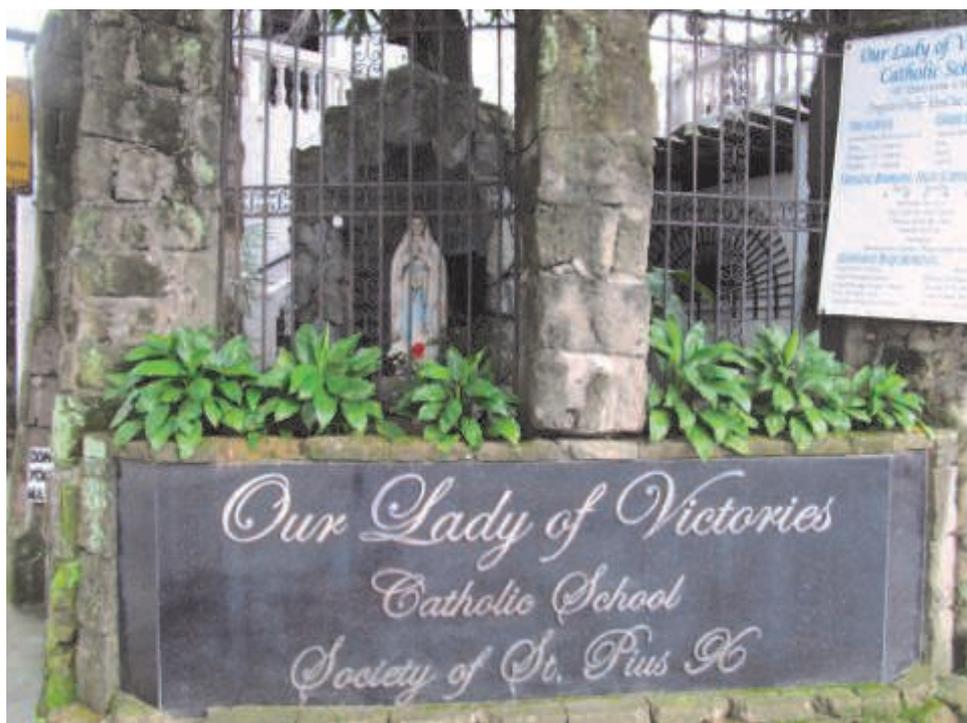


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## Our Lady of Victories School ♦ Philippines

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Dearest Friends,

I have been assigned now as principal of Our Lady of Victories Catholic School in Manila for three months and I tell you truly that I still marvel at how the good God has visibly blessed us. It is a reality that God wills the salvation of every precious souls which He has created for Himself, yet He demands instruments to cooperate with our Lord Jesus Christ in the work of redemption. Our merciful Lord and King has so favoured the Philippine nation that still it remains a strong 80% (of the population) Roman Catholic. But how much longer will this last? God never takes back of His gifts bestowed, but we may recklessly toss them aside!

But God does not will this, especially when we consider that “Thou hast made us for Thee and our heart is restless until it rests in Thee” (St. Augustine). In this time of great spiritual danger for the Filipino people where, as elsewhere, the errors of Vatican II has wrecked havoc and

government leaders abuse their authority to pass laws against the Commandments, **the great quote of St. Paul rings out: “And how shall they preach, unless they be sent?” (Rom 10:15).**

We are but poor instruments, but nonetheless we take persevering courage in being sent by God through our Superiors to form our Lord Jesus Christ in His little ones, to save the Catholic faith and thus souls in the Philippines, and to this end to form Catholic leaders...the hope of tomorrow!

And the work is not simply of one priest... “Now he that planteth, and he that watereth, are one. And every man shall receive his own reward, according to his own labour. For we are God’s coadjutors: you are God’s husbandry; you are God’s building” (I Cor 3:7-9). Notably for the past five years, Our Lady of Victories Catholic School, has seen the countless joyful sacrifices of various priests, religious brothers and friends throughout

the world binding together in the spirit of...something must be done...and now! And that *something* is to save what the Redeemer has purchased by His precious Blood.

And hence we at OLVCS cry out to all of you “For what thanks can we return to God for you, in all the joy wherewith we rejoice for you before our God.” (I Thess 3:9).

### Victories So Far

Now, dear friends, you are asking what progress has been made? Most important of all, we are blessed with an excellently qualified Catholic teaching staff (the pillars of the school), a government license to educate and, with the special help from our friends in America and Canada, top educational text books to form a truly Catholic curriculum. Here is a list of renovations too: new bathrooms for the boys, a new dormitory for the boys, a new science lab, a new school medical clinic, a new canteen/kitchen area, a new reception area, a newly organized home economics/ sewing room, a new concrete floored and walled drying area for clothes, a newly organized library, a new bird aviary built with left-over project material (still need birds!).

### To Do List

As usual, much remains to be done: the grounds of the school must be prepared for grass and shrubbery, the school entrance gates must be sanded and painted along with a new sign, safety measures need to be taken: railings on outside concrete stairs and at dangerous high areas, rubber edges on slippery steps, security lighting. A full-size outside bas-

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ketball court is being dug out at the moment. A covered outside stage on agenda for programs, plays and other activities and a new security street wall is needed to border the school grounds (a necessity in the city of Manila).

### Chronicle

4th-8th June: Teachers' Week with day of recollection for them (we thank Fr. Couture especially for flying in to greatly assist in forming our Catholic pillars).

13th June: Feast of St. Anthony of Padua (patron of the poor!) 35 students arrive, even from distant provinces, to take up the sword of truth and shield of victory.

End of June: Prior, principal and all staff and students of OLVCS send to our Superior General Bishop Fellay a spiritual bouquet in heartfelt gratitude and sincere trust in his leadership and paternity over all of us.

July: As teachers raise their voices over the construction noise and constantly wipe their brows of dusty sweat, many projects wisely initiated by previous principal Fr. MacPherson see completion.

23rd July-3rd Aug: Severe flooding throughout Manila and surrounding provinces, many rightly see this as merciful warning from God against the evil RH bill trying to push free contraceptives and forced sex education in all schools. Our Lady and St. Joseph watched over us and spared us and great damage.

End of July: We joyfully receive a visit from my dear friend Fr. Therasian from India on his well earned holiday break, however he forgot to bring his umbrella!

22nd August: Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. We joined Filipino Day to



*"Mens sana in corpore sano. We're working to make healthy minds in healthy bodies!"  
says one little tot.*

this feast as an appropriate way to give thanks to the Mediatrix Of All Graces.

### Please Continue To Help

**"I have no greater grace than this, to hear that my children walk in truth" (III John 1:3).** And these are your children dear friends and benefactors in the Philippines, Europe, Singapore, USA, Canada, New Zealand and elsewhere around the globe. We, as a team, continue to pray and sacrifice to save these little ones and prepare them to save their

fellow countrymen. Yes, we still need your sponsorship, as we have big plans on the horizon for the formation of these our children, but one day and one stone at a time following Divine Providence for His greater honour and glory. We send in return to you our abundantly grateful hearts and prayers. Please feel free to email me with any questions.

In Maria Semper,  
Father Michael Fortin

Contact: [mfortinsspx@gmail.com](mailto:mfortinsspx@gmail.com)



*The 'ars artium': Fr. Couture teaching teachers to teach in a truly Catholic way.*