

Canonical Visits to Philippines and Thailand

I spent the 2nd - 4th weeks of September moving about and visiting five communities in the District. Let me begin with the most recent: Thailand, I visited the Brothers at **La Salle Chotiravi Nakhonsawan** and **La Salle Chantaburi**. Nakhonsawan has four Brothers and Chantaburi has 3. This year there were major personnel movement and so the two schools have new Directors. Br. Eugene Prapas is now Director of La Salle Chotiravi. Also new in the community are Brothers Stephen Pitchit, fresh from three years at the Bamboo School and Br. John Niran also three years in Nakhonsawan. The only holdover and still Director of the Juniors is Br. Frank Suriya. In Chantaburi, new Director is Br. Luke Chaiporn and also new is Br. Benilde Preecha. Br. Joseph Dat is the only Brother from the previous community. (Continued on next page)



LEAD STORY

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Before going to Thailand, on the 15th to the 18th I visited our two communities in Mindanao. I began with Iligan as I flew into Langilanon airport with Director of **Iligan community**, Br. Felipe. Spent a day there and then took the ferry to Ozamiz with Br. Jimmy picking me up in Mucas. Flew back to Manila on the morning of the 18th.

Both Mindanao communities have four Brothers. La Salle Academy has Felipe as Director of the community and President of the school. He is assisted in Administration by Br. Allan Buenavista (Vice President for Administration). The two Young Brothers in the community are Br. Dan Sanding and Br. Paul Mata who do full time teaching. In La Salle University, Ozamiz, Br. Jimmy is Director of the Community and President of the University. The members are of **LSU community** are: Br. Joseph Dougherty who teaches English in the tertiary level; Br. Arian Lopez is Special Assistant to Brother President while also handling one class and Br. Toby De La Cruz is busy preparing for his licensure examinations while also teaching full time in the High School. (Continued on next page)





I began my September visits with **St. Benilde Community in Green Hills** on the 12th and the 13th. There are five Brothers in the community including the Auxiliary Visitor, Br. JJ Jimenez (who was out for the New Visitors' Gathering). Br. Vic Franco is the Director of the community as well as the President of the La Salle Green Hills and La Salle College, Antipolo. Br. Mikey Cua teaches in the High School and handles Vocation Promotion; Br. Ruben Caluyong gives formation sessions to non teaching staff and, in the absence of Br. Manny Hilado who is on leave, is currently in charge of Campus Ministry; Br. Richie Yap is Principal of the High School. Every weekend St. Benilde Community is home to the Brothers of Jaime Hilario in Bagac as well as to some visiting Brothers from the provinces and from other parts of the District. (Continued on next page)



My gratitude to the community Directors (Br. Vic Franco, Br. Felipe Belleza, Br. Jimmy Dalumpines, Br. Eugene Prapas, Br. Luke Chaiporn) for the warm welcome and hospitality. For Brother Auxiliary Visitor, Br. Joseph Klong and Country Coordinator, Br. Francisco Teerayut, for accompanying me and making all the arrangements in Thailand.



Congratulations Br. Rey Mejias!

Br. Rey Mejias successfully defended his Thesis for a Master of Arts in Theology with specialisation in Religious Studies at the Maryhill School of Theology. The title of his thesis is *The Aim of Religious Education in the Perspective of the Interreligious Model of La Salle Academy-Iligan*.

When he graduates, this will be his second graduate Degree. His first was a Master of Science in Teaching Physical Science at the Mindanao University of Science and Technology in 2002.

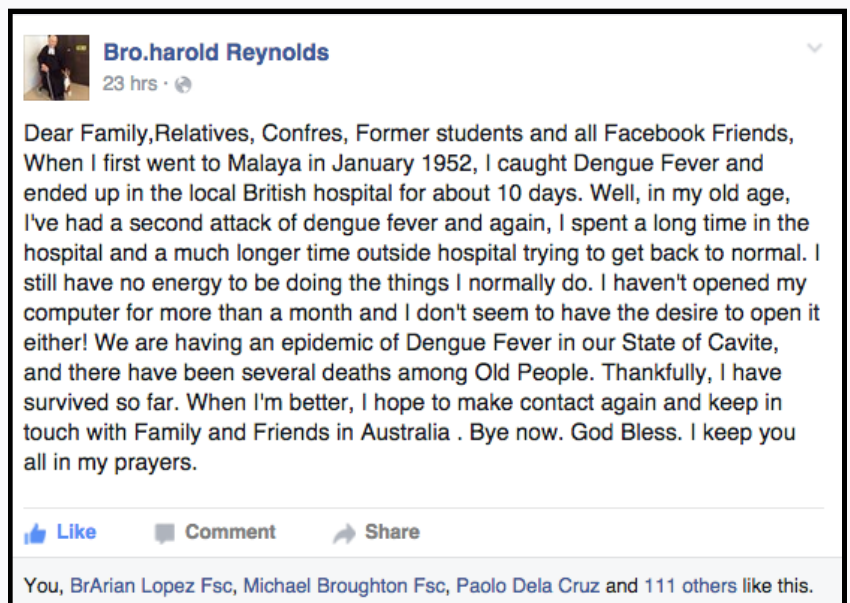
Rey used to be the Director of the House of Studies (Scholasticate) and is currently the President and Principal of Jaime Hilario Integrated School-Bagac.

Photo from Rey's Facebook

Br. Harold Reynolds Recovers From Dengue Fever

Our beloved Br. Harry posted this update on Facebook (Yes, he's very active in social media with 942 friends) about his recent bout with Dengue. Apparently, the entire province of Cavite is under state of calamity because of the outbreak of Dengue cases.

The Health and Wellness section below will be dedicated to Dengue. Brothers, I hope you take care of your health always.



Health and Wellness

A tiny mosquito can take a life. Brothers, for most of us in tropical countries, Dengue Fever is something that we hear about happening to others - until it happens to someone close to us - like Br. Harry. I'd like everyone in LEAD to be aware of the dangers of Dengue Fever and how to prevent it.

According to the Mayo Clinic these are ways to prevent Dengue Fever (also known as Breakbone Fever):

Stay in air-conditioned or well-screened housing. It's particularly important to keep mosquitoes out at night.

Reschedule outdoor activities. Avoid being outdoors at dawn, dusk and early evening, when more mosquitoes are out.

Wear protective clothing. When you go into mosquito-infested areas, wear a long-sleeved shirt, long pants, socks and shoes.

Use mosquito repellent. Permethrin can be applied to your clothing, shoes, camping gear and bed netting. You can also buy clothing made with permethrin already in it. For your skin, use a repellent containing at least a 10 percent concentration of DEET.

Reduce mosquito habitat. The mosquitoes that carry the dengue virus typically live in and around houses, breeding in standing water that can collect in such things as used automobile tires. Reduce the breeding habitat to lower mosquito populations.

Of course, implied in the last tip is that **Brothers' residences and rooms should kept clean and free of clutter where mosquitoes like to hide.**

Prevention: <http://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/dengue-fever/basics/prevention/con-20032868>

Symptoms: <http://www.webmd.com/a-to-z-guides/dengue-fever-reference>

Fraternally,

Edmundo Fernandez FSC
Sarawak