

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

17 June 2025



Roch Dufresne served as tour guide to Wendy Ruiz's family; it's their first time in Rome; Wendy is Asst. Principal at CHSLA

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- Grace to live out our consecration with joy;
- In thanksgiving for our fathers;
- Our school administrators;
- The needs of our healthcare staff;
- Those in mourning;
- Healing for Joseph Pham, Pete Dudenheffer, Bosco Truong, Brian Dybowski, Bernie LoCoco, Al LeBlanc, Peter Tripp, and Andy Kuffner's father;
- Young men discerning the Brothers' vocation;
- Needs of our young Brothers as they study this summer;
- A just and healing settlement to our abuse cases.



Chris Brady, with the Manhattan skyline behind him, explored NYC last week

My travels and assorted news...

The exceptional commitment of our healthcare staff has been evident to me in watching Nurse Mary Kelly's steady accompaniment of **Joseph Pham**. Even before his return from Bethlehem, she was researching treatments and available programs. We're blessed that nearby UCSF is a national leader in neurology. After sitting with him in Emergency until he got admitted, Nurse Mary drove down to the city every day for a week to be with Joseph to ask and answer questions. She also kept me informed so that the best decisions could be made. Everyone at HFC, staff and Brothers, have been solicitous, supportive and caring. The same is true in Covington. We are certainly blessed!

I want to give a shout out to our District Election Committee: Chair **Tom Westberg**, **Lawrence Haley**, **Emmet Sinitiere**, and **John O'Neil**. They've been meticulous in their preparation for the first round of balloting for the upcoming District Chapter. My thanks, as well, to **Chris Brady** for educating me about the chapter process, reminding me about next steps, and helping me work through suggestions and possible structures for a chapter that would identify and address our needs in the next five to ten years.

"You cannot tell where the wind is coming from or where it is going; so it is with all born of the Spirit." JN 3:8

Chris Donnelly returned to the Bay Area after 11-days up at Huntington Lake where **Jack Henderson** and he trained a cadre of impressive volunteers for the local fire department. They got some real-world experience when they responded to a real fire and a medical emergency during the training. **Jack** is spending time with his mother in Concord and sister in Las Vegas. She sells merchandise for the Grateful Dead. Naturally, Jack, a Dead Head, took in a concert. **Javi Hanson's** mother arrived in Tucson to enjoy some time off and to assist her son with the move north to Yakima in early July. His parents are pleased that he'll now be closer to home.

Met with the Lasallians Without Borders (LWOB) committee to discuss their important work in helping to keep the peripheries as a priority for our districts and the region. On Saturday night, **Mark Murphy**, **George Van Grieken**, **Donald Johanson**, and I attended the wedding reception of Joe and Heba Alexander-Short at Mont La Salle. Joe was the district videographer for some time. It was an opportunity for the two families, their friends, and their parents' friends to get together to celebrate love. They will have another reception in the Chicago area in September.



Volunteer firemen trainees practiced rescues on training instructor Jack Henderson

Miscellaneous...

Chris Brady and I traveled to beautiful Quebec City for the RCCB meeting. **Chris Patiño** joined us via zoom. We discussed the Cluster Meeting this December in Rome to follow up on the 7 Pathways from the General Chapter, an upcoming regional gathering from those under 60, and how to most effectively use our time together to address urgent issues facing our respective districts and the region. This is the first time I've been here when it was warm. The streets are full of tourists and chatty middle school students on school trips. What shocked me was the sunrise around 4:30 AM and sunset around 8:30 PM.

Fred Van Haaften has returned to HFC after time with his daughter. His son, Wayne, and daughter-in-law traveled with him for their inaugural trip to the Napa area. Wayne has lived in Michigan since he graduated from college and went to work for Ford.



Joseph Pham, Lawrence Haley, and me at UC San Francisco Hospital; went to visit and Fortunat Phong came by as well



Javi Hanson's mother is visiting Tucson and will help him move to Yakima



Tom Westberg and Patrick Moore prowled the arcade at Saint Mary's College



Warren Stewart and Charles Miller enjoyed a summer BBQ at Mont La Salle



Tony Lenz and his sister en route to Alaska on a cruise; he reports that it's cold



Trainees enjoyed practicing immobilizing and transporting "injured" Chris Donnelly

"Like a mighty wind that overtakes us, like a crash that startles us, like a fire that illuminates us, the gift of the Holy Spirit descends upon us." Pope Leo XIV

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