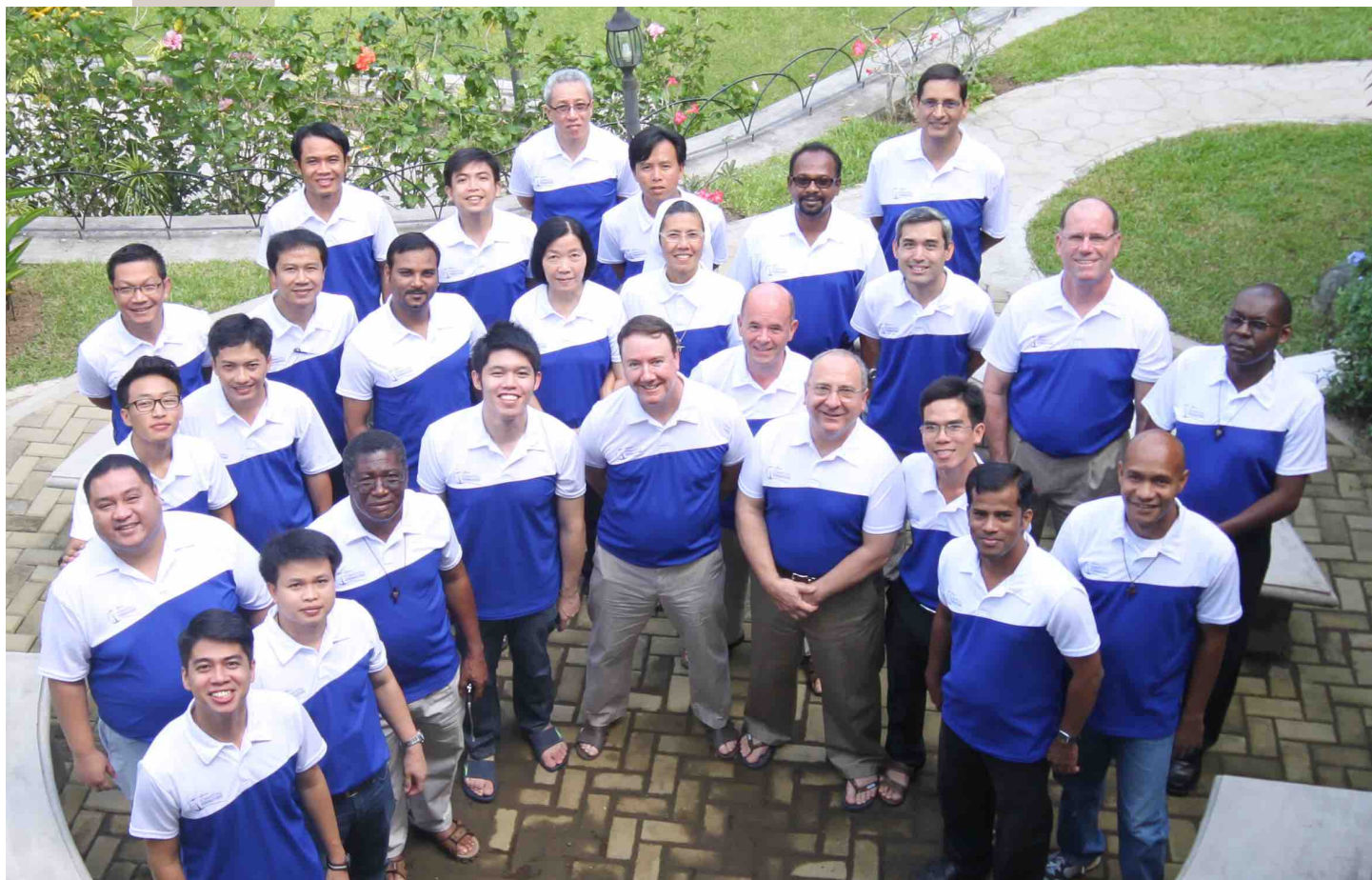


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Formation of Formators. 21 Brothers and 3 La Salle Sisters are currently attending the Formation of Formators for the English - speaking parts of the Institute. The program, which was organized by Secretary for Formation Brother Felix Joseph FSC, started last 16 November at the Retreat and Conference Centre of De La Salle University - Dasmariñas, Cavite, Philippines. Each day is devoted to a particular topic concerning religious formation. Aside from Br. Felix, the program's facilitators and resource persons are Br. Jesus Rubio (Secretary for Formation for Spanish and French), Br. Ricky Laguda (PARC General Councillor), Br. Collin Wee (Director, Hope House Singapore), Br. Christopher Soosai (President, Delegation of India), Sr. Marilyn Java RC (Directress of Novices, Cenacle Sisters), Br. Víctor Franco (LEAD Director for Vocations and Brothers' Formation), Br. JJ Jimenez (Philippine Sector Leader), Br. Manny Hilado, Br. Michael Broughton, Br. Antonio Cubillas and Ms. Thea Quintos. They were ably staffed with dedicated partners, namely, Mr. Jose Ritche Bongcaron, Ms. Marichu Tolentino, Ms. Aimee Patino, and Ms. Remy Bautista. The program will end on 22 November. The participants are as follows:

ANZPPNG
Br. Francis Gari
Br. Shashi Abrar

Charles Lwanga District
Br. Anthony Ghitahi
Br. Julius Adi

District of Eastern North America
Br. Richard Buccina
Br. Patrick Bradley

India

Br. Brickston Fernando

Lasallian East Asia District

Sr. Cristina Calumba HGS

Sr. Mary La-ied LS.S

Sr. Teresa Retome HGS

Br. Alex Diaz

Br. Angelo Paragas

Br. Bosco Mung Htoi

Br. Francisco Teerayut

Br. Frank Suriya

Br. Inigo Riola

Br. Morris Thar Gyi

Br. Richie Yap

Br. Sebastian Charoen

San Francisco - New Orleans

Br. James Joost

Br. Kevin Slate

Vietnam

Br. Peter Phan The Truong

Br. Jos Pham Thien An

Br. Francis Xavier Le Dung Manh



Mentoring Program for Young Brothers. Last 15 November, 10 young Brothers and one Lay Partner attended the first assembly of the Mentors and Mentees of the Philippine Sector's Mentoring Program. The program hopes to engage each young Brother and Lay Partner in articulating their professional development goals, and with the help of an assigned mentor, identify opportunities appropriate to their goals and monitor their progress. The program requires mentees to meet regularly with their assigned mentor over a period anywhere from one to three years. Among the objectives of the program is preparing the young Brothers and potential Lay Partners for future ministries in the areas of formation, administration, finance, and other key areas identified by the mentee and the Sector leadership. An assembly is organised annually to provide continuing education to the mentees.

For the first assembly, they discussed issues and concerns on Mentoring and the Personal/Professional Development of Mentees in the morning. Two workshops were held in the afternoon on "Budgeting and Audit" and "Financial Management". The Mentors for this program are all seasoned administrators, formators, and managers, namely, Br. Victor Franco, Br. Ray Suplido, Br. JJ Jimenez, Dr. Lita Quebengco AFSC, Sr. Cora Manalo AFSC, Mr. Ramelle Javier, and Mr. Jay Gervasio. The first batch of mentees are Ms. Jimelo Silvestre-Tipay, Br. Aikee Esmeli, Br. Alex Diaz, Br. Allan Buenavista, Br. Inigo Riola, Br. Gelo Paragas, Br. Mandy Dujunco, Br. Mikey Cua, Br. Rey Mejias, Br. Richie Yap, and Br. Sockie dela Rosa.



SJI Singapore Retraces Journey Made 140 Years Ago.

Last week La Salle College hosted students from St. Joseph's Institution (SJI), Singapore, marking the 140th anniversary of the arrival of the Brother's in Hong Kong from SJI on the 7th November 1875. Six Brother's arrived by boat from Singapore: Brothers Hidulphe Marie (Director); Hidulphe de Jesus, and Hebertus from the Brother's Boarding school in Marseilles (France); Brother Adrian Edmund and Aldolphus Marie from the Novitiate in London (two young Brother's straight from their training); and Brother Isfrid from Paris. The Brothers on their arrival in 1875 took over a Portuguese commercial school named St. Saviour's College, established on Pottinger Street in 1860, and renamed it St. Joseph's College. Soon after their arrival the Brother's opened a Reform School at WestPoint. In 1917 Br Aimar opened St. Joseph's Branch School on Chatham Road next to Rosary Church – this became La Salle College, Boundary Street in 1931. Today the Lasallian family in Hong Kong comprises 5 Secondary Schools and 3 Primary Schools. (www.lasalle.edu.hk)



The “Joy of the Gospel” and the Life of a La Salle Brother in Japan. The following article is a presentation of Br. Andre Labelle FSC on his life as a missionary using Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation as his framework in outlining his experiences and insights. The complete outline of his presentation is in another document attached to this issue of LEAD Story.



“This year, at the beginning of last March, I had the surprise of being invited to give two talks to a small group of Canadian “Quebec Foreign Missionary” priests, with some of their lay missionaries, during their retreat at the Trappist monastery near Hakodate. The Sector Leader of that missionary group knew that, many years ago, I had helped some retreats in Japan and thought that I could again offer that kind of service. He told me that I could freely choose the themes of those two talks, and take for example, if I wished so, my work and apostolate in Japan. He was urging me to accept, and I since I knew him before, it was difficult for me to say no to his invitation. So, I agreed.

“In the first months of this year, I was plunging myself in the reading and meditation of Pope Francis’ “THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL”, and I was enjoying it immensely. The Apostolic Exhortation of the Pope had appeared a little before the end of 2013, and Brother Jorge Gallardo, at that time General Councillor in Rome, had fulfilled my strong desire by sending me before Christmas the French translation of the Letter already published in Italian, the English translation of the book not being available yet. For weeks and months, the Pope’s Letter has been my vade-mecum and so, the inspiration came to my mind



of choosing that Letter as a reference for the talks. I could introduce my life in Japan as a La Salle Brother, in the light of that Letter. The Pope’s ideas in the book were very alive in my head and I felt a powerful urge of sharing what and how I was feeling, reading Pope Francis. And at the end, “< The Gospel of Joy >, in the life of a La Salle Brother, missionary in Japan” became the official theme of my two talks.

“I would like now to share with the readers of LEAD the main ideas of those two talks, adding also that the numbers of the Pope’s Apostolic Letter were offered to the group as references of what I sharing with them. I am sure that many Brothers of LEAD also would have wonderful impressions and insights to share in reference to that rich and fervent Letter. That would certainly be a very nourishing spiritual food for all of us in LEAD, and offer us the vision, hope, youthfulness and especially the JOY of that Letter.”



Brother Thomas Johnson Appointed Novitiate Director. “Brother Thomas Johnson, FSC, will serve as the next director of the Novitiate for the Lasallian Region of North America (RELAN). General Councillor Brother Timothy Coldwell, FSC, announced the appointment effective November 30, 2014.

“Brother Tom brings to the role a life of service in community, District, Regional and Institute leadership, most recently having served as Vicar General from 2007 – 2014. He previously served as Visitor of the former Chicago District, where he led the joining of three Districts into today’s Midwest District. After leading the Midwest District as Visitor from 1995 – 2001, he served as Regional Coordinator at Christian Brothers Conference from 2002 – 2007 before being elected Vicar General.

“‘His personal, professional and ministerial knowledge and wisdom will provide a solid foundation for this vital work,’ said Brother Timothy. ‘He is held in the highest

regard by the Brothers of our Region for his integrity and enthusiasm, and will build on the work of the past several years.'

"Brother Tom succeeds Brother Kevin Slate, FSC, who first served as assistant director of the Novitiate and then as director for the 2010-2011 and 2013-2014 novitiate groups. Brother Kevin will continue to accompany contacts and postulants in the District of San Francisco New Orleans.

"In making the announcement about Brother Tom, Brother Timothy also announced that the RELAN Novitiate will move from Mont La Salle in Napa, California, to the Chicago area to take advantage of theological, inter-community and ministerial resources in the area." (<http://www.lasallian.info/2014/11/13/brother-thomas-johnson-appointed-novitiate-director>)

Prayers Requested. It is with deep sadness that we inform the Lasallian Family of the death of **Mr. Nelson Dujunco**, father of Br. Mandy Dujunco FSC. He passed away yesterday, 19 November, at the age of 59, due to a vehicular accident. Please pray for the repose of his soul and for Br. Mandy's family during this time of grief. Wake will be held at Remedios Room, Good Shepherd Memorial Park, GSMP Bldg., San Fernando, Pampanga, starting today and tentatively until Sunday.

India and Sri Lanka Trip. I will be in India from 20 - 22 and Sri Lanka from 22 - 24 of November. I have been requested to help out the Delegation of India for their upcoming Delegation Chapter. Aside from this trip I will be in India for their Assembly (part of the Chapter process) on 27 and 28 December and for the actual Chapter on January 14, 15 and 16, 2015. From India I fly to Colombo, Sri Lanka to attend their District assembly. My attendance in their assembly is the second of two visits as requested by the Brother Superior.

Faternally,

Br. Edmundo L. Fernandez FSC
India



WAKE UP THE WORLD!

— 2015 Year of Consecrated Life —

Year of Consecrated Life. The Vatican has begun to announce plans for celebrating the Year of Consecrated Life, which begins in November 30, 2014. The three - pronged focus of this year are as follows:

- renewal for men and women in consecrated life,
- thanksgiving among the faithful for the service of sisters, brothers, priests, and nuns,
- invitation to young Catholics to consider a religious vocation.

The year culminates on February 2, 2016 celebrating the **World Day of Consecrated Life**.

"Religious life ought to promote growth in the church by way of attraction. The church must be attractive. Wake up the world! Be witnesses of a different way of doing things, of acting, of living! . . . It is this witness that I expect of you. Religious should be men and women who are able to wake the world up."

— **Pope Francis**, meeting with the Union of Superiors General, November 29, 2013