

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

17 February 2026



St Mary's Community in Fenlon Hall: Chris B, Fr. Tom M, Chris D, Ken C, Richard L, Thomas J, Steven V, and Glenn B

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- The grace of a strong start of Lent;
- The Santa Fe Brothers Community and St. Michael's HS;
- The needs of our Brothers in initial formation;
- Blessings on the new lunar year;
- Safety during Mardi Gras celebrations;
- Healing for Brian Dybowski, Joseph Pham, Bernie LoCoco, Melvin Pelton, Bosco Truong, Fr. Earl Rohleder, Joe Haley (Brother of Larry Haley), the Kuffners, and Chance Crews;
- A positive response to the inner call to religious life; especially the Brothers.



At the cathedral offices with Archbishop Wester and Mike Daniels

My travels and assorted news...

Drove down to Moraga to do my visit to **Saint Mary's College Community** from Sunday to Tuesday night. Enjoyed watching the Super Bowl game with the Brothers. **Richard Lemberg** keeps busy with hosting Brothers at the camp, exercise, and hobbies. **Steven Vasoli** is quite active in the Mission and Ministry Center with students. As the Director of Formation, Steve continues to accompany our young Brothers. **Thomas Jones** is a Resident Director in the dorms, a role which provides much satisfaction. **Chris Donnelly** is managing the novitiate renovation project at MLS and helping to manage Camp Saint Joseph. He also fixes stuff the Brothers break. Chris joins the Donnelly clan for family gatherings near Mt. Shasta and in the Bay Area. Happily, **Ken Cardwell** is teaching a course in Rhetoric for third year students. **Fr. Tom McElligott** celebrates daily Mass as chaplain to the community. He also celebrates one Mass for the larger SMC school community on Sunday. In his eighties, he swims daily and continues as a Resident Director. **Chris Brady** serves as community director on top of his ministry as Auxiliary Visitor. He's putting serious miles on his car. Another Resident Director, **Glenn Bolton** works full-time as a much sought after graduate school advisor.

“Be whom God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.” Catherine of Siena

Flew to Santa Fe on Wednesday to participate in the Lasallian Catholic Assessment Process (LCAP) at Saint Michael's HS. **Charlie Legendre**, AFSC, was the chair with Ricky Dominguez (San Miguel Tucson) and me assisting. Mike Daniels came in on the last day to join the admin team with planning. St. Mike's staff had three conversations about the state of the Mission as well as surveys from students. We held three listening sessions, two with students and one with staff. There is a deep pride, a sense of community, and a desire to be their best for one another.

Director **Mariano Lopez** is often described as an “energizer bunny” because he's constantly in motion and on his way to watch another student game. Because of some staffing changes, he's picked up a second class but he's happy to help out. Proud Santa Fe native **James Brown** keeps the kitchen clean and keeps the house books. His key to aging well is three walks per day. Kind **Joe Haras** is thriving with his volunteer work three mornings-a-week at Saint Vincent's hospital. He regularly visits his older brother in Albuquerque. CNA Brenda Iturralde keeps the Brothers healthy with delicious meals, an immaculate house, and regular check ups.

Miscellaneous...



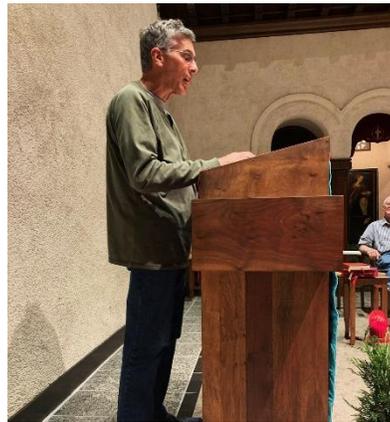
LCAP team at St. Michael's: Charlie Legendre, AFSC, Mike Daniels, and Ricky Dominguez

On Friday, Mike and I were invited to meet with **Archbishop John Wester** who sends his regards to the many Brothers he worked with when he was a young teacher at Marin Catholic and took students to the Brothers Retreat Center. The archbishop joined the local Brothers community for a casual dinner last fall. He's a much-respected pastor and champion of Catholic education.

Over the weekend, the Brothers in formation from across the region gathered in Tucson, AZ, at the Redemptorist Retreat Center. **Halen Gamino** and **Rafa Rodriguez** flew in while **Matthew Chiantella** led tours of San Miguel HS and the Old Pueblo. **Steven Vasoli** facilitated the weekend. **Mark Murphy** and **John O'Neill** attended the funeral of Sister Veronique at the Abbey of Our Lady of New Clairvaux in Vina, CA. She was the last of the founders from Belgium and a longtime good friend of John's.



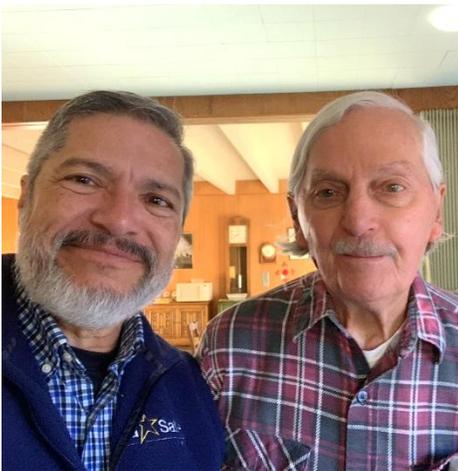
Some of the Brothers in Initial Formation toured San Xavier de Bac Mission in Tucson during this past weekend



Steven Vasoli shared his reflection on the feast of San Miguel Febres Cordero



Martin Vu helped Our Lady of La Vang parish to ring in the lunar new year



James Brown and me during my visit to our Brothers Community in Santa Fe



Joe Haras prepared a healthy breakfast at the Saint Michael's community



Bishop Tyson and the pastor encouraged La Salle HS enrollment at last weekend's cathedral Masses

“If you choose you can keep the commandments, they will save you; if you trust in God, you too shall live...” Sirach 15:15

De La Salle Institute

Mont La Salle | 4401 Redwood Road | Napa, CA 94558
Covington | 104 W. 11th Avenue | Covington, LA 70433



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