

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

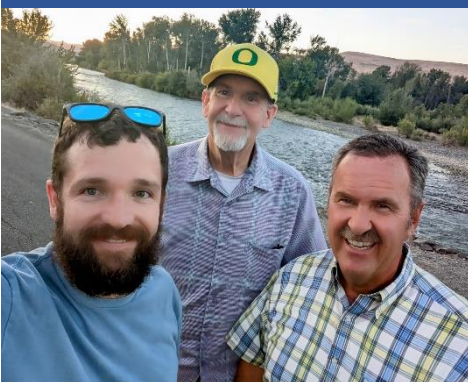
15 July 2025



While traveling east, George Van Grieken and Robert Wickman (DENA) visited the Theological Union gardens in New York City

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- Blessing on the Young Lasallian Assembly;
- The Yakima community as they begin together;
- The eternal rest of Michael O'Hern (MW) and the consolation of his community;
- Healing for Bernie LoCoco, Brian Dybowski, Joseph Pham, Bosco Truong, Peter Dudenheffer, Brendan Madden, Sister Dorothy, Wlter Durham, the fathers of Tom Southard and Andy Kuffner;
- Vocations to religious life;
- The needs of our young Brothers, Contacts, and Vocation Team.



The new community finally assembled in Yakima for a Mexican dinner out

My travels and assorted news...

I begin with a retraction. Last week's photo of the Buttimer group did not include the largest group: Saint Paul's. I received many spirited and threatening emails in response to my omission. Thank you to this school's impressive commitment to staff formation. See the impressive photo on the second page.

We continue to explore potential renovations to upgrade space at MLS for conferences and other events. We met with an architectural team to discuss a consistent style for renovations. The team was very excited by the ideas generated thus far. A shout out to **Chris Donnelly** for overseeing the upgrades on three bathrooms in HFC so that they'll be ADA compliant. There are also some renovations to make the bedrooms wheelchair-friendly. This increases the number of rooms ready for future use by Brothers.

This past week, the MLS community hosted Lawrence Kong-Ellison, a Religion teacher from De La Salle North Catholic who was here on a personal retreat and to do some research on the Brothers. Lawrence has previously worked extensively with the Daughters of Charity. **Mark Murphy**, on the DLSNC board, helped to set it up and accompanied him.

“Do not be afraid! Accept the invitation of the Church and of Christ the Lord!” Pope Leo XIV

Every two months, DLSI hosts a Birthday Breakfast. Last week we celebrated our staff members with June and July birthdays. Fresh produce from our garden was prominently featured in the much-anticipated feast. Most of the staff happily shows up for this culinary treat. It's a wonderful way to build community since we're rarely gathered together. We're so grateful to Chef Ismael and his staff for another amazing meal!

Lasallian Youth Assembly opened on Sunday night at Santa Clara University with over 200 students and moderators representing 14 of our high school ministries. **Ken Boesch** and I drove out to be present on Monday morning. **Chris Patiño** delivered a stirring opening keynote address which challenged the assembly to seek and possess the hope which never disappoints; one rooted in the gospel as expressed by the Lasallian core principles. We visited with **Halen Gamino** who is the moderator for Lasallian Youth at Cathedral HS LA. The Saint Paul's contingent were overjoyed to see their beloved Brother Ken in the flesh. I give thanks for the many faithful moderators and collegians who make this annual formation event possible. Special shout out to Katie Batt, Kenenna Amuzie, and Yolanda Franco!



Summer-clad Chris Brady served dessert to Thomas Jones and Michael Avila at a BBQ

Miscellaneous...

Joe Kirk just returned from his summer adventures in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he caught some major league baseball action and toured interesting historical sites. James, younger brother of **Joseph Pham**, and his wife made a brief visit to HFC. They expressed gratitude for the wrap-around medical care and support that Joseph is receiving. The family lives in Orange County.

David Galinski (MW) will make his annual summer pilgrimage to cool San Francisco. He fearlessly explores the city via public transportation. Sadly, received word that **Michael O'Hern** (MW) passed away after a lengthy illness. Michael was a SMC board member valued for his financial acumen and sage counsel. **Matthew Chiantella** spent three days in San Diego for a Cristo Rey Network leadership seminar. **Rafa Rodriguez** (en route to Boston College via Providence) and **George Van Grieken** (en route home after Buttimer) attended the DENA District Gathering on Saturday.



Here are the Saint Paul's School's record six representatives attending the Buttimer Institute this summer



Javi Hansen with his nephew paddle boating at Echo Lake near Dunsmuir



Jim Riordan listened to Dr. Dermody's presentation in the Holy Family Chapel



Joseph Pham showed Lawrence Haley his new voice app on his iPad as an aid



Rich Galvin (DENA) thanked Andy Kuffner for buying a round of drinks at Buttimer



Chris, Ken, and Halen catch up during a break at the Young Lasallian Assembly

"[God's law] is something very near to you, already in your mouths and in your hearts; you have only to carry it out." DT 30:13-14

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