

COLLEGIUM APOSTOLICUM

FOR OVER THREE CENTURIES AND A HALF, THE COLEGIO DE SAN JOSE HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN TEACHING ECCLESIASTICAL SCIENCES, IN RESPOSE TO THE LAST WILL OF ESTEBAN RODRIGUEZ DE FIGUEROA, ACCENTED BY THE ECCLESIASTICAL AUTHORITIES OF MANILA AND THE RELIGIOUS SUPERIORS OF THE SOCIETY OF JESUS. LESS THAN TWENTY YEARS AGO, PIUS XI DECLARED THE DIRECTION OF SEMINARIES TO BE ONE OF THE MOST FRUITFUL MINISTRIES OF OUR TIMES. IN 1947, ST. JOSEPH CAFASSO, THE PEARL OF THE ITALIAN CLERGY, WAS PRAISED BY PIUS XII FOR THE SUPREMELY IMPORTANT AND FRUITFUL WORK OF THE FORMATION AND SANCTIFICATION OF THE CLERGY. ACCORDING TO THE GENERAL OF THE SOCIETY, THE PROVINCIALS SHOULD NOT HESITATE TO DROP SOME ACTIVITIES, IN ORDER TO ACCEPT THE DIRECTION OF SECULAR SEMINARIES, WHENEVER OFFERED BY THE BISHOPS. TO THE ADMINISTRATORS AND TEACHERS OF THE SECULAR SEMINARIES, THE SAME POPE EXPRESSED HIS GRATITUDE AND TO THEIR SPIRITUAL FATHERS, ALL OVER THE WORLD, HE KINDLY PLEDGED ONE MASS EVERY WEEK.

AN EXTRAORDINARY EVENT IS NARRATED IN THE GOSPELS, FROM WHICH WE CAN DERIVE GREAT PROFIT AND INSPIRATION IN THE DISCHARGE OF OUR DUTIES, IN THE SEMINARY.

THE MASTER ASCENDED A MOUNTAIN ONE EVENING, IN COMPANY WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF DISCIPLES: WHILE THESE SLEPT, JESUS ENGAGED IN PRAYER, RECOMMENDING TO THE HEAVENLY FATHER THE CHOICE HE WAS ABOUT TO MAKE. WHEN THE MORNING CAME, JESUS IN THE PRESENCE