

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

06 May 2025



Painting of all the Brothers who have served at Christian Brothers School since it was founded in NO City Park in 1960

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- The conclave's discernment;
- Peace in Gaza;
- Brothers of Francophone Canada;
- In thanksgiving for our young Brothers' perseverance;
- The people of Vietnam;
- Healing for Brian Dybwoski, Brendan Madden, John Hoover, Peter Tripp, and Liza Ribera;
- Those in transition;
- Parents coping with children who have mental illness;
- Consolation for those in mourning;
- Justice and healing for victims of abuse and the accused;
- Spirit's blessings on our vocation efforts.



Matthew Chiantella pronounced annual vows before the student body at SMHS

My travels and assorted news...

This is the season of meetings; all important. Chaired the LEC monthly meeting which approved school budgets and examined formation plans for school communities. The Investment Committee had our quarterly meeting. We're happy to report solid returns despite the volatility of the market. Our strategy of diversification and selecting undervalued stocks continues to pay off over time.

Traveled to Tucson for the renewal of **Matthew Chiantella's** annual vows during San Miguel's Founder's Day School Mass. We thank Matthew's community for being a fraternal support, accompanying him, and being good examples for him. Listening to the staggering list of end-of-the-year activities reminded me how hard our Brothers in schools work. In just the three days that I was present, there were class level assemblies, Decision Day, Mass, and a senior dinner! The community managed to squeeze in a dinner out with me at a new nearby Vietnamese restaurant.

April 30th marked the 50th anniversary of the fall of Saigon. Over the

"Simon Peter answered, 'Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.'" JN 21:16

following years, Brothers and Sisters found their way to Louisiana and San Jose. Their contribution to maintaining the Vietnamese culture and Catholic faith for the youth in those communities has been significant and we honor their profound faith and sacrifice. Their financial support of Lasallian works in Vietnam and Cambodia has made new ministries possible. Please join me in thanking God for their presence and inspiration.

This weekend the remaining Brothers of Francophone Canada gather to dissolve the District and take first steps to become part of DENA as the Quebec Sector. Visitor Bobby Schaefer quoted from a history of the Brothers in the region: *"It would be impossible to give in detail the story of the 280 Brothers who made their novitiate in Montreal and ended their days in the schools of the United States. ...no matter what position these faithful French-Canadian Brothers held, humble or exalted, they all radiated a spirit of Faith and Zeal and kept alive and transmitted to others the heritage received from their Founder."* Armin Luistro reminded the region that Canada was the mother of the Lasallian presence in our region.



Mullen HS Trustee Chris Donnelly with Maria Ribera at meeting for Mission Advocates

Miscellaneous...

Kudos to **Jack Henderson** for being named Coach of the Year in the Racing the Sun competition which teaches high school students about engineering as they design solar cars for a race. Proud alumnus **Richard Orona** sent along this link (https://youtu.be/_1enqmHgQSA) to a news story run by a local LA station highlighting Cathedral HS's unique mascot, The Phantom.

A painting of the Brothers who served at CBS City Park was done by a talented faculty member who wanted to honor their unique contribution to generations of middle school boys. Thank you to the Tucson community for hosting **Noel Laal** during his sabbatical. He was able to join the community for meals and **Javi Hansen** served as his regular tour guide. After a brief visit with family in the US, Noel will work in Philippines as part of the novitiate staff in Lipa.



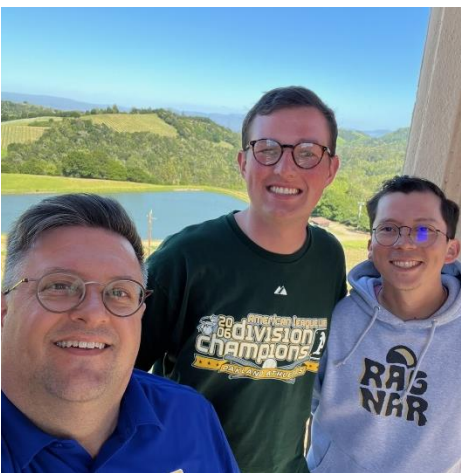
Steven, Javi, Jack, Matthew, Martin, and me at Matthew's annual vow renewal at San Miguel HS in Tucson



Brian Dybowski and Peter deGroot hiking up the hills of Mont La Salle



Richard Orona hanging out in Panama with player on Barbados basketball team



David Caretti, contact Tim Phelps, and Rafa Rodriguez during Holy Week Retreat



Javi Hansen with student who was wrapping up a video on sacraments for class



Richard Lemberg, Thomas Jones, and Glenn Bolton celebrated the 2025 SMC Convocation

"[The apostles] left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing that they had been found worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the Name." Acts 5:40-41

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