



ATENEUM DE MANILA UNIVERSITY  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Memo # U2324-086

27 Jan 2024

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TO The University Community  
SUBJECT Fr Jose S Arcilla SJ (1927-2024)

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It is with deep sadness that we inform the University community of the passing away of another beloved Jesuit, Fr Jose S Arcilla SJ, yesterday morning at the age of 96. Fr Arcilla entered the Society of Jesus on 13 July 1946 and was ordained a priest on 19 June 1960.

Fr Pepe, as he was fondly called, was a dedicated scholar, writer, historian, and archivist. A professor of Theology and History, Fr Pepe was Head of the History Department at Ateneo de Cagayan (1964-1968) and was a faculty member of Ateneo de Davao (1968-1969). In 1969, he moved to Ateneo de Manila where he dedicated 47 years teaching history at both the College and Graduate School until 2016. He also served as Chair of the History Department from 1989 to 1992. Throughout this extensive service, Fr Pepe engaged his students, faculty, and members of the Ateneo de Manila community to the importance of the past and how history can help lead to transformation and positive change.

As archivist for the Philippine Province of the Society of Jesus, Fr Pepe provided a vital link between the past and the present. He was committed to teaching and research—writing and publishing various Philippine and Jesuit history books, including *An Introduction to Philippine History* (1998), *Jesuits in Mindanao: A Mission* (2013), and a tribute to national hero and Ateneo alumnus Jose Rizal, released in 2011. He also authored *The Ateneo de Manila University: 150 Years of Engaging the Nation*, the coffee table book released during the University's sesquicentennial celebration in 2009.

We request the Ateneo community to keep Fr Pepe, his family, and his Jesuit brothers in your prayers.

Wake Masses @ Loyola House of Studies:  
January 27 and 28 at 8:00 pm

Funeral Mass @ Loyola House of Studies:  
January 29 at 8:00 am

The wake and funeral Masses will be livestreamed here:

<https://tinyurl.com/lhslivestreams>



*Eternal rest grant unto Fr Pepe O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.*

(Sgd) Roberto C Yap SJ  
President

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