Our Lady of Victories School • Manila • Philippines



Hats off for the graduates.

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

Another academic year has come to a close at Our Lady of Victories Catholic School of Quezon City. We can-



Breaktime.

not help but look back over the past months and see what has been accomplished toward reaching our goal. Memories of school events, long class hours, faces of joy and even sometimes sorrow, on-going projects for improvement of facilities...these come easily to the forefront. But all these things, which have a proper place, are not first and foremost in relation to our goal. Our goal is none other than that missionary end of our Lord Jesus Christ, and that is to impart life, the life of godliness in many precious souls of the "little ones" entrusted to us by the Good God, our Father.

"For I judged not myself to know anything among you, but Jesus Christ, and him crucified." (1 Cor 2:2) We do not hesitate to acknowledge that even if all our children would become academic geniuses and we could offer an environment of the best facilities, even if all this was accomplished with the students not growing in the life and love of God, then we have done nothing! Yet the world cannot understand this, even with so many examples par excel-

lance.

If we consider the great life of Garcia Moreno, where we see so clearly the powerful effect of a soul possessing heavenly wisdom. We would see that this man knew he could do nothing without our Lord, but could do all things in Him in whom he placed his trust. Garcia rose up to be a bright light in the darkness of revolutionary within the nation of Ecuador. Thus in the late 19th century, Ecuador had a president who put order in a corrupt government, restored peace throughout the land with corresponding prosperity; he also saw to successful achievements in the fields of education at all levels, to scientific advances and even to the engineering of roadways and other infrastructure. Garcia Moreno did more for his nation in his few years of presidency than many men could do in many years. Truly the revolutionary leaders caused damage to the nation, while Garcia, a man of God, imparted strength and vitality.

And the glorious life of this holy leader encourages us in the motto of

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our school, *Omnium potentior est sapientia* (Wisdom is more powerful than all). The wisdom referred to is the wisdom of the saints, which directs all things to the glory of God. Each school day begins with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, each class hour we strive to build upon the gifts of human nature so that supernatural grace may be more and more infused throughout the soul of the child. Our goal then is to form saints, wise and virtuous men and women.

In this sense then, we rejoice in this past year's accomplishments, as we already prepare to begin another academic year. For we have striven by the grace of God to be instruments imparting heavenly wisdom. And how grateful we are to the goodness of our heavenly Father toward us! For His blessings have been innumerable... from the smiles to the frowns, from the A's to the F's, from the generous donations to the piling expenses, from material needs to the facility improvements...we lift our hearts in praise of Divine Providence. Lastly, dearest friends, please allow our insistence that it is a team effort with deep foundation in the Mystical Body of Christ. For without your prayers and assistance, the goal becomes out of reach. From the Philippines we send our hearts and prayers, for where there is wisdom there is love. It is always a joy to hear back from you, dear friends (mfortinsspx@gmail.com).

In Maria Semper, Fr. Michael Fortin Principal of OLVCS



Blessing of the building site in the hope of many victories.



Everything ready and flags in place.



Fr. Onoda cuts the ribbon assisted by Fr. Fortin.