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**Malaysia Sector Assembly and Retreat.** December is the traditional time that the Brothers of Malaysia come together for a week to have an assembly and a retreat. For this year (as last year) the 2 day assembly and 3 day retreat was held at Stella Maris Center in Penang from 13 to 17 December 2013 with about 20 Brothers in attendance. The first two days were devoted to reports of the different commissions (about seven). On the afternoon of the second day we had a representative group from the Lasallian Family of Penang as guests who dialogued with the Brothers. It was an enriching afternoon as the Brothers listened to their concerns. The Brothers also were able to share their own thoughts on the ongoing revitalisation of the Lasallian Mission in Malaysia. December 15, 16 and 17 were days devoted to the retreat. Our preacher was Fr. Moses Lui, a friend of the Brothers. We had one session in the morning and one in the afternoon and the rest were devoted to quiet reflection and rest. Thanks to Br. Anthony Rogers for organising the retreat and the assembly.



**Thai Young Brothers' Conference.** Last 10 December, 6 Young Brothers gathered in La Salle Nakhonsawan Community of Thailand for their 2013 Recollection and Conference. Below is a reflection from Br. Sebastian:

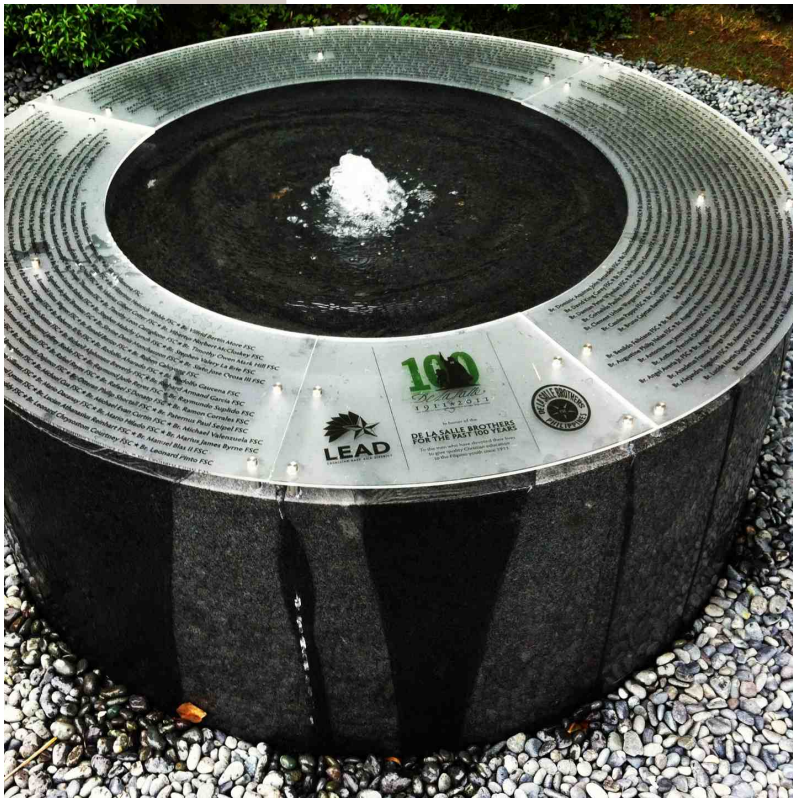
“In his sharing on the Lasallian Mission, Br. Peter Booncherd reminded us that Brothers must help the poor and those who seek opportunities for education since teaching is our charism and main purpose as entrusted to us by the Church. Good preparation is necessary in order to provide quality Christian education to the young. Educating the youth nowadays is not easy. As De La Salle Brothers, we have to teach for the sake of the young, help them to grow and live in the society with dignity.

“Br. Peter also reminded us to be aware of the changes in our society. The quality of education needs to be done properly for our students. This is our most important goal and main mission as Brothers. It means responding to the needs of our students. The quality of teachers is another factor that we need to be attentive to and encourage them to give good quality education. He told us that Brothers are challenged to minimise their ego and leave their comfort-zones in order to provide Christian education and work for the sake of the young. He proposed Br. Victor Gill FSC as the best example in our Sector in this matter.

“During the second part of our conference, Br. Peter shared his own experiences and journey in the Lasallian Educational Mission beginning with his entry into religious life as a Brother. He shared how he developed some skills to live and work as an active and professional educator in school. He encouraged us to continue our learning while being involved in a ministry in school during our formative years as young Brothers.

“He asked us to keep in mind that Brothers should learn how to follow the rules and regulations of the school as any teacher. Being a Brother does not mean being privileged but being a model to follow as others do. We can give such a good example for our teachers while working in schools. We should encourage our teachers to follow the rules and regulations of the school and not allow anyone to become mafia - like where they can get away with their wrong deeds.” *(Br. Sebastian Sripuk)*





## **Philippine Centennial Marker Blessing.**

A simple and intimate gathering was held last 23 December at the Central House in La Salle Green Hills to bless and dedicate the Centennial Marker honouring all De La Salle Brothers, both foreign and local, who have served in educating the youth in the Philippine Sector since 1911. The marker, which is a fountain made of solid charcoal grey granite, lists all the names of the Brothers, past and present.

Brothers, Affiliated members and Partners graced the event which began with an opening remarks from LEAD Visitor, Br. Edmundo Fernandez. Br. Dodo thanked Br. Gus Boquer for leading the two - year Centennial Celebrations which culminated with the marker's blessing. Br. Richie Yap prepared and led the liturgy for the rite of blessing. Philippine Sector Leader, Br. Jose Mari Jimenez, concluded the event by sharing his remarks on how each one can build on the legacies of the past Brothers.



**Invitation to Writers and Photographers** . By now, most of you have received the inaugural issue of the LEAD Magazine, *twentyeleven* . The editorial staff is looking for interested Lasallian writers and photographers to contribute in future issues. Those who are willing to assist as photographers or to contribute articles including writing about their special interest or hobbies may contact Br. Richie Yap at [br.richie@delasalle.ph](mailto:br.richie@delasalle.ph) . Any feedback and suggestions for future issues are also welcome.



## INSTITUTE SNIPPETS

### PACIFIC ASIA REGIONAL CONFERENCE (PARC)

**ANZPPNG Auxiliary Visitor: Br. Shahzad George Gill.** Brother Superior General appointed Br. Shahzad George Gill, Auxiliary Visitor of the District of Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan and Papua New Guinea. Br. Shahzad's mandate is for a period of three years commencing 1 January 2014. Let us express our appreciation for Br. Shahzad's willingness to continue in his ministry of service and animation in the District, particularly in Pakistan. (*Br. Mark McKeon FSC, Visitor, ANZPPNG*)

### LASALLIAN REGION OF NORTH AMERICA (RELAN)

**Visitor Named for the New District of San Francisco New Orleans.** Congratulations to Brother Donald Johanson, current Visitor of the District of San Francisco, who will become the first Visitor of the new District of San Francisco New Orleans. Brother Álvaro Rodríguez Echeverría, Superior General, appointed Brother Donald to a four-year mandate beginning July 1, 2014, the date the new District will be inaugurated. Please pray for Brother Donald and the Districts of San Francisco and New Orleans-Santa Fe as they transition to the new District. (*RELAN Review | December 2013*)

圣诞快乐

メリークリスマス

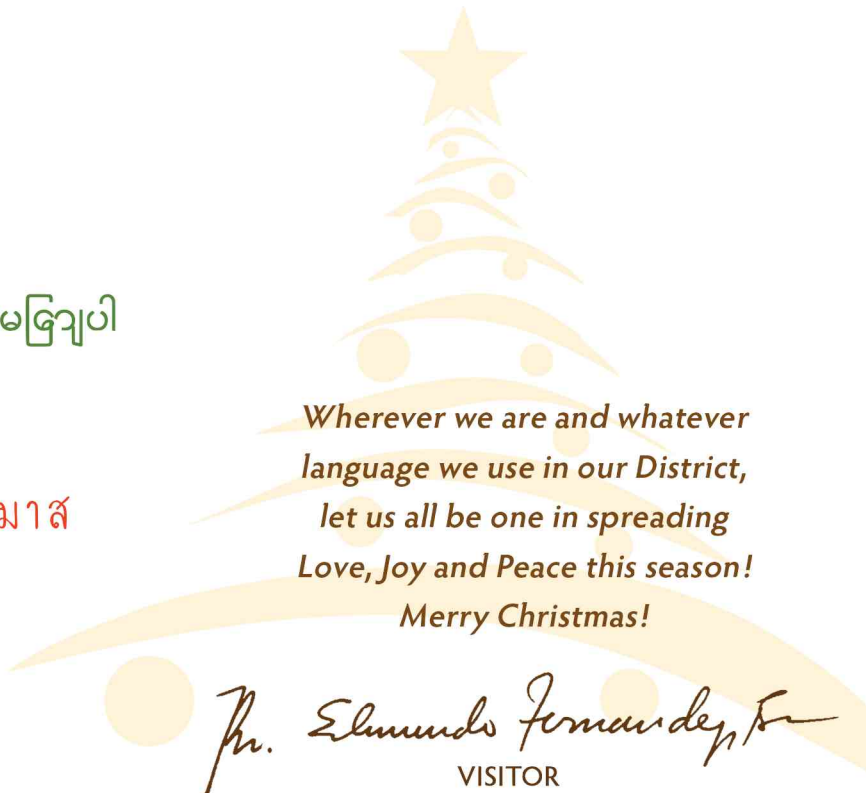
*Selamat Hari Natal*

ခရစ်ဝတ်ကျနေမော့ ဗူးမခြာပါ

*Maligayang Pasko*

圣诞节快乐

สุขสันต์วันคริสต์มาส



*Wherever we are and whatever language we use in our District, let us all be one in spreading Love, Joy and Peace this season! Merry Christmas!*

*Fr. Edmund Fernandez*  
VISITOR

# LEAD STORY

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