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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

March 16, 2020

Dear Lasallian Graduates and Grade 10 Transition Students,

I write to you at a time of great distress in our country and the world due to the COVID 19 crisis. What normally is a festive and celebratory achievement for you and your family's life has turned into disappointment and struggle to understand why your rites has been either postponed or cancelled. I share with you my frustration and sadness that such an accomplishment is not celebrated in our respective campuses.

However, this crisis does not only provide us the opportunity to understand the challenges to our usual ways of doing things, but it reveals hidden lessons and virtues to be learned even under difficult circumstances, to wit:

- Stay flexible, open and up to the challenges each of life's experiences brings to us. There is no straight path nor itinerary that may be predicted to always go as planned.
- Discipline, competency and commitment to the work at hand whether in school, company, or in a social and family context must be pursued. These values are prized for the eventual success they bring to you and your loved ones.
- Stay positive, and proactive. It may be a challenge for some to simply stay at home or in their rooms, but life goes on even in a confined setting, be helpful and try to get exercise and fresh air by taking a walk in less-crowded city streets.

Let me take this occasion to thank you for staying the course of studying in a La Salle school. Many times, our efforts to give you the best educational experience often fall short. For that, I apologize. But do know that over the years of your stay, we believe you have become better equipped because you stayed the course, ran the race and prayed with us. You have reached your goal of becoming a La Salle graduate. Congratulations on your achievement!

May our dear Lord and Mother Mary accompany you in the next phase of your life, and may you find success in your future endeavours. Continue to connect with us. We surely want to know how things are with you as you embark on another journey ahead.

Lastly, do remember and continue to pray our inherent Lasallian prayers:

Let us remember that we are in the Holy Presence of God.

I will continue, Oh my God, to do all my actions for the love of thee.

St John Baptist de La Salle. Pray for us.

Live Jesus in our Hearts, Forever!

In St. La Salle,

Br. Joaquin Severino S. Martinez FSC, D.Min
President

University of St. La Salle
St. Joseph School La Salle
La Salle College-Victorias