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LEAD Meetings. Several meetings were held over the past month primarily for the preparation for upcoming District activities this year. Last 14 - 15 February, the Preparatory Committee of the 1st LEAD Young Brothers Assembly was convened in Manila. The committee members are Br. Sockie de la Rosa (Chair), Br. Frank Suriya, Br. Joseph Than Htaik Aung, Br. Kelvin Tan, Br. Victor Gutierrez and Br. Richie Yap (Consultant / Adviser), who was a member of the Preparatory Committees of the PARC (2012) and International (2013) assemblies of Young Brothers.

The LEAD Young Brothers Assembly will take place in Hong Kong sometime in December 2015. All young Brothers of the District are invited.



The Planning Committee of the 2nd LEAD Chapter met again last 5 March in Hong Kong together with the chief facilitator, Dr. Maureen Cleary. Aside from

finalising plans and the Chapter program, they visited the Chapter venue, St. Paul's House of Prayer. They were treated to lunch at the Hong Kong Jockey Club by Mr. Eric W. H. Ku, Principal of De La Salle Secondary School, which is located right beside St Paul's.

The District Council and Economic Council held a joint meeting on 6 March primarily to discuss the District's operational budget for the coming years as well as the District's legal entity in Hong Kong.

The 16th District Council meeting was held last 7 March at the LEAD Provincialate. This was the last meeting of the current leadership team. I wish to thank all those involved in the preparations for these meetings especially Br. JJ Jimenez and Br. Patrick Tierney for hosting them. I am most grateful to all those who participated and had to leave their work and homes in order to be present.



February and March 2015 Visits. I embarked on a series of visits to a number of communities for the first quarter of 2015.



February 9 and 10 | La Salle Novitiate | Lipa. I did my pastoral visit to the novices of LEAD in Lipa. Currently we have 6 novices: Philip Bancha, Irwin Climaco, Eugene De Luna, Felix Murillo, Joseph Pi, and Marvin Sipin. I was able to interview them leisurely, three on February 9 and three on February 10. They are on their ninth month of the novitiate and moving into the homestretch. They are accompanied well by their Novice Master, Br. Christy Croos and by Br. Pat Bradley and Br. Jun Estrellas.

February 12 – 14 | Lasallian Formation Center (LFC) | Green Hills. The LFC, located in the third floor (the old Brothers' House), is home to the

Postulancy Program of the Sector of the Philippines. It is a one – year program that prepares the candidates for the novitiate. There are five postulants, namely: Paulo Ferrer, Chuck Magno, Nico Mariano, Aljay Martinez, Niño Ramirez and in early February they were joined by Anton Plumul Wijethunga from Sri Lanka. Director of LFC is Br. Vince Fernandez and ably assisted by Br. Manny Hilado.

February 14 and 15 | Interview of Young Brothers. I remained in Green Hills and spent two whole days interviewing many of the YBs who will be renewing their vows this Holy Week.

February 16 – 18 | University of St. La Salle Brothers Community | Bacolod City. I flew to Bacolod on the morning of the 16th. There are eight Brothers in the community including three 2nd year scholastics. The Director of the community is Bong Servando, while Ray Suplido continues to lead the University. Other members are Dindo Maralit (Director of St. Joseph HS), Mario Dacanay (full time faculty of USLS), Butch Alcudia (Vocation Promoter and teacher at SJHS). The three scholastics that are preparing for their teacher certificate examinations are Cliff Sy, Mark Salvan, and Edgar Esparagoza.

February 18 – 20 | De La Salle Lipa | Lipa City. The last leg of the series of visits to the Sector of the Philippines was the community at DLSSL. There are four Brothers in the community led by Director, Br. Raffy Reyes. Br. Kenneth Martinez is President of the school and there are two Brothers teaching full time, namely: Br. Hans Moran (Department head of Psychology) and Br. Joseph Daluz (teaching in the high school and Vocation Director). At the time of my visit there were two scholastics doing their school exposure: Br. Thomas Kha and Br. Rainier Guillergan. The Brothers of Lipa will be preparing to vacate their current residency to move into a different part of the campus. The current Brothers residence will be used by the school as offices.

February 23 and 24 | St. Patrick's School | East Coast Road. There are two communities in Singapore with a total of 10 Brothers. First stop for me was St. Patrick's School. We have four Brothers in the community with Br. Nicholas Seet as Director of the Community. Nicholas is also the only Brother teaching in the school. Br. Collin





Wee is full time Director of Hope House. Br. Gregory Lim is one of the oldest in the District but is still very active. The other member is Br. Danai Kingkarn finishing a degree in La Salle School for the Arts majoring in Animation. General Councilor, Br. Ricky Laguda, continues to use St. Patrick's as his official residence.

February 25 – 27 | St. Joseph Institution | Malcolm Road. The community at SJI has 6 Brothers servicing 2 schools: SJI Independent and SJI International. Jason Blaikie is the Director of the community and teaches

Religious Education at SJI International. Paul Ho is Sector Leader of Singapore and President of SJI Independent. Working with him there are Kelvin Tan and Kennedy Joseph from India. Larry Humphrey, from the Midwest District is President of SJI International. John Fernando from India teaches full time in the RE department. SJI at Malcolm Road is being renovated by the government and the school has temporarily moved to a holding campus in Bishan. The Brothers move out in the morning to their respective campuses and return in the evening.

February 27 and 28 | Meetings. On February 27 and 28, I spent the 27th and the 28th meeting with several groups including the SJI International Singapore Board and the SJI International Malaysia group.

March 8 – 13 | Bamboo School | Sangklaburi. After a series of meetings in Hong Kong in early March, I flew to Bangkok on the 8th and proceeded the next day to do the 6 – hour land trip to Sangklaburi where the



Bamboo School is located. With me were Br. Simon Phanom and Sector Leader, Br. Stephen Kan. The community at Sangklaburi continue to grow and there are now five Brothers. Br. Joseph Klong is the Director of the community and the school and oversees the running of the two campuses --- the original site near the border of Myanmar and the newer site called Parmenie. Brs. Victor Gil, Mario Zammit, Johnny Peerapong work in Parmenie and Br. Stephen Pitchit looks after the campus and the Kindergarten in the original site. At the time of my visit they had a seminarian living and building community with them.

Gratitude. My gratitude to the three Sector Leaders, Br. JJ Jimenez, Br. Paul Ho and Br. Stephen Kan. To the Directors of the communities I visited: Br. Christy Croos, Br. Vincent Fernandez, Br. Bong Servando, Br. Raffy Reyes, Br. Nicholas Seet, Br. Jason Blaikie, and Br. Joseph Klong. To Br. Simon Phanom who accompanied us. To Br. Peter Boonchert for accompanying me to see the Brothers' place in Putawan.

Discerners' Retreat. "Young men from the three (3) main islands of the Philippines gathered together last January 30 to February 1 with the hopes of getting a clearer answer to God's call. These men are called Discerners. They are graduating students/young professionals who are seriously considering the life of the De La Salle Brothers. During the said weekend, they had their discernment retreat in Shambala in Silang, Cavite which has been home to the said retreat for the past number of years through the generosity of Ms. Riza Muyot. This year, the young men were guided by three (3) De La Salle Brothers namely Br. Inigo Riola FSC – the National Vocation Promoter, Br. Alexander Diaz FSC, and Br. Kenneth Martinez FSC. The retreat was divided into three (3) sessions spent in complete silence to give each Discerner his own personal space and time to reflect and be intimate with his God. Each session was wrapped up by a sharing wherein each of the discerners shared his reflection/experience while in silence. Experiencing God in silence was helpful for the Discerners as they contemplate about their future, find out what God is calling them to do, and decide how they will heed His call." *(Luis Angelo E. Enriquez, one of the seven incoming Filipino Postulants this May 2015)*





Hong Kong Lasallian Volunteers. The Annual General Meeting of the Hong Kong Lasallian Volunteers was held in the evening on 8 February 2015. The meeting was attended by the Sector Leader, Brother Patrick Tierney, and Brother Steve Hogan. Mr. Peter Leung, President of the First Executive Committee, presented the Annual Report 2013 - 2014. The Second Executive Committee, presided by Mr. Linus Chan, was also inaugurated. The Hong Kong Lasallian Volunteers is a Lasallian Service Group for post-secondary alumni of the Lasallian School's in Hong Kong. Each year the HKLV assist the Lasallian schools in their Form 1 Bridging Programmes and induction programmes. They also conduct the Lasallian Leaders Training Programme for potential leaders of the respective Lasallian schools. The HKLV also conduct a service programme for needy youth in the Philippines each year.

Secretary General of the Institute. “Brother José Antolinez, Secretary General of the Institute is completing his second term of generous service. During his tenure, in addition to accomplishing with efficiency and effectiveness the coordination of the Secretariats and Services at the Center of the Institute, Brother José also coordinated and competently guided three significant international Institute events: the Intercapitular Meeting of 2011, the 2nd International Mission Assembly in 2013 and the 45th General Chapter in 2014.

“He performed his numerous responsibilities with grace and generosity of spirit. We are sincerely grateful for his ministry and presence among and we wish him well in his future ministry.



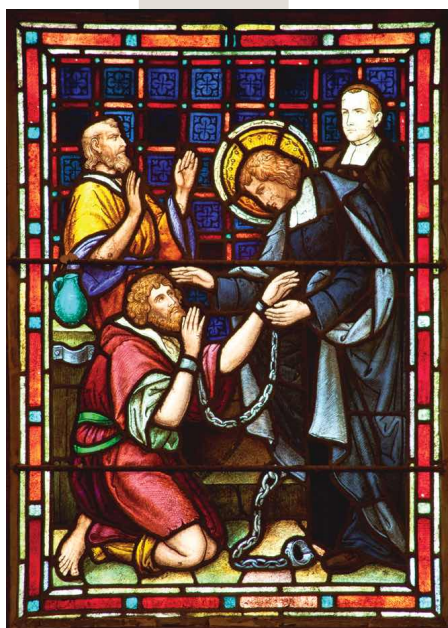


“At this time, I am happy to inform you that Brother Antxon Andueza Iturralde has accepted my invitation to serve the Institute as our next Secretary General. Currently Brother Antxon is the Secretary of the ARLEP District. He brings much administrative experience to the position and is competent in the three official languages of the Institute. He also served many years in Rumania.

“Brother José will complete his term on July 22nd, 2015. Brother Antxon’s three year appointment officially begins on September 1, 2015.

“My sincere thanks to Brother Jesús Miguel, Visitor, and the Brothers and Partners of the ARLEP District for graciously allowing these two Brothers, who are so important for the life and mission of the District, to serve the needs of the larger Institute.” (Br. Robert Schieler, FSC, Superior General | www.lasalle.org)

Lasallian Feast Days. Kindly note the following principal Lasallian Feast Days:



- Jan 30 Saint Mutie-Marie Wiaux (Belgium)
- Feb 09 Saint Miguel Febres Cordero (Ecuador)
- Apr 07 Saint John Baptist de La Salle, Founder (or May 15)
- May 19 Blessed Raphael Rafiringa (Madagascar)
- Aug 13 Saint Benilde Pierre Romançon (France)
- Sep 02 Four Brother-Martyrs of the French Revolution
- Sep 27 Blessed Scubilion Rousseau (La Réunion)
- Oct 09 Martyr Saints of the Religious Persecution in 1930s Spain
- Oct 23 Blessed Arnold Reche (Reims, France)
- Nov 08 Blessed Martyrs of the Religious Persecution in 1930s Spain

Other Lasallian commemorations:

- Feb 12 Massacre of our 16 Brothers at De La Salle College, Manila
- Apr 26 Our Lady of Good Counsel
- Apr 27 Blessed Nicolas Roland
Friend & Advisor of St John Baptist de La Salle
- May 08 Our Lady of the Star
- Oct 21 Blessed Nicolas Barre
Spiritual Director of St John Baptist de La Salle

LEAD Website. The URL address of the new website of the District is www.lasalle-east.asia and will undergo several stages of development in the coming months. The first phase, which will be launched on 18 March 2015, will feature a brief introduction on LEAD as well as a list of all educational establishments across the seven countries including links to websites. The website will later on feature regular news, resources, and connect District Brothers online. For feedback, kindly contact the LEAD Administrator.



The Lasallian East Asia District (LEAD) is a community of 150 Brothers of the Christian Schools and 13,000+ Lasallian partners and associates, who together sponsor and operate more than 70 educational institutions in Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

LEAD belongs to a worldwide network of Catholic universities, schools and ministries established and supervised by the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, whose mission is to provide quality human and Christian education to the young especially the poor. Aside from teaching more than 150,000 students in this part of Asia, LEAD also has institutions of non-formal learning that reaches out to the lost, the last and the least.



New Bishop in the Family. Our warmest congratulations to **Bishop Marcelino Antonio Maralit**, younger brother of Br. Dindo Maralit, for his episcopal ordination last 13 March at the San Sebastian Cathedral in Lipa City. Manila Archbishop Emeritus Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales was the principal ordaining prelate along with Archbishop Giuseppe Pinto, Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines, and Lipa Archbishop Ramon Arguelles. On March 17, Bishop Junie will be installed as the fourth bishop of the Diocese of Boac in Marinduque, Philippines in its Immaculate Conception Cathedral.



Pope Francis named Fr. Junie as Bishop-elect of Boac last Dec. 31. A priest from the Archdiocese of Lipa since 1995, he has served in many pastoral and administrative positions and was parish priest of Alitagtag, Batangas at the time of his appointment.

Let us pray for Bishop Junie's success in his new ministry and for the intentions of the Maralit family.



Holy Week Retreats. The following Sectors will have guided retreats this coming Holy Week 2015:

Malaysia - Mindanao (PHL)	:	Br. Lawrence Humphrey FSC
Philippines	:	Br. Robert Schieler FSC
Thailand	:	Br. Michael Broughton FSC

A total of 26 young Brothers will be renewing their temporary vows during the Easter Vigil. Let us keep them in our prayers.

Birthdays. Let us remember in our prayers our dear Brothers and an affiliated member who are celebrating their birthdays this March:

5 Br. Anthony Rogers	13 Br. Jason Blaikie	19 Br. Andre Labelle
5 Ms. Marivik Viñas AFSC	14 Br. Irwin Climaco	20 Br. Eugene Prapas
6 Br. Narciso Erguiza	16 Br. Harold Reynolds	22 Br. Mark Salvan
9 Br. Rodrigo Treviño	16 Br. Mark Blake	25 Br. Joseph Klong
10 Br. Leonard Lewis	18 Br. Columba Gleeson	31 Br. Alex Diaz

Faternally,

Br. Edmundo L. Fernandez FSC
Hong Kong