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**Pastoral Visit to the Philippines (Part 1).** Our second pastoral visit after Thailand was to the Lasallian Family in the Philippines from 16 – 27 June 2011.

**Opening of Centenary Celebrations.** June 16 in 1911 marked the first day of classes in La Salle College Manila and so this was the designated date for the beginning of the centennial celebrations in the Philippines. The high mass was at the Most Blessed Sacrament Chapel of De La Salle University presided over by Cardinal Gaudencio Rosales and concelebrated by around 20 priests who had some affiliation with La Salle. Homilist was Bishop Chito Tagle. It began with the enshrinement of the relics of the Founder. After mass President Benigno C. Aquino III graced the occasion and gave his remarks to a packed crowd of Filipino Lasallians. Aside from De La Salle University, 16 other La Salle schools in the Philippines had their own opening rites. Check out YouTube videos

**Community Visits.** After the opening of the Centennial year, Br. Thomas and I took the opportunity to do our pastoral visit to some of the communities in the Luzon area. First was De La Salle University Brothers' Community from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> of June. There are nine Brothers in the community but only three work at De La Salle University. Br. Jun Erguiza is President but tries to divide his time with two other institutions, De La Salle Araneta University (DLSAU) and De La Salle Canlubang; Br. Bernie Oca is the University's Vice Chancellor for Mission and is very much involved in the school's sports development program; Br. Mike Broughton is the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Mission. Current Secretary of Education Armin Luistro resides in the community but travels to the Dept of Education daily; Roly Dizon continues to be involved with various socio – civic groups; Joe Scheiter handles classes for students of DLSU and Phil Normal University; Cris Moreno and Gene Tianco helps out at DLSAU and Rey Mejias continues his excellent vocation promotion program for the sector of the Philippines while based in the community. Director is Benildo Feliciano.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> we traveled to De La Salle Lipa (DLSL) in Batangas City, about 80 kms south of Manila. DLSL has five Brothers all working in the school. Br. Kenneth Martinez is President and is ably assisted by Br. Bong Servando as Vice Chancellor for Administration. Br. Ruben Caluyong ensures the spiritual well being of the school while the lone young Brother, Aikee Esmeli teaches full time in the high school. Br. Carl Clayton from District of Eastern North America (DNA) has volunteered to help out in the animation of the school through campus ministry work. (to be continued)

Fraternally,

**Br. Edmundo L. Fernandez FSC**  
(In Hong Kong)