, we look forward with eager anticipation to these events as opportunities for renewed perspectives, strengthened collaboration, and deeper formation among our stakeholders—translating shared understanding into meaningful learning and hopeful action.

FR. LOUIER R. CORONEL, OP
Secretary-General

¹ The **Onboarding Season** signals the implementation of activities that allow our stakeholders to get acquainted with the University's context and culture, including new policies and guidelines that may be related or specific to a course and its delivery, academic program, and other realities affecting the basic and higher education.