

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

18 March 2025



Brothers and former Brothers gathered at CHSLA community to commemorate the centennial of this beloved school

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- Those in mourning;
- Healing for Pope Francis, Valery An, Peter Tripp, Jerry Vincent, Victor Kenneth, John Hoover, Brian Dybowski, Liza Ribera and adolescents struggling with mental illness;
- Our young Brothers requesting renewals of vows;
- The needs of our formators;
- Blessings on the president search in Sacramento;
- Healing and justice for victims of sexual abuse and the accused;
- An increase of vocations to religious life.



Rafa Rodriguez en route to completing the Los Angeles Marathon in 4:27:43!

My travels and assorted news...

The Saint Paul's community hosted the General Councilors for breakfast last Monday morning. Both groups enjoyed the fraternal welcome and interaction. At each school in the South, we met with student groups to understand how they were absorbing the Lasallian mission, with Religion teachers to get a sense of their challenges and successes, and with school leadership to see what they need from the Institute. We started out at Saint Paul's School then traveled south to De La Salle High. On the last day, we spent the day on the two campuses of Christian Brothers School. To close the visit, the Councilors and I walked around the French Quarter, saw the mighty Mississippi, and ate more seafood! As much as I think I know, I always learn more and appreciate more deeply the great work that the Holy Spirit is inspiring in the Brothers and our Partners. The great news to hear is that hear this region is one of the bright lights of the Institute in regard to evangelization through our Religion courses. Another highlight was the integration of our Partners into our leadership structures and their ownership of the Lasallian mission. Finally, I have a newfound respect for the grueling travel schedule the Councilors follow to meet us all.

"You are as big as your dreams so dream big for yourself and for the world." Br. Carlos Gomez to students

On the way home, a visit to with the San Miguel community in Tucson provided me with some time and space for respite. I enjoyed cooking dinner for the Brothers: tacos, rice, and *calabacitas*. **Matthew Chiantella** was my sous chef and instructor. He is helping to prepare youth from the diocese for their upcoming pilgrimage to Rome during Easter Week. He will chaperone for the week-long adventure. On Friday, **Jack Henderson** joined his family for a reunion in Las Vegas. The itinerary included a magic show and catching an Eagles concert at The Sphere venue! **Javi Hanson** continues to graciously host **Noel Lal** (Myanmar) on his free days from his sabbatical program. I joined the two of them for Mass and dinner. While visiting school, I joined in praying the *Angelus* at lunch time (a Lenten practice) with students and faculty. I was also able to watch a spirited Jeopardy game in Javi's class to review notes and check understanding. **Martin Vu** stays young by staying open to possibilities. His latest adventure is using an electric scooter to commute to school. Martin fearlessly zips along the sidewalk and delivery area behind buildings. He was working on a video and photo project for the Cristo Rey Network.



Charlie Legendre, AFSC, and the Councilors met with student groups in our schools

Miscellaneous...

Jonathon Cord, John Montgomery, Edmond Larouche, Glenn Bolton, Kenneth Cardwell, as well as Rob Walley, Donald Deharnais, Fr. Xavier Lavagetto, OP, and Ron Batori gathered two weekends ago in LA to celebrate a century of Lasallian education at Cathedral High. Kudos to **Martin Vu** who was one of two volunteer full-time cooks for a recent Kairos retreat for San Miguel students.

We salute **Rafa Rodriguez** for completing the Los Angeles Marathon – his first one! His time put him in the top half of his age group. His uncle joined him in the race and they finished together. CHS community members and Rafa's family cheered him on along the route. While on sabbatical, **Charles Hilken** reports that he's been working on his own medieval scholarship (has an article headed for the *American Benedictine Review*), Cummins Institute business, and class preps for next year.



Lawrence Haley, Pamela Gleeson and Karis Stoudamire-Philips at the Trustees Gathering in Milwaukie, OR



Javi Hansen captured first place in his age group at the 5K Irish Run in El Paso



Director Martin Vu ready for his daily commute via an electric scooter



President Paul Kelly welcomed the Councilors to De La Salle in New Orleans



Chris Patiño's family hosted the Councilors and the CHS community for dinner in LA



Ricky Laguda with Richard Kovatch at a breakfast hosted by the St. Paul's community

“Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven.” LK 6:37

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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of
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