

June 16, 1961
DE LA SALLE COLLEGE - GOLDEN JUBILEE

DE LA SALLE COLLEGE GOLDEN JUBILEE
Manila, Philippines
1911 - 1961

Easily identified as one of the prominent institutions of higher learning in the Republic of the Philippines is the De La Salle College, which was founded in 1911.

The history of De La Salle College dates back on March 1911 when nine Christian Brothers came to the Philippines and opened a school in Paco, the south Section of Manila. Three month after their arrival in Manila, they held classes for 125 students in the elementary and secondary level mainly in Spanish in a building that once served as the Archbishop's Palace. Six years later, in 1917, courses leading to a college degree were offered.

The curriculum expanded to include the Bachelor of Arts degree in 1919-1920; commerce and science in 1922; and Bachelor of Science in Education and Master of Science in Education in 1930.

From Paco, the College moved in 1921 to the present site on one of Manila's aristocratic main thoroughfares, Taft Avenue, in a building with a classic colonnaded facade.

The entire school equipment, library, laboratories and furniture were lost during the invasion of the Philippines in 1941. The Japanese interned nine Brothers and massacred 16 others on February 12, 1945.

The post war years saw the recovery of De La Salle College and its rapid growth in enrollment, curriculum and facilities. Enrollment increased between 1953 and 1960. To the curriculum were added the Schools of Commerce, Liberal Arts and Engineering. To the buildings were added the Athanasius Memorial Auditorium-Gymnasium with a seating capacity of 3,000 and a new College building for 60 classrooms.

Within fifty years since its foundation, the De La Salle College fully deserves the prestige that it enjoys in the field of education, not only because of its accomplishments but its contribution to the welfare of the Republic of the Philippines through its activities and services in the Catholic Action, its ROTC unit, and its seminars and workshops of scientific, educational and religious concern.

As its marks its 50th anniversary, the Bureau of Posts has issued a commemorative set of stamps, honoring the occasion. In denominations of 6c and 10c, the multicolored stamps were designed by philatelic designer Nemesio Dimanlig, Jr.

