

# BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

14 January 2025



CHSLA Director Roch Dufresne took images of the smoke-filled skies over the beleaguered city; CHS students returned on Monday

## PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- Victims of the southern California fires and the first responders;
- Needs of the La Salle Pasadena and CHS LA school communities;
- Just progress in our mediation to settle our legal cases;
- Healing for Chris Brady, Peter Tripp, Bill Hughes, Paul-André and Walter Durham, Liza Ribera, and Fr. Rico;
- Our directors;
- Consolation for those in mourning;
- Vocations to religious life, diaconate, and priesthood;
- The needs of our young Brothers and contacts.



The New Orleans community in City Park: Laurence, John, and Gale

## My travels and assorted news...

As spotty news of the LA fires spread early last Wednesday morning, our Office of Education mobilized to see how our District could support La Salle Pasadena and CHS LA. They got accurate information and communicated it effectively to the district, region, and the Institute. They continue to monitor and update. Kudos to **Bob Carrejo** and **Mike Daniels**. Due to clean up efforts, La Salle Preparatory in Pasadena is still closed but volunteer faculty and staff are leading major collection efforts for impacted families.

This past week has also been a powerful example of being One La Salle. Brothers and partners from Ethiopia, Mexico, Kenya, Bethlehem, Nigeria and Rome have reached out in fraternal concern, solidarity, and the promise of prayers. **Armin Luistro** wrote, *"I will continue to monitor the situation and be attentive to whatever we could do to assist, comfort and accompany with our prayers especially those who lost family and friends."* In moments of crisis, it is a great gift to realize that you are not alone and that prayers are holding you up. Please continue to pray for the leadership and staff of our two southern California schools!

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*"Are we attentive to the inspirations we receive from God? Are we as quick to follow them as the Magi?"* MTR 96.1

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My canonical visit to SHCP went well. On Wednesday morning, I joined Mass with staff in the Brothers Chapel. Met Sister Catherine, the new Daughter of Charity who is teaching religion. **John Montgomery** has adjusted well and is working hard to teaching. **Victor Kenneth** is wrapping up his final year of teaching ministry. (Always leave when you're on top!) He will continue to work in the school. **Joe Kirk** represents the Brothers at DeMarillac Academy events and celebrations. He remains one of the most faithful sports fans for the SHCP Irish teams by traveling around town by bus to catch games. **Joseph Fabiano** loves his ministry in the library and interacting with students as he collects unreturned books. The community is committed to prayer, to joyful time together, and being of support to one another in creative ways. It is always refreshing to be here.

Another mediation session has been scheduled for Thursday, 16 January. **Chris Brady**, Pamela Gleeson, and I will be at this session which will include the plaintiff attorneys and some insurance companies. The presence of the latter is definitely progress. Please pray for a just outcome!



La Salle HS Pasadena teacher showing his neighborhood; 75% of homes are gone

## Miscellaneous...

During this month, SMC students are invited to share in Janterm experiences. **Steven Vasoli** is wrapping up preparations to take SMC students on an immersion migrant worker experience in Salinas. **Michael Murphy** is guiding his French language students through an immersive experience in Paris. **Charles Hilken** is exposing Janterm students to the beautiful history of Italy. World traveler **Adrian Watson** (New Zealand) visited San Francisco and Napa at the tail end of a two-week US tour. He has many ties and history with the Bay Area Brothers. **Chris Brady** celebrated his birthday with eye drops while recovering from his second cataract surgery. Steven Torres from Christian Brothers Conference visited Santa Fe to move boxes from Sangre De Cristo Retreat Center containing valuable materials. The boxes are temporarily stored at the Saint Michael's Community. Thank you to **Mariano Lopez** for facilitating that.



At the Beach Chalet in SF: Victor Kenneth, Adrian Watson (NZ), John Montgomery, Joe Kirk, and Joseph Fabiano



Uncle Matthew with his goddaughter, Valentina, in New Orleans



Kevin Slate thrilled to receive his Christmas gift from Kris Kringle



While in Fresno over Xmas, Halen introduced himself to his cousin's adorable baby girl



Someone thought it would be a good idea to give Jack H. a chainsaw for his birthday



Steven Torres from Christian Brothers Conference and Mariano Lopez in Santa Fe

*“Be convinced that so long as you remain bound in your heart to poverty and all that can humble you, you will do good for souls”* MTR86.3

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