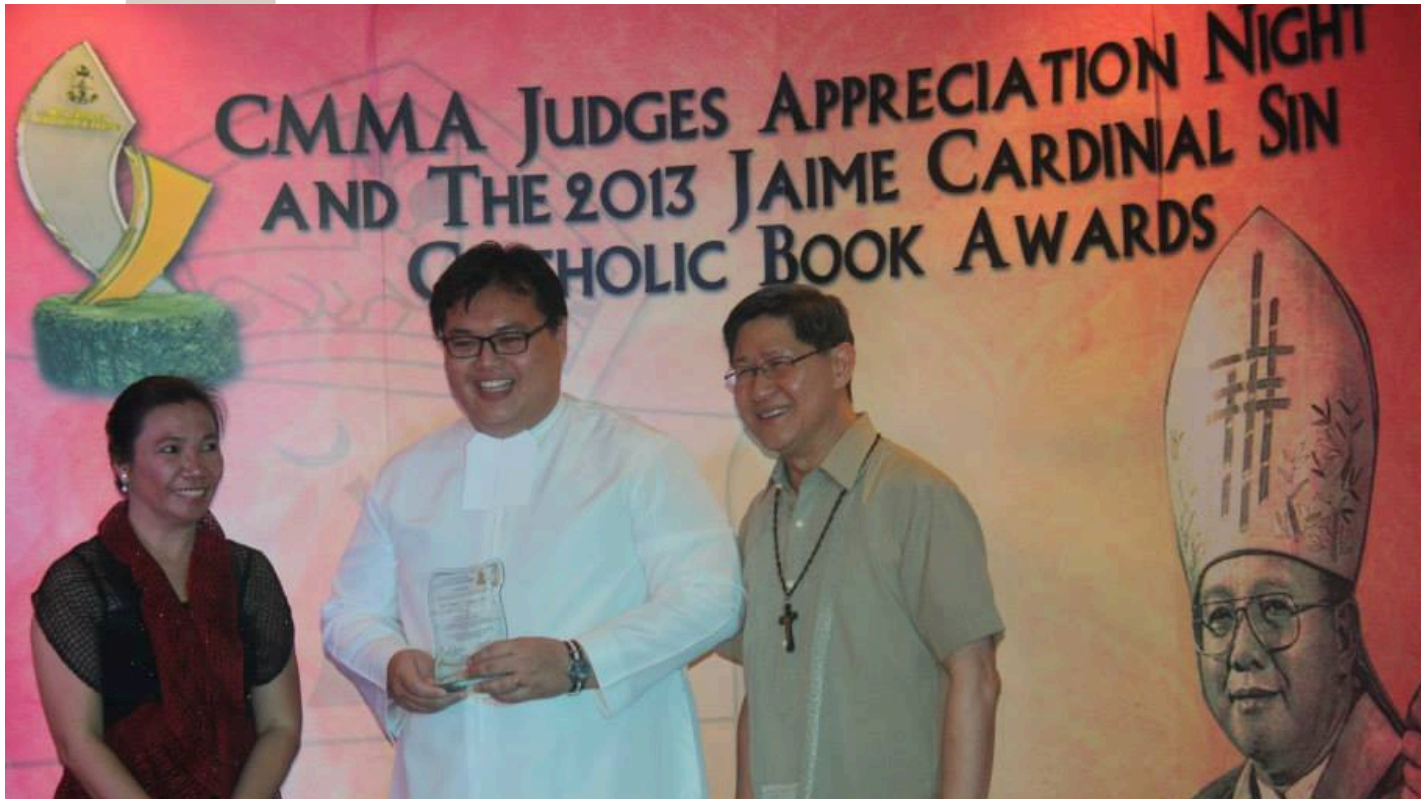


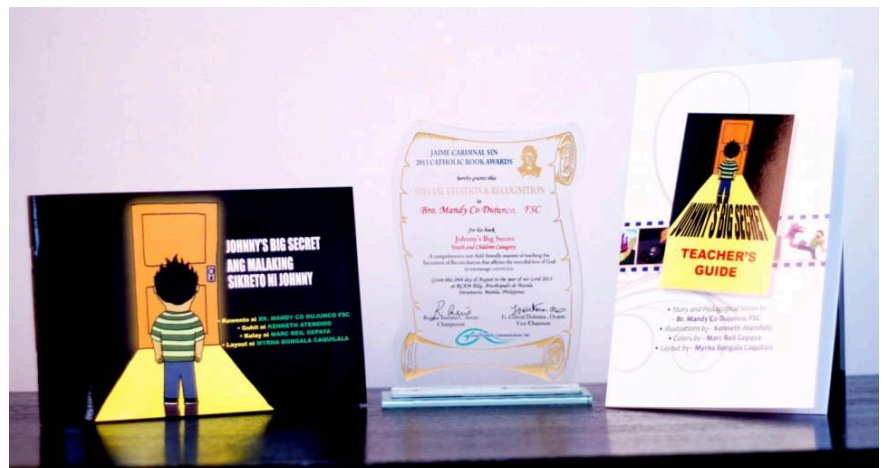
5 September 2013 • 116



Br. Mandy Dujunco Wins Cardinal Sin Catholic Book Award. *Johnny's Big Secret*, written by Br. Mandy Dujunco FSC, won the Cardinal Sin Catholic Book Award for the Youth and Children category at the recent Catholic Mass Media Awards in the Philippines. This book is the fruit of his studies with the Formation Institute for Religion Educators (FIRE) at the Ateneo de Manila University. It was part of his thesis entitled "Preparing the Grade 2 Students of JHIS-LS for First Confession."

It was written to illustrate God's love and how students can experience it through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. According to Br. Mandy, "I wanted to present a more child-friendly version of the sacrament to the kids. I wanted it to be fun and relevant to them instead of another exercise in memorization."

Johnny's Big Secret tells a story of a young boy who discovers other boys playing with devils and wants one for himself. The book is illustrated by Kenneth Atendido, colored by Marc Reil Gepaya



and laid out by Myrna Bongala Caquilala. Copies may be acquired through Word and Life Publishing. Interested parties may also contact Br. Mandy directly. **Congratulations Br. Mandy!**



Updates from Japan: Acknowledgement of Social Service. During the annual Sendai Social Welfare Services Assembly held this year on September 2, Br. Rodrigo Trevino received an acknowledgement and a letter of gratitude for his continuous 20 years of social service within the system in Sendai city, all of them at La Salle Home. **Congratulations Br. Rodrigo!**

Japan Communities. In the whole country we are located in three quite far away locations in Japan. A Junior and High School in Hakodate at the very north of the country; a similar one in the south tip of the country in Kagoshima; and the other one, the foster home for children in Sendai, about 400 km north of Tokyo. With three Brothers in Hakodate, three in Sendai and five in Kagoshima (although one in an old folks home), and facing our common realities of aging and few new vocations, we are deeply embarked in an analysis of reality and possible new models of governance and association. Some models of other Sectors also are serving us as a reference for such analysis, and needless to say, the prayers of the whole Brothers of LEAD are supporting us.

Secretary for Initial Formation Visits Thailand. Br. Joseph Felix, the new Secretary for Initial Formation, visited the different communities in Thailand to meet the Brothers and see their ministries. His first stop was in La Salle College Bangna to meet with Sector Leader, Br. Stephen Kan, and the Bangna community of Brothers Eugene Prapas, Luke Chaiporn, and Dominic Chamlong before heading to the Sampran Formation House. In Sampran, he spent some days with the Postulants and Aspirants and Br. Sebastian Charoen.

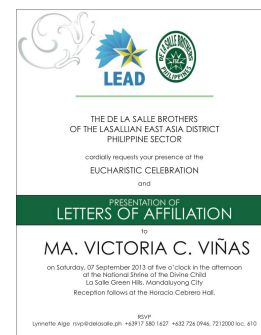
On 27 August, he was accompanied by Sampran Director Br. Simon Phanom to the Bamboo School in Sangkhlaburi. Brothers Joseph Klong, Stephen Pitchit and Victor Gil and the students of the Bamboo School welcomed him with a short program featuring local ethnic dances. The next stop was Nakhonsawan with Director Br. Peter Booncherd organizing the visit. Br. Felix interviewed the

young Brothers, Benilde Preecha and Francisco Teerayut, before meeting with the Juniorate Director, Br. Frank Suriya, and the members of the Juniorate House. The following day, Br. Felix went to Chanthaburi to see Br. John Niran and was also warmly welcomed by the community, Director Br. Sayam Ngamdee and Br. Joseph Dat. They returned to Bangkok in time for Br. Felix to meet with the Formation Committee of Thailand.



Myanmar Concludes 2013 “Come and See” Program. Br. Moris Thargyi, Director of the “Come and See” Program reports that they have recently concluded the “Come and See” Program for 2013. The 12 candidates left for their homes last 2 September to prepare for examinations. The community had an outing last 16 August at Thantung Cave, Taunggyi and Inkhung Lake. The candidates had a retreat from 28 - 29 August before they had their interview and evaluation with Sector Leader, Br. Lawrence Goh, and “Come and See” staff, Brothers Moris and Hilary. On 31 August, the community held their closing ceremony. The 2014 program will commence in January. The “Come and See” Program is part of the Sector’s Vocation Promotion strategies.

Affiliation of Ma. Victoria C. Viñas. Our District will present Letters of Affiliation to Ma. Victoria C. Viñas on Saturday, 7 September, at the National Shrine of the Divine Child in La Salle Green Hills, Philippines. Mrs. Viñas’ involvement with the legacy District of the Philippines began 26 years ago by developing a budget system for the legacy District. Soon after, she served as a member of the De La Salle Brothers Incorporated, the legacy District’s legal entity. Her valued and competent service to the Brothers has continued uninterrupted and her unwavering loyalty to the Brothers and her staunch support of the Lasallian Mission has always been evident. Let us keep Mrs. Viñas in our prayers.



September 7: Day of Prayer and Fasting for Syria. His Holiness, Pope Francis, called for a global day of prayer and fasting for peace in Syria, the Middle East, and across the entire world on Saturday, September 7, the vigil of the birth of Mary, the “Queen of Peace.” A prayer vigil will be held on that day at St. Peter’s Square, Vatican City from 7:00 PM until midnight. Pope Francis requested that “all the local churches” – “the people and the bishop, all together” – follow suit “to gather and pray for this intention.” He invited Catholics, other Christians, those of other faiths and non-believers who are “men of good will” to join him that evening in St. Peter’s Square to invoke the “gift” of peace for Syria, the rest of the Middle East and worldwide where there is conflict. I encourage all Lasallians to participate in your own local parishes or by organizing your own peace vigils and prayers.

LEAD Capitulants to the 45th General Chapter. Br. Auxiliary Visitor and I were elected to be LEAD’s official delegates to the 45th General Chapter which commences on April 22, 2014 in Rome. Elected substitutes are Br. Jose Mari Jimenez (Philippines) and Br. Anthony Rogers (Malaysia).

I am grateful to the Elections Committee headed by Br. Tom Lavin and ably supported by Br. Pat Tierney and Br. Richie Yap for the smooth process.

LEAD Study on Mission and Association. The study of Lasallian Mission and Association in LEAD conducted by Br. Tom Lavin, Br. John Pill, Br. Ricky Laguda, Br. Steve Hogan and Mr. Ronald Holmes and mandated by the first chapter is in its final stages of completion. It was presented to the Visitor and the District Council in its meeting last August in Thailand. The study will be released in November. The study does an inventory of our current ministries and identifies key areas for action. My gratitude to the team for the work done.

Fraternally,

Br. Edmundo L. Fernandez FSC
Philippines