
Our Lady of Victories High School ♦ Philippines

OUR LADY OF VICTORIES HIGH SCHOOL

First Boarding Boys' High School coming to the Philippines!

Combined with the corruption of the Faith that has taken place in all levels of the Church and in all corners of the earth, there is likewise a deterioration in the all-important work of education. This is hardly surprising, as men who no longer know the purpose of man can hardly be expected to guide him in the realization of that purpose. Schools simply become a seedbed for testing novel ideas and wild theories in pedagogy; and by the time the theories are seen to be ineffective or even destructive, a whole generation of children has already been lost.

For this reason, the Society of St. Pius X sees the dire need to open schools. Children will better appreciate and love their Faith when they see all truths in relation to the Faith. This does not mean that the Catholic school is no more than an extensive catechism class. No, the school must offer a complete formation to her students: spiritual, academic, moral, and social. The service of God is a service that is to be accomplished in this world; therefore it is obvious that a Catholic education will equip the Catholic man to fulfil this service.

Our schools do not exist to promote the individual theories of a few teachers – they exist to pass down something greater than any one man, and indeed greater than the institution itself; they exist to guide students to an understanding of unchanging truths, the glory of a world greater than oneself, which world is itself only a reflection of a Glory greater than any created thing. True knowledge will always fill the soul with humility; for true understanding requires that one recognize these truths that are absolute and unchanging – outside and greater than oneself. St. Augustine says the same thing very colourfully at the end of his treatise “on the Teacher” when he writes, “Who would be so stupidly curious as to send his child to school that he may learn what the teacher thinks?” The good teacher will not dwell on his own unproven opinions but on the proven realities, revealed or unrevealed.

Continuing this glorious tradition of the Church and of our own priestly fraternity, the Society of St. Pius X is now opening a boys' boarding high school in Quezon City (metro-Manila), Philippines.

An elementary school has existed for a couple of years at the priory here, but the need (even in this Catholic country) to supplement and continue our children's schooling through the secondary level becomes more and more apparent. Even now, the Filipino government is advancing legislation that will require sex education in all the schools. Many illustrious and professedly “Catholic” schools are openly promoting this legislation.

Attempts to improve the elementary school and prepare for the boys' boarding high school has led to a flurry of activity over the past few months. The former prior of Our Lady of Victories, Fr. Purdy, was able to acquire the property right next to the priory. Since that time, we have been engaged in renovating the building to make it suitable for the elementary school and likewise for the high school that will open this June. The administration of a school is always a daunting task, and the opening of a boarding school is especially challenging. Finding teachers and staff, gaining the confidence of parents, recruiting students, preparing curriculum, seeking financial support, and constructing and preparing a suitable environment for living and studying – these are some of the many challenges we face while preparing for the opening of the new boys' boarding school in the Philippines. Though seemingly overwhelming, with the grace of God and the help of our benefactors, we are confident that we can achieve our goals and continue this necessary work of winning back families and society to the true Faith through the formation of Catholic youth.

Rev. Fr. Robert McPherson



Pupils of Our Lady of Victories High School try hard not to be interested in what the teacher thinks!