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International Young Brothers Assembly. The International Young Brothers Assembly ended on August 7 after 10 days of prayer, input, reflection and discussions on matters currently facing the Young Brothers of the Institute. I wish to thank the staff of the Central House of the sector of the Philippines for leaving no stone unturned in ensuring the success of the gathering and to the hosts of the assembly, Br. Augustine Boquer, Mr. Ritche Bongcaron and the entire staff of De La Salle University - Dasmariñas and DLS Health Sciences Institute and Medical Center. I wish to thank LEAD Delegates Br. Domingo Villamil (Japan) and Br. Noel Hrang Lal (Myanmar) for their participation. Br. Sockie De La Rosa (Philippines) was also a delegate but had to be hospitalized on the second day due to a case of measles.

My warmest congratulations to Br. Richie Yap, our LEAD Administrator and a member of the IYBA Preparatory Commission, for the success of the assembly.

I am attaching the “Message of the Young Brothers.” All other documents, photos, updates, and videos can be accessed through their website: <http://iyba.lasalle.org> and a special page in the DLSU - D website: <http://www.dlsud.edu.ph/mco/iyba2013.html>

New Residencia De La Salle. “In the Philippines, to have a special occasion graced by rain is considered a blessing. July 29 was a day filled with blessings for the Sector of the Philippines.

“July 29 was the blessing of the New Residencia De La Salle, a residential health care facility for Brothers who are in a new career path after their active years in the ministry. The Residencia De La Salle has rooms and facilities that are designed to be comfortable and restful for Senior Brothers or younger Brothers recovering from illness. The Residencia De La Salle is located in the Campus of the De La Salle Health Sciences Institute in Dasmariñas, Cavite. The Senior Brothers will be accompanied by a community of younger Brothers who are still actively working in schools in the area. The De La Salle Health Sciences College of Medicine and the De La Salle University Medical Center will take care of all health-related needs of the Resident-Brothers.



“Aside from the rain, the blessing was also graced by the presence of the Superior General, Br. Alvaro Rodriguez Echevarria, General Councilor Br. David Hawke, LEAD Visitor Br. Dodo Fernandez and Auxiliary Visitor Br. Tom Lavin. The building of the Residencia was made possible through the donation of DLSU Alumnus and benefactor, Mr. Eduardo “Danding” Congjuangco, Chairman of the Board of San Miguel Corporation.” *(Br. Sockie dela Rosa)*



Visit of Superior General. Br. Alvaro accompanied the delegates of the International Young Brothers Assembly from day one until it culminated last 7 August. Even with his busy schedule, he took time to visit two special communities:

Jaime Hilario Integrated School. “Last August 1, Brother Alvaro, together with Br. Tom Lavin and some delegates of the IYBA, were welcomed by Br. Mandy Dujunco FSC, principal of JHIS-LS, along with the entire student body at the school’s covered area. The students showcased several song and dance presentations for the guests as well as a welcome gift – a six-decade rosary made by the local community. In his message to the students, Br. Alvaro emphasized that JHIS-LS and other Lasallian schools like it are the best kind of schools because they truly represent St. La Salle’s dream. JHIS-LS is the first Catholic school in Bagac, Bataan. When it opened in 2006 to educate the children of farmers and fishermen, there were only 43 students and 3 teachers. Today, it has grown to over 300 students and 16 faculty members. More details from <http://iyba.lasalle.org/2013/08/iyba-2013-day-4/>



The Community of Brothers is entirely composed of young Brothers: Br. Mandy Dujunco, Br. Aikee Esmeli and Br. Gelo Paragas. During their community dialogue with Brother Superior, Br. Alvaro acknowledged the sacrifices they make by being assigned in a place with many challenges including the lack of access to information technology. He left them with these inspiring words: “Serving the poor is a grace from God.”

PARC Novitiate. “On Sunday 4 August Bro Alvaro, Superior General visited the PARC Novitiate at Lipa. During a one hour meeting with the novices and staff



he shared information on novitiates throughout the world, reflected on the importance of the novitiate in the life of the Brother and engaged in a dialogue with the Brothers.

“At the conclusion of the meeting, Bro Superior presented each novice with a copy of the Rule. He took the opportunity to reflect with them on the richness of the Rule and commented also on the Revision of the Rule to be discussed at the 45th General Chapter. The meeting concluded with a photograph session and lunch.” *(Br. David Hawke)*

After having some time to rest, Bro Alvaro left the Novitiate and arrived early in De La Salle University in Manila to join the young Brothers in their prayers and dinner. He took the opportunity to visit the Manila Community and the House of Studies and had a chance to talk with former General Councillor, Br. Benildo Feliciano.

ILYM and WYD. 13 students accompanied by three adults flew for more than 22 hours to Brazil to represent De La Salle Philippines for the International Lasallian Youth Meeting at Colegio La Salle Abel in Niteroi and the World Youth Day at Rio de Janeiro last July 20-29, 2013. Br. Alexander Ervin Diaz FSC led the delegation.

Below is a beautiful reflection from Catherine Anne Andaya (DLSZ) describing her experiences in Brazil as she responded to the themes of ILYM “Lasallian: The





disciples of Jesus in the world of education” and WYD “Go and make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19)”:

“I remember feeling anxious and excited when the plane with 15 other delegates of De La Salle Philippines was about to land in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil. At that time, I did not have a clear idea yet of what to expect, but both my heart and my mind were open to whatever God had in store for me to improve my relationship with Him and to have a better understanding of His mission for me.

“The theme of the International Lasallian Youth Meeting was “Lasallians: Disciples of Jesus in the World of Education”. Around 460 Lasallians from the four

corners of the world attended the 3-day event. At one of the sessions, a Mexican Lasallian Brother asked me if I was willing to share about my relationship with Jesus. Although I was a bit scared, I told him I would do it. I felt very fortunate that in front of my fellow Lasallians from different cultures, I was able to share who Jesus Christ is to me and what my relationship is with Him. I learned that being a Lasallian is a way of life. We, Lasallians, express our faith in the way that we pray by remembering God’s presence and that whenever we meet, there is always a feeling of being one, regardless of where we come from.

“The ILYM preceded the World Youth Day, which lasted for six days. Many people think that the WYD is all about meeting the Pope, but that is a big misconception. WYD is a personal pilgrimage in order for one to get to know God better by attending Catechesis sessions, listening to the message of the Pope and meeting people who are Christ-like. My most memorable experience in WYD was attending the Final Mass of Pope Francis along the shore of the famous Copacabana beach. I will never forget the challenges he left with us, pilgrims, which was, “Go, do not be afraid and serve”. The theme of WYD this year was, “Go make disciples of all nations” and I know that I can best exemplify this by making a constant effort to evangelize my peers even if the task seems impossible.

“I will always be very grateful to De La Salle Philippines for selecting me as one of its delegates to the ILYM and WYD. It was a rare opportunity, and I am very glad that I took it. I owe it to my school to be able to share my experiences with my family, friends and the rest of the students in DLSZ. I will treasure in my heart everything that I faced and felt in Brazil. Muito obrigada!”

We wish to thank everyone who helped, supported and prayed for the safety of the delegates and for the success of ILYM and WYD. (Br. Alex Diaz)

UMAEL President Visits Japan. I am attaching a journal of UMAEL President Mr. Henry Atayde on his recent visit to Japan to meet the Japanese Federation of La Salle Alumni Association (JFLSAA) to plan for first PARC Council meeting of La Salle Alumni Presidents and his visit to La Salle Home in Sendai.

Br. Lazaro Rodriguez FSC. After a period of reflection and prayer Br. Lazaro has decided to return to his home District, Mexico South. Br. Lazaro was in Japan for 13 years. He arrived in 1997 and aside from his studies in English and Japanese was assigned mostly in La Salle High School in Kagoshima. In 2010 he volunteered to teach in De La Salle Zobel in the Philippines and had three good years. Early this year he returned to Japan and was assigned to La Salle Home in Sendai. After an ongoing dialogue with his Sector Leader, Br. Rodrigo, he decided to return to his home District and resume his ministry there. We wish Br. Lazaro all the best!

Mr. John Hogan †. Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of John Hogan, father of Br. Steve Hogan of La Salle College, Hong Kong. Mr. Hogan passed away peacefully at 10:15 on the morning of Friday, 9th August 2013 with his wife Josephine at his bedside. He had been suffering from poor health for some time. The funeral arrangements are: 11:00am Friday 16th August at the Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, Opunake, Taranaki, New Zealand.

Funeral Arrangements for Br Alphonsus Chee †. The funeral Mass will take place at 10:00 a.m. on 13th August in St. Teresa's Church, followed by burial in St. Michael's Catholic Cemetery, Happy Valley. Memorial contributions may be sent to any children's charity organization in lieu of flowers. Kindly say a prayer for the repose of the soul of Brother Alphonsus. (<http://web.lasalle.edu.hk>)

Tributes to Br Albinus O'Flaherty †. Several articles from the Malaysia Star Online honors the memory of Br. Albinus (Michael) O'Flaherty:

Brother Albinus changed lives of many and will forever be remembered: <http://www.thestar.com.my/News/Community/2013/08/10/Goodbye-dear-teacher-Brother-Albinus-changed-lives-of-many-and-will-forever-be-remembered.aspx>

Old Josephians remember ex-principal as faithful and dedicated to his mission: <http://www.thestar.com.my/News/Community/2013/08/06/Old-Josephians-remember-ex-principal-as-faithful-and-dedicated-to-his-mission.aspx>

Shivers down spines at mere mention of his name: <http://www.thestar.com.my/News/Community/2013/08/10/Shivers-down-spines-at-mere-mention-of-his-name.aspx>

Tributes pour in for late teacher with personal values: <http://www.thestar.com.my/News/Community/2013/08/06/Tributes-pour-in-for-late-teacher-with-personal-values.aspx>

A lasting legacy: <http://www.thestar.com.my/News/Community/2013/08/08/A-lasting-legacy.aspx>

Thousands of students will remember Brother Albinus, says Jabu: <http://www.thestar.com.my/News/Community/2013/08/08/Thousands-of-students-will-remember-Brother-Albinus-says-Jabu.aspx>

Committee wants to build monument in honour of Brother Albinus: <http://www.thestar.com.my/News/Community/2013/08/06/Committee-wants-to-build-monument-in-honour-of-Brother-Albinus.aspx>

Papua New Guinea. “Twelve Brothers and one Postulant gathered for a formation day in Hohola on Saturday. The Brothers have made a commitment to gather together from the three parts of the country four times year. The day was organised by the area formation commission. At the start of the day Br Mark shared some of his reflections on the Papal encyclical, Lumen Fidei, making links with Circular 466, “They will call themselves Brothers.” This was followed by a session led by Josephine Dromenge, PNG IA13 delegate. Josephine made it clear to the Brothers that they were very much needed but also challenged the Brothers to accompany the Lasallian partners in PNG. The session after lunch focussed on web-based communication (Google “Dave” Drive) was facilitated by Br David Miller. The Brothers in temporary profession then had an opportunity to meet on their own. The day concluded with Eucharist, during which Br Francis John Gari renewed his vows. A number of Lasallian partners were present as well. Francis had only just returned at 5am Saturday morning full of enthusiasm from the International Assembly of Young Brothers.” *(Now You Now... District News of ANZPPNG | 12 August 2013)*

Feast of Saint Benilde. 13 August is the Feast of Saint Benildus Romançon. He was especially effective in attracting religious vocations. Below is a “Prayer for Vocations” by the “Friends of Saint Benilde” of De La Salle University - Dasmariñas:

Most loving and gracious God,
 Help the men and women of our Lasallian community
 to hear the call to serve your Church.
 Our needs are great and your people thirst for your presence.
 Open the hearts of many to respond to the call
 of becoming faithful servants of the Gospel –
 dedicated holy priests, religious sisters and brothers,
 single men and women
 who will spend themselves for Your people and their needs.
 Bless all married couples with rich faith and children
 that desire to serve You.
 Through the intercession of St. Benilde,
 our Lasallian apostle for Vocations,
 may we make of our lives a response to Your call
 and to live in the path you have laid out for us.
 We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Faternally,

Br. Edmundo L. Fernandez FSC
 Philippines



Saint Brother Benildus Romançon. Online resources on St. Benilde:

Video: <http://youtu.be/jNeolto8Nr0>

Life: <http://www.lasalle.org/en/who-are-we/lasallian-holiness/saint-benildus-romancon/>

Presentation: <http://prezi.com/oj4lkpytq5rg/the-life-of-st-benilde-romancon/>