

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

26 August 2025



Ken Boesch explored Yountville with three retired Saint Paul's couples: the Legendres, Mauldins, and Williams (2 are AFSC)

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- New teachers, staff, and students ;
- The needs of our affiliated members;
- Parents of children struggling with mental illness;
- Healing for Carole Swain, Bernie LoCoco, Richard Moratto, Bosco Truong, Brian Dybowski, Joseph Pham, and family members of our partners;
- Consolation of the mourning;
- Healing and justice for those abused by Brothers;
- The needs of our Contacts and young Brothers;
- The Holy Spirit to magnify the efforts of our Vocation team.



Patrick, David, Tom, and Michael before the Holy Spirit Mass at DLS Concord

My travels and assorted news...

Last Tuesday, we celebrated **Brendan Madden's** life with a Funeral Mass, interment, and reception. Father Kwami, SMC chaplain, was the celebrant with Father Aiden, pastor of Saint Columba Parish, concelebrating. The congregation was about one-third Brothers and SMC staff, one-third Madden family (Brendan's sister is the only remaining of six siblings), and one-third volunteers from Saint Columba, where Sister Dorothy and Brendan volunteered for years. The gathering was a unique opportunity to discover and appreciate the many facets to Brendan's life: uncle, teacher, seminar professor, counselor, bridge builder with the Philippines, volunteer, and good friend.

On Wednesday, Brothers from Alemany (**Michael Meister** and **Patrick Moore**), SMC (**Chris Brady**), and MLS (**David Sinitiere**, **Thomas Westberg**, and me) communities attended the Holy Spirit Mass at DLS HS in Concord. Over 1000 young men were reverent and attentive during Mass with many student leaders participating to ensure that it flowed well. It was a joy to be back in a school again!

"Show the great love you have for Jesus by being eager to talk with him in prayer." MED 144.3

Brothers from the **Holy Family Community** enjoyed a cool outing last week organized by Scott Smetzer. They took the ferry from Vallejo to the San Francisco wharf where they had lunch *al fresco*. **Laurence Konersmann**, **Art Carroll**, **Bill Hughes**, **Fred Van Haaften**, **Brian Dybowski**, **Melvin Pelton**, and **Peter deGroot** returned home tired but happy for the experience. The **Mont La Salle Community** hosted two delightful Lasallian power couples: Nolan and Mary Lambert plus Keith and Valerie Amato. Nolan has been an exceptional leader on the CBS board (his daughter now serves on it) and is now part of the DLS HS board. Keith has served on the CBS Foundation board and is in town to train to be on the CBS Board. Their wives are effective fundraisers and event planners to support the mission.

On Saturday, **Chris Patiño** and I were invited by the **SMCHS Community** to begin a conversation about how to possibly attract Brothers from outside of the District to join their community. **Jonathan Cord**, **Edmond Larouche**, **Mark Murphy**, and **Antony Doss** shared their questions, thoughts, and hopes. I appreciate the initiative and commitment of their community.



Part of the congregation in prayer during a burial at Mont La Salle's cemetery

Miscellaneous...

Carole Swain, AFSC, underwent open heart surgery on Monday. She asked for our prayers for a complete recovery. Kudos to **Chris Patiño** on coauthoring Lasallian Reflection 11: *All is Connected: The Community of Creation and Universal Fraternity*. At San Miguel, **Matthew Chiantella** had to get business cards to note his new title: Assistant Principal for Student Life. I'm guessing there's more work involved... **Antony Doss** is working on a video project to explain how fundraising is at the heart of being Lasallian. It's a requirement for his MA from Saint Mary's University in Winona.

A record twenty-nine partners are participating in the new trustee training at MLS. God be praised for always inspiring another generation to join in ensuring the Lasallian mission continues! Four Office of Ed staff are facilitating the multi-day training.



The Alemany Community with Father Kwami gathered together at Brendan Madden's interment



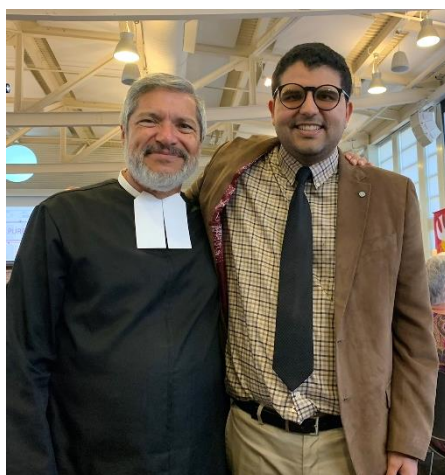
Kudos to Roch Dufresne on becoming a US citizen last week



Peter deGroot proudly harvested his crop of corn from the MLS garden



Andy Isetta, Carlos Ruiz + Manuel Valdivia carried Ricardo's urn up the hill



Lasallian Jacinto Obregon teaches at DLS Concord: grad of CHSEP and SMC (BS + MS)



Charles Miller and Rosa Rojas Torres with SF's Ferry Building and Coit Tower behind them

"I waited, I waited for the LORD, and the LORD stooped down to me; the LORD heard my cry." PS 40:2

De La Salle Institute

Mont La Salle | 4401 Redwood Road | Napa, CA 94558
Covington | 104 W. 11th Avenue | Covington, LA 70433



LASALLIAN DISTRICT
of
SAN FRANCISCO
NEW ORLEANS