

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

04 November 2025



Patrick, John, Michael A, Michael M, David Caretti, and Bernie gathered for a photo in the Alemany Community living room

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- Peace in our hearts and in the world;
- Those impacted by the government shutdown;
- In thanksgiving for our benefactors;
- In gratitude for the saints in our lives;
- Repose of the soul of James Avila and the consolation of his family;
- Blessing on our Religion teachers;
- Healing for Bernie LoCoco, Brian Dybowski, Joseph Pham, Chance Crews, Patricia Vega, and Russ Rucetti;
- Those in transition and discernment;
- The needs of our young Brothers.



At the recent DLSNC major fundraising dinner: Javi, John, Dan, and me

My travels and assorted news...

Visited our newest community in Yakima. It's a charming home in a beautiful tree-lined neighborhood with a large park three blocks away. When possible, **John Montgomery** dedicates his Saturdays to yard work. He's been working hard on understanding the fiscal situation at La Salle and has successfully solicited gifts from donors to get the school through this year. **Dan Morgan** has been striving overtime to bring order and accuracy to the school's donor database. He's also managing the school's platform and connecting with alumni. Coach **Javi Hansen** wrapped up his Cross Country season and was pleased by the students' commitment. He teaches Religion to all the freshmen and assists with Admissions. The community is a regular presence at local parishes for daily and Sunday Mass. All are focused on raising confidence in La Salle so that admissions improve. One Brother noted how happy he is to be in "an intentional community." All three are here to serve and to help create a culture of success.

The Visitors are supportive of ideas to assist the school negatively impacted by the Christian Brothers Services Retirement being underfunded. I am grateful to our district team who have been relentless in pursuing steps to

"How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?" 1JN 3:17

concretely assist our school leaders and boards.

Made my visit to the Alemany Community at SMC. Director **Michael Meister** is an energetic, positive, and thoughtful leader. His website on Dante's work has over 120,000 followers! **Bernie LoCoco** wrapped up radiation treatments for his cancer and has begun a round of hormone treatments. He's in good spirits but the treatments take their toll on him physically. Bernie thanks you for your continued prayers. Resident raconteur **Patrick Moore** reads and studies every day. He's helping the committee planning to celebrate the campus' centenary in Moraga. Guest master **John Hoover** teaches Religion to very energetic freshmen at De La Salle Concord. He's also tasked with creating seasonal environment in the community spaces. **Michael Avila** enjoys gardening in the community and in his family home in San Francisco. He keeps an eye of some elderly neighbors. **David Caretti** balances the numerous demands of vocation ministry, SMC board work, and preparing for the upcoming District Chapter. This community lost two members over the summer but are adjusting well to the new reality. They are welcoming, curious, engaging, and prayerful.



Fr. Kwame giving the Anointing of the Sick to the Alemany Community during Mass

Miscellaneous...

The juniorate alumni group, *Les Amis Freres*, met for their annual picnic at MLS on Saturday. **Mark Murphy** and **Martin DeMartini** spent part of the afternoon with them. I dropped by to thank them for their ongoing support of the Brothers and the Mission.

John Hoover reports that DLS Concorn freshman Chance Crews is recovering at an amazing pace after his serious accident. He's due to go home soon for outpatient therapy. Thanks be to God!

Chris Donnelly made a presentation to the MLS and Holy Family communities to provide an overview of the Novitiate renovation project which has begun. The old upstairs novitiate bedroom wing, the old archives wing, and the novitiate dining room wing downstairs will become conference center spaces. The project will also involve some landscaping on the novitiate lawn and additional parking in the back of the property.



Chilly Fall has arrived in Napa so water aerobics class is over for the season; I think the class was trying to spell YMCA?



Chris Donnelly outlining the old novitiate renovations to MLS cmty



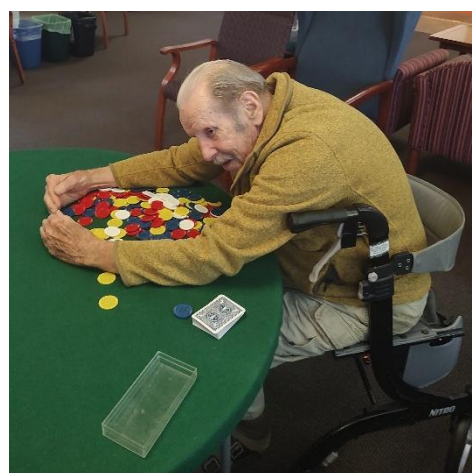
Jack Henderson and Martin Vu invited me to a seafood buffet at a local casino



Chance Crew and parents send the Brothers thanks for your prayers; keep them coming!



Mark Murphy and Head Gardener Andy Isetta chatted at a recent reception



John O'Neill raked it in during a recent card game at the Holy Family Community

"It is evident that all of us must let ourselves be evangelized by the poor and acknowledge the mysterious wisdom which God wishes to share through them." Dilixi Te 102

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