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Feast of the Our Lady of Guadalupe

Br. Gustavo Ramírez Barba appointed General Councilor. “Dear Brothers, Partners and Members of the Lasallian Family:

“A proposition of the 45th General Chapter calls for the Brother Superior to appoint a General Councilor to accompany our association for the educational mission, particularly Lasallian Higher Education. I am happy to announce the appointment of Brother Gustavo Ramírez Barba to this position. Brother Gustavo is presently the Visitor of México-Norte.

“Brother Gustavo, who holds a doctorate from the University of San Francisco in the United States, has served as president of Universidad La Salle Noroeste in Ciudad Obregón and is currently a member of the Board of Trustees of Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota. He has served as RELAL’s Secretary for Mission and as a Regional Director for the International Association of Lasallian Universities. He was a delegate to the 45th General Chapter (2014) and the 2nd International Mission Assembly (2013) as well as a member of the 44th General Chapter Preparatory Commission. Brother Gustavo is highly respected by Brothers and Partners and communicates with them in Spanish, French and English, the three official languages of the Institute.

“Please join me in thanking Brother Gustavo for accepting my invitation to serve the Institute as a General Councilor. As I welcome him to this position of fraternal leadership, I am confident that his contributions will significantly enhance our global Lasallian mission of Christian and human education.”



Fraternally,

Brother Robert Schieler, FSC
Superior General



“Dear Brothers and Sisters, Union of Catechists, Signum Fidei, Partners and all members of the Lasallian Family:

May Jesus’ name be blessed forever!
May the whole world be filled with His glory! (Cf. Ps.72)

“St. John Baptist de La Salle tells us that if we wish to celebrate Christmas properly we must let Jesus Christ be master of our hearts. For Lasallians, this means we must encounter him in all those with whom we interact, especially in the poor and forgotten. (Cf. M85)

“As we celebrate Christmas, let us renew our commitment to announce the Gospel to all, especially the poor and forgotten, through our ministry of human and Christian education. In this way, we will cooperate with the entire Church in filling the world with the glory of God.”

Merry Christmas!

Brother Robert Schieler, FSC
Superior General

Pastoral Letter: “The vision still has its time, presses on to fulfillment, and will not disappoint; if it delays, wait for it, it will surely come, it will not be late.” (Habakkuk 2:2-3). Attached to this edition of LEAD Story is the December 25, 2014 Pastoral Letter of the Superior General.

Dear Lasallians,

Advent is a time of waiting for the coming of our Lord. Yet, every year we go through this routine and somehow we lose the feeling of joyful anticipation. If we carefully meditate upon the readings during Advent we recall the history of God's people and reflect on how the prophecies and promises of the Old Testament were fulfilled. The readings give us a perspective of understanding the present. We can reflect on the past twelve months and see how God was like in our life and so begin to understand what God means to us now for the sake of what is to come, in our own future and that of our world.

We can only do this if we take to heart the spirit of the Institute as a spirit of faith, where we *"look upon anything but with the eyes of faith, not to do anything but in view of God, and to attribute all to God"*.

My dear Lasallians, may we re-enter into the spirit of the Institute, a spirit of faith this Advent, and make a place for our Lord Jesus in our hearts...so as to let Jesus live in our hearts....forever.

Wherever you are in the world, I wish you a joyful Christmas for the angel once said: *"Do not be afraid; behold - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people..."* (Lk 2, 10).



Br. Ricky P. Laguda FSC

Fraternally,
Br. Ricky P. Laguda FSC



Joint Message from the Superior Generals of 15 Religious Brother Congregations.

As part of the preparations for the Year for Consecrated Life, 15 Superior Generals of Religious Brother Congregations met in Rome last 30 November 2014. Included in this LEAD Story is their message, poster, and a prayer service.

Acts of the 45th General Chapter.

Also attached is Circular 469: “The Documents of the 45th General Chapter”. I encourage everyone to read this important document as we continue our personal and communal discernment towards our 2nd District Chapter in the coming months.

APLYC 10: Revive the Spirit, Refresh the World!

Young Lasallians in Malaysia are ready to welcome 120 delegates from 15 countries all over the region of Pacific Asia for the upcoming 10th Asia Pacific Lasallian Youth Congress. Hosted by the La Salle Center, Ipoh, Malaysia, all delegates will be welcomed in a special dinner on 14 December. For the next four days, the organisers plan to promote a sense of social responsibility and leadership amongst Young Lasallians in order to bring about more sustainable development outcomes in their own country and to promote common goals that transcend cultural values and identities in order to build / develop a shared Lasallian vision and purpose that encapsulates core human values.



The past Asia Pacific Lasallian Youth Congresses were hosted in the following cities:

1989: Manila, Philippines
1991: Manila, Philippines
1993: Ipoh, Malaysia
1996: Ipoh, Malaysia
1999: Colombo, Sri Lanka

2001: Sydney, Australia
2004: Hong Kong, China SAR
2007: Singapore
2013: Bangkok, Thailand

I enjoin all Lasallians to pray for the success of APLYC 10 and for the safety and well being of all those involved.

Fraternally,

Br. Edmundo L. Fernandez FSC
Hong Kong



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