

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

21 October 2025



Matthew Chiantella going over the agenda of student activities with the San Miguel Student Council

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- Blessings on our Directors;
- The young to hear the call to religious life;
- A swift and fair settlement for our legal cases;
- Consolation for those in mourning;
- The needs of our DEIB Practitioners;
- Blessings on the Campus Life Personnel gathering at the Russian River;
- Healing for Bernie LoCoco, Brian Dybowski, James Riordan, Bosco Truong, Richard Orona, Chance Crews, Patricia Vega, and Russ Rucetti;
- The needs of our young Brothers and Contacts.

My travels and assorted news...

I was blessed to be in rainy Tucson from Sunday through Wednesday morning for my visit. Community landscaper and director **Martin Vu** teaches a senior elective, provides photography for all school events, and assists in any way possible. On Tuesday, he set up the sound board for the dress rehearsal for the upcoming Heritage Festival. Most students are involved with this major event. They select music and choreograph the dances. **Jack "Loving Life" Henderson** teaches sophomore Biology, cares for the zoo in the classroom, and moderates clubs: Robotics, Race the Sun, and Rocketry. **Matthew Chiantella**, Assistant Principal for Student Life, is witnessing the culture shift in student activities from moderator-dependent to student-led. When not working with students and faculty, Matthew decompresses by gardening. The back yard has become a paradise for local wildlife. I enjoyed watching Sonoran bats come to drain the hummingbird feeders! Guardian Angel Jim Click donated the funds for a major renovation to the school's Central Plaza. Four ramadas have gone up along with native landscaping. On Thursday, **Jonathan Cord**, **Thomas Westberg**, **George Van Grieken**, and I traveled to Sacramento to visit and participate in Christian Brothers HS all-

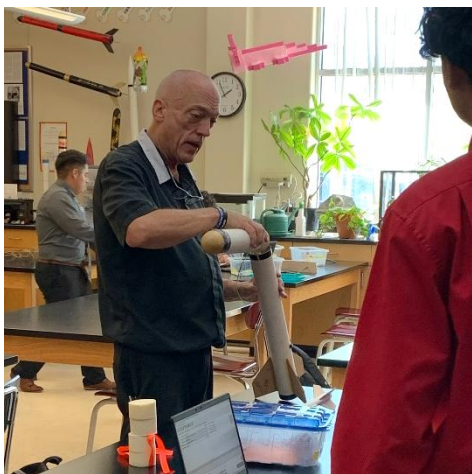
"Preach the word, be urgent, convince, rebuke, and exhort, be unfailing in patience and in teaching." 2TM4:2

school prayer service. Jonathan is a proud alumnus from the Class of 1960. Tom and George both taught there for a decade or more. In fact, Tom was chairman of the 100th anniversary celebrations. We visited classes and answered student questions. The prayer service was completely led and organized by students. The student body was reverent and participated well. Student leaders joined us for breakfast and lunch. They are confident and articulate servant leaders! The Lasallian spirit is alive at CBHS! On Friday, I was invited to address the gathering of campus DEIB Practitioners at MLS. I underscored the importance of their role and acknowledged the challenge of trying to shift a campus consciousness and culture. I'm so grateful for their zeal!

The **Directors Association** met at SMC on Saturday. Kudos to **Lawrence Haley** for a well-run meeting. There were some frank discussions about the challenges and blessings of our communities. **David Caretti** facilitated a synodal discussion about the District's direction. He also updated us on the upcoming District Chapter. **George Van Grieken** and **Roch Dufresne** will now take on the role of chair and co-chair. I presented District updates.



Tom Westberg was interviewed by a CBHS student film crew for Falcon TV



Jack Henderson worked with students on the design and build of their rockets

Miscellaneous...

Dat Hoang sends greetings from Nakhon Sawan in Thailand where they've just completed the first academic term. Dat is teaching grades 10 and 12 while serving as an advisor for the Intensive English section. *"With the extra time I have available, I've decided to work with primary school children in grades 1, 2, and 3, helping them develop their English reading and speaking skills through brief 10-15 minutes daily sessions."* He sends his regards to the Brothers of the District.

James Riordan was hospitalized and had a medical device implanted to deal with a coronary issue. He's home and recovering happily, thank God! **David Sinitiere** returned from a week of exploring California's Redwoods. He enjoyed his adventures. Thank you to **Dan Fenton** who just completed a (very) long-term science substitution for a teach out on maternity leave at CHSLA. His students appreciated his diligent preparation.



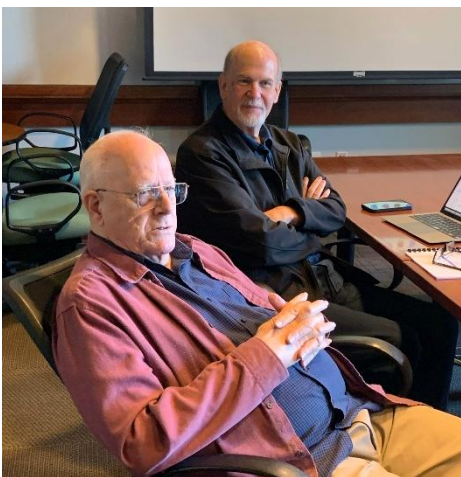
Giuseppe Fabiano (3rd from L) and the Cugini Club at the Italian Heritage Parade in the North Beach neighborhood



Mariano Lopez enjoyed being with the other eleven directors at SMC



Martin Vu preparing the sound board for the dress rehearsal of Heritage Fest



Jonathan Cord and Dan Morgan at the Directors Association meeting



Just in time for District competition, Javi doubled the size of the Cross Country team!



GVG speaking with students at Christian Brothers High School in Sacramento

"Contact with those who are lowly and powerless is a fundamental way of encountering the Lord of history. In the poor, he continues to speak to us." Dilexi Te 5

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