

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

19 August 2025



SMC Community CAP: Chris, Thomas, Glenn, Richard, Kenneth, Steven, and Chris (Fr. Tom McElligott missing)

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- Blessings on schools communities in this new academic year;
- In thanksgiving for our benefactors;
- For children trapped in war;
- Healing for Richard Moratto, Bernie LoCoco, Bosco Truong, Brian Dybowski, Fred Van Haaften, Bill Hughes, and family members of our partners;
- The consolation of Brendan Madden's family, friends, and community;
- Those in transition and discernment;
- Justice and healing in our abuse cases;
- The Spirit's blessings on the efforts by our Vocation team.



Brothers were officially welcomed to the Yakima Diocese by Bishop Tyson

My travels and assorted news...

Traveled to Cathedral HS in Los Angeles last week to shoot a video for the El Paso Diocese Catholic Foundation annual gala. They have awarded the Brothers the *Dei Gratia* Award in recognition for service to the youth of the diocese. We had a Brothers' community in El Paso for 98 years! Longtime director **Mariano Lopez** will accept the award on our behalf.

At Saint Paul's Cathedral in Yakima last Friday night, Bishop Joseph Tyson publicly and warmly welcomed the Brothers community to the diocese. He noted that we are the only consecrated religious in the diocese and shared his joy at our presence. Bishop hosted a *fiesta* after Mass; complete with *piñatas*, cake, and loud music!

That same night, the **MLS community** hosted Justin-Siena's president Matt Powell, principal Joe Welling, and their wives for prayer, social, and dinner. Matt is an incredible Lasallian partner, having served at all three district Cristo Rey schools and LCBF before landing here. Joe worked in a Jesuit school before discovering our charism at Mullen High in Denver.

"Stir up your trust in the infinite goodness of God... be concerned only about the moment you must now live." De La Salle

On Saturday, the Brothers, family, and friends celebrated **Ricardo Palacio's** life with a Mass, his internment, and a cheery reception. His family came from Santa Barbara and Monterey. Faculty from LA, Fresno, and Napa were present. A van of CHSLA faculty and Brothers drove up for the event. Dora Macias, longtime housekeeper/cook, also joined them. Many DLSI staff were also present to pay their respects to one of their favorite Brothers. Everyone exchanged funny stories about Ricardo's spontaneity, thoughtfulness, and passion. He will be missed.

On Monday, the MLS community was joined by three couples from Saint Paul's in Covington. **Charlie and Jane Legendre**, **Rick and Marlene Mauldin**, and **Phil and Kathy Williams**. Rick was affiliated at the same time as Charlie. Among his many roles at SPS, Rick, Marlene, and their young children lived in the dorms as prefects for several years! Phil was a longtime Religion teacher and basketball coach for the Wolves. The three couples are finally all retired and have been planning this trip west together for years. They visited many wineries and had a daytrip to San Francisco.



John O'Neil and Kenneth Cardwell caught up on news with each other

Miscellaneous...

Kudos to **Roch Dufresne** who *finally* and officially became a US citizen in a ceremony on Monday in Los Angeles. Naturally, he remains a proud Canadian citizen (Québécois) as well.

George Van Grieken and **Bob Wickman** returned from a trip to Lake Tahoe with **Gery** and **Rosanne Short**. They stayed in the cabin of one of Bob's former students. On their return, they stopped to get a construction tour with **Janet Ruggerio, AFSC**, of Holy Rosary parish. She's been a leader in the planning and fundraising for the new church.

Despite the mild summer, the grapes on our hillside have gone from light green to a deep purple hue right on schedule. **Peter deGroot**, assisted by **Brian Dybowski**, just brought in his harvest of corn. He has been steadily supplying our kitchen with fresh potatoes for our meals. Peter has also helped to bring in the **Ricardo Palacio's** abundant tomato crop.



Bob Wickman and GVG joined Janet Ruggerio, AFSC, for a tour of Holy Rosary Church construction in Sacramento



The Giglio family (Ricardo's former student) brought up the gifts



Dominican Xavier Lavagetto and Glenn Bolton at MLS cemetery



We invited guests at Ricardo's funeral to take home some of his garden's bounty



Bernie LoCoco has begun treatment for his prostate cancer and asks for our prayers



Joseph's sister, Victoria, brother-in-law, Brian, and niece, Jessica, visited from Orange County

“Let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus” HB 12:1-2

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