

2 November 2013 • 122



CIL 2013: Formation Program for the Pastoral Ministry of Vocations. The CIL 2013 Program is currently being held in the Generalate in Rome until 29 November. LEAD has eight (8) delegates composed of the District Vocations Team and one Partner: Br. Rey Mejias (Coordinator), Br. Jeffrey Chan (Hong Kong), Br. Victor Gutierrez (Japan), Br. Egbertus Joikul (Malaysia), Br. John Ne'O (Myanmar), Mr. Ritche Bongcaron (Philippines), Br. Arian Lopez (Singapore) and Br. Simon Phanom (Thailand). Below is an update from Br. Rey:

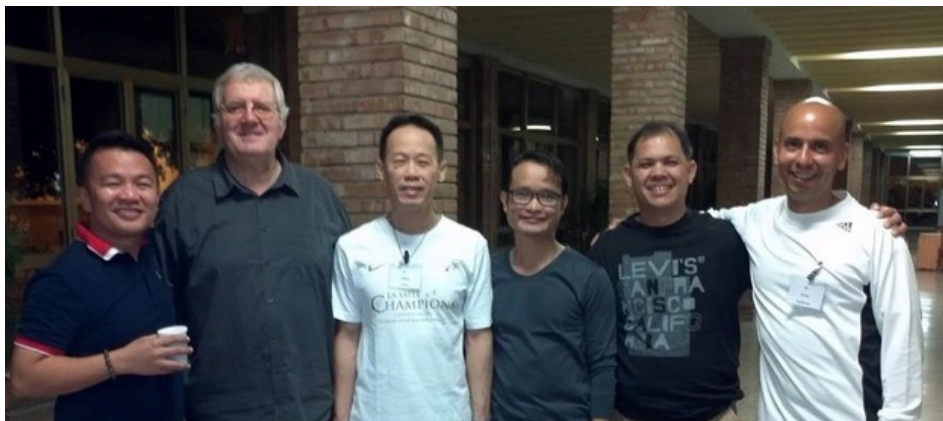


“We started our CIL Program on October 28, 2013 with 62 participants from all over the world (*both Lay Partners and the Brothers*). The first day is just dedicated for Welcoming and Orientation of the Program, the Venue, the Generalate, the neighborhood, and the House Rules.

“After the opening prayer led by Br. Vincent Pelletier, the Superior General, Br. Alvaro, opened the Program. He spoke mainly in Spanish and he talked about the importance and dynamism of the Lasallian Vocation. He hopes that the program will encourage more lay partners and Brothers to be more involved in the promotion of the vocation among the young Lasallians. He added that the meeting is also a venue for sharing vocation stories. After Brother Superior’s speech, the rest of the members of the General Council were also introduced as well as the staff of CIL.

“The CIL 2013 Delegates are divided into 10 Groups. Three major languages are to be spoken in the program: English, Spanish, and French. The details of the themes will be discussed on the second day. The delegates are asked to work on their tasks to share their best vocation promotion practices and the vocation story analysis. The afternoon started with introduction of the delegates per table. Creativity was highly encouraged. Each table came with unique cheers and gestures of greetings representing the country where the participant comes from. A tour followed after the introduction.

“As for the LEAD delegation, we will be meeting every Friday to synthesize the experience as well as reflecting for possible sustainable vocation promotion program for the District. We opted to have it on Fridays because between Mondays - Thursdays, we have been tasked to render different services in various areas of the program (The organizers call it “Volunteer Service” ranging from laundry collection, managing the sports or TV or computer rooms to organizing socials and weekend activities). On our end, we hope to make the Friday meeting become a venue for Planning. Part of this planning is an output on the how's of Implementing, Monitoring, and Evaluating. Our first target implementation is a working interactive web page in the existing LEAD website.”



Visit to Sabah and Mindanao

Communities. I put together my visit to Sabah and Mindanao side by side. I visited the communities in East Malaysia from 17 - 20 October and the two Mindanao communities from 22 - 25.



I arrived in Kota Kinabalu just before noontime of the 17th and was picked up by Egbertus. From the

airport we went to the community at KK and picked up Br. Anthony Rogers and Br. John D' Cruz. After lunch and a little rest we proceeded to Nabawan where ASRAMA BUTITIN was, the boarding department run by the Brothers. There are three Brothers in the community, namely: Br. Egbertus Joikul (Director), Br. Herbertus Gompok and Br. Ignaci Heri. The three of them look after the boarders, girls and boys who study in the nearby school. Br. Egbert and Br. Ignaci also teach in the Indonesian School every Tuesday and Thursday.

On the 18th we travelled to St. Martin's in Tambunan where we were joined by Br. Justin Mobilik, who is based in Kuching, and by Br. Peter Foo, incoming Director for the new community at KK but currently based in Lipa, Philippines. With most of the Sabah Brothers present (*minus Br. Charles O'Leary who was on home visit*), we

finalized the arrangements for the new community in KK. The new community will be composed of Br. Peter Foo (Director), Br. John D' Cruz, Br. Peter Ng, Br. Charles O'Leary and Br. Justin Mobilik. They begin to formally come together in January of 2014. While most will continue to work in their current ministry, they have committed to come together regularly during the year to build community. After an overnight stay in Tambunan, we all traveled by car back to KK on the 19th and on the 20th I flew to Manila.

I flew to Mindanao on the morning of the 22nd in the (*relatively*) new airport at Laguindingan. The last few weeks of October is usually term break for schools in the Philippines and that was the case with our two schools in Mindanao. In fact, La Salle Academy in Iligan was hosting the ECJ Sports



Camp (*aka La Salle Little Olympics*) at the time of my visit. All La Salle primary schools in the Philippines with the exception of La Salle Green Hills and De La Salle Zobel were represented. While it was safe in Iligan, a security issue somewhere else in Mindanao prompted the two schools to re evaluate their participation. I moved to Ozamiz on the 24th and flew out to Manila on the 25th. In **LEAD Story 107** (08 July 2013) there was a short article on the community planning of the two communities. I am delighted that they have been making a strong effort to regularly come together. Just prior to my visit there was a gathering of Visayas and Mindanao Brothers hosted by Iligan.

I wish to thank Br. Anthony Rogers of Malaysia, the Brothers of Sabah; Br. Jimmy and Br. Felipe of the two communities in Mindanao for the organization and the warm welcome. My congratulations also to Br. Felipe and La Salle Academy Iligan for the successful hosting of the ECJ Sports Camp. Finally, let us keep the Sabah and Sarawak Brothers in our prayers especially as they build this new community in Kota Kinabalu.

Philippine Young Brothers Conference. “Last 25 - 26 October, 11 Young Brothers gathered in Residencia De La Salle for the Young Brothers’ Conference. For two days the sustainability of Lasallian mission became the main theme of the Education Day specifically discussed in three separate sessions.

“Dr. Ben Teehankee spoke on the role of governance. Being an administrator is being a “minister” to those s/he serves. More than being task oriented, Lasallian schools should have as their goal the development of the



community through Lasallian education. “Your most important power is your capacity to ask questions on behalf of the mission,” advised Dr. Ben to the Young Brothers as they prepare for their future participation in school boards.

“If it was your money would you spend it that way?” That was the challenge of Mr. Nilo Pacheco to the Young Brothers when he related the topic on financial management of school resources. It is important to manage the resources of the schools for their long-term financial viability and channel the revenues to other priorities. Mr. Nilo also explained in the simplest and most practical way the formula of computing the school’s finances and sources of funds.

“The PIME (*Planning, Implementing, Monitoring and Evaluating*) Formula is a framework shared by Mr. Ramelle Javier on school administration. As administrators, it is essential to prioritize key areas and develop an action plan, monitor progress and evaluate successes. According to Mr. Ramelle “We do this because we want to sustain the mission. We have to make sure that we make alive and transfer the Lasallian story to the next generation.”

“Finally Br. JJ Jimenez presented DLSP’s program for the sustainability of the Lasallian mission for the Young Brothers to explore by 1) creating an environment (people and processes) that is supportive of our educational mission; if 2) resources are used efficiently; that 3) education is innovative and relevant; and that 4) personnel are capable of handing on Lasallian spirit. Br. JJ left the Young Brothers a challenge by saying that “What we have right now is not ours but for the next generation. Our call is to make sure that the next generation benefits from this.”” (Br. Alex Diaz)

Br. David Liao Among “10 Most Beautiful Rural Village Teachers” in China.

Congratulations to Br. David Liao for receiving China’s Teachers’ Day Award in Beijing last 10 September 2013. According to the MeizhouTV report: “Liao Le Nian of Changjiao Village, Dabu County, received the prestigious national award from his student Lee Zhan Tao, who this year qualified to enter Medical College at Beijing University. Liao Le Nian, name in English, Brother David, is a Malaysian, whose ancestral home is in Guangdong Province, Meizhou State, Dabu County. In 1999 he retired and in 2002 returned to his home village to begin his voluntary teaching activities. He also invited volunteers from overseas to assist him. He has, through a university fees subsidy programme, enabled more than 20 local village students attend university and he also organized and funded community development projects such as cementing village roads improving drainage and reopen abandoned farm land. In 2011 he was awarded the Southern China Philanthropist Award and in 2012 the Guangdong Province Prominent Contributor Award.” The following website links will direct you to the some updates on the La Salle Study Centre Changjiao:



3rd Quarter Report: <http://lasallechina.com/nl2013September.html>

Summer 2013 Photos: <http://lasallechina.com/2013-Sept/Pg2013-2.html>

MeizhouTV – News Report: <http://lasallechina.com/VideoClip/Summer2013.html>



Br. Harry Reynolds Receives Achievement Awards. Brother Harold Reynolds was recently in Kuala Lumpur and Klang from 10 - 16 October to meet with his old boys and teachers. He was accompanied by Br. Hans Moran. During the Old Lasallians Association Klang (OLAK) Annual Dinner held last 12 October at the Klang Executive Club, Br. Harry was honoured with the “Lifetime Achievement Award” by OLAK and the “Brands Laureate Personality Award” (24 karat gold plated trophy) by the Asia Pacific Brands Foundation. In the same event, Brother Joseph Fernando of India was presented with a mock cheque of RM 16000 to sponsor the welfare of 40 poor students at Muthuchippi Hostel in Lasalle High School, Tuticorin-India. Congratulations Br. Harry and we wish you good health!

Br. Ambrose Payne Honoured in Australia.

Congratulations to Br. Ambrose, former Visitor of the District of ANZPPNG, for receiving his honorary doctorate at ACU’s Sydney graduation ceremony last 14 October 2013! Below are excerpts from the Oakhill College Bulletin by the Principal Brother Peter Ryan:

“Brother Ambrose Payne FSC AO, was awarded Australian Catholic University’s highest honour, Doctor of the University, in recognition of his extraordinary contribution to Catholic High Education in Australia. Brother Ambrose Payne has an outstanding reputation in the fields of educational leadership, governance and consultancy, teacher development and pastoral care. His vision and leadership were critical to the establishment of Australian Catholic University (ACU).



“In the late 1980s, Brother Ambrose was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Amalgamation Implementation Committee, which was set up to Australia’s first Catholic University. This was a complex and multifaceted role, requiring of him that he bring together four separate Colleges of Advanced Education on eight campuses, situated in three Australian States and the Australian Capital Territory with over 9,000 students. He achieved this with the support of one Cardinal, three Archbishops, the leaders of more than seven separate Catholic Religious Institutes, the Commonwealth Government and four State Governments. In addition, Brother Ambrose addressed all aspects of civil and canon law, industrial relations and all related agreements and business concerns essential for the formation of a modern University.

“The establishment of Australian Catholic University in 1990 is testament to the exemplary leadership of Br Ambrose at this dynamic time in the history of higher education in Australia. Brother Ambrose’s achievements in education have been widely recognised in the community. He has been made a member of the Order of Australia for his contributions to education. He is a recipient of the Sir Harold Wyndham Medal in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the education of young people in New South Wales and the John Taylor Medal for Excellence in Educational Leadership.”

Residencia Aspirants Survive Zombie Apocalypse. Since LEAD Story 122 started with an article on the CIL Formation Program for the Pastoral Ministry of Vocations, let me share this unique experience of the Aspirants of the Residencia community in Dasmariñas City, Philippines:

“October 19 was a sad day for Filinvest City and Festival Mall. After a blotched medical experiment, Festival Mall was overrun by zombies. Aspirants Louie Tolentino, Paolo de la Cruz, Carl Chua, Jhong Hilario, led by their Mentor, Br. Sockie, formed a team, aptly named “Aspiruns”, and were able to escape to safety.



“Seriously, the Residencia Aspirants decided to participate in the Outbreak Missions as part of our Community Building initiatives. This activity consists of a 6 kilometre run through the streets of Filinvest City and inside the dark and “abandoned” Festival Mall. All runners must dodge zombies who want to kill you (by pulling of 3 life flags attached to your waist).

“The Outbreak run and the almost nightly training we had in preparation for it helped us become physically fit and overcome our fear of the undead. It was also a great way to end the grueling first semester we had. We definitely got to know each other better and became much closer to one another. Some of us prayed harder while being chased by the undead, I think.” (Br. Sockie dela Rosa)



Fraternally,

Br. Edmundo L. Fernandez FSC
Hong Kong

Visitor’s Calendar

November

5 – 17	PARC Renewal Program (Facilitator)	Thailand
17 – 20	National Mission Council	Philippines
20 – 23	LEAD Council 11	Thailand