

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

04 August 2026



Rafa with his nuclear family: Parents Jose and Sylvia with sisters Sammantha and Mia

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- Grace and zeal for school staff as they prepare for the new year;
- Suffering immigrant populations in our cities;
- Safety in summer travel;
- Healing for Joseph Pham, Bernie LoCoco, Brian Dybwoski, Melvin Pelton, Peter Tripp, and those struggling with addiction;
- Those in hospice care and their caregivers;
- Healing and justice for victims of sexual abuse;
- More young people to be open to the call to consecrated life;
- Consolation of those in mourning.



Halen and Matthew served as candle bearers and Eucharistic ministers

My travels and assorted news...

This past weekend was a joyous one! Family, friends, partners, and Brothers assembled on Saturday to celebrated **Rafa Rodriguez'** final vows. Members of Rafa's family traveled from Los Angeles, Aguascalientes, Tucson, and Austin. Novitiate classmate **JD Macioce** (DENA) and novice master **Tom Johnson** (MW) were in attendance. **James Joost**, Vocation Director when Rafa entered, and **Alphonse LeBlanc**, who lived with Rafa in El Paso, travelled from Covington. There was spirited representation from Rafa's *alma mater* and last assignment, CHSLA. Good friend Father Ryan Resurrección, O. Carm., was the celebrant. Father Miguel Briseño, Rafa's spiritual director, was concelebrant. **David Caretti** organized the liturgy and served as Rafa's vow sponsor. Kudos to the talented **Martin Vu** for the wonderful images he shared with us. Thank you to **Ken Boesch** for his music ministry. That evening, Rafa's parents hosted a *carne asada* in the picnic grove for the family. The weekend was a joyous opportunity for all the components of Rafa's life to come together to celebrate his commitment.

On Sunday, I joined the Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep community in San

"All you who are thirsty, come to the water! You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat." IS 55:1

Francisco to formally welcome Timothy Phelps into the postulancy. He will wear a black shirt with Brothers collar and be referred to as Brother. Initial formation director **Steven Vasoli** created a simple prayer service of welcome and presented Timothy with an icon of the Founder. **David Caretti**, who accompanied Timothy on the transition from contact to postulant, was also in attendance. After the ceremony, the community went to delectable lunch at the Beach Chalet overlooking the stunning Pacific.

Timothy showed me his room which is colorfully decorated with pennants from the various golf courses on which he's played with the SMC Golf Team and his family. His other passion – reading – is clearly displayed by the bookshelf bulging with thick volumes. Rahner is among his favorite authors. Halen and he share a love of reading. Halen returned to Los Angeles recently just to pick up the boxes of his beloved books. Timothy gratefully received a package of five tailored black shirts from the Philippines. He reports that they fit perfectly and feel great. Please continue to keep our young Brothers in your daily prayers.



Rafael Sebastian professes his final vows during Mass in MLS Chapel

Miscellaneous...

San Miguel HS in Tucson recently highlighted alumnus Emilio Cazares Borbon (SM'22) who just graduated from Georgetown where he majored in computer science and neurobiology. He credited **Jack Henderson** and his Physics teacher for giving him a passion for science.

Thank you to Lasallian Youth Assembly students who did service work at MLS by repainting the names and dates on the grave markers at our cemetery.

They toured the property and **Ken Boesch** gave an impromptu recital.

Janell Kloosterman, AFSC, Andy Kuffner, and **David Caretti** met in Covington to outline a formation for new school administrators who lack previous Lasallian formation. School boards are often looking for a specific skill set in new administrators. In recent years, some presidents do not come from the Lasallian world. We're addressing the need to offer specific formation effectively and efficiently, plus to hold them accountable for completing it.



Mariano, Javi, Alphonse, and me all lived with Rafa during his postulancy at Cathedral HS in El Paso



Bill Ray's sister, Dana, traveled from TX to visit him in Covington



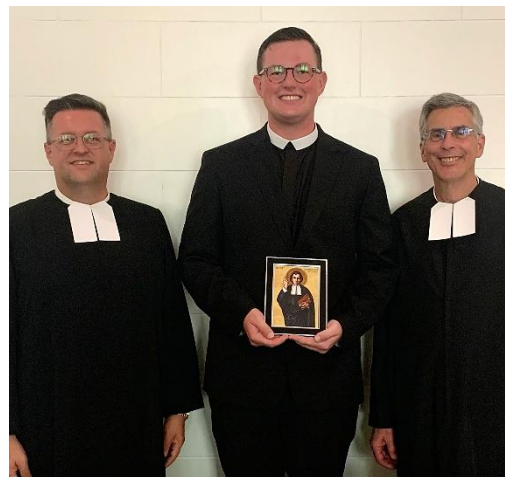
CHSLA principal Art Lopez with Dan Fenton and Director Roch Dufresne



Joe Dickens welcomed David Caretti, Andy Kuffner, and Janell Kloosterman, AFSC, to SPS



LYA students repainting names on tombstones at MLS Brothers cemetery



David Caretti and Steven Vasoli with postulant Timothy Phelps at a welcome ceremony at SHCP

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up" (Galatians 6:9).

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