



Congratulations to Batch 2018! Thirty seven years ago, I was as excited as you for my graduation here in Ateneo de Manila. Looking back, in my college years, I discovered many things which taught me well in how I have tackled “life” years after. Lessons learned in and outside the classroom were initial guides in my early years of work. Precious advice from professors, mentors, classmates and “orgmates” aided me in the challenges that confronted me years later. Your encounters in the Ateneo will not only be memories to treasure but will also be important anchors for key decisions now and in the future. Friends in college are usually friends forever. They will be your core network in the circles you will be moving in – your profession, public affairs, outreach and other social activities.

Your Ateneo education is like a special gift as you were chosen among the many. We hope that you will continue to be person for others in any sector or organization you will belong to during your working life. Please always remember the bible verses: “From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.”

You are leaving us soon but Ateneo will always be your second home. You are always welcome to come back when you need a place of comfort, reflection and refuge. In the struggles you will face in this world, there is always a role for those you have been engaged with in the past. You can always turn to the relationships and experiences nurtured in Loyola to help you through difficult times. And you can always share your joys and triumphs with all of us. Together, in all these ups and downs, we can shout our “One Big Fight”!

Good luck dear graduates and blue eagles, spread your wings, take flight and soar in the skies of your future!

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