

Triple Meeting in Thailand

From 8 October to 10 October, members of the Consultative Teams, District Council, and Leadership Team converged in La Salle, Bangna for their regular meetings. 8 October had three “shifts”. The first shift was for Hong Kong, Japan, and Thailand with Br. Joe Klong presiding. The second morning shift was for Malaysia and Singapore with Br. Paul Ho presiding. The last shift in the afternoon was for Myanmar and Philippines with Br. JJ Jimenez presiding.

At the close of day, the Country Coordinators met with the Leadership Team to share their experiences and insights. It was after all, the first time for most of them to take on this kind of responsibility.

After a long day of meetings, we were able to meet the Brothers of Thailand for a special dinner. (And when I say special dinner, I mean special - for those who have been to Thailand you know how the Thai’s take care of their guests). Despite our full bellies from dinner, we were able to get up the next day for the 18th LEAD Council Meeting.



The LEAD Country Coordinators (L-R) Br. Ifigo (Philippines), Br. Kelvin (Singapore), Br. Francisco (Thailand), Br. Steve (Hong Kong), Br. Domingo (Japan), Br. Noel (Myanmar), Br. Andrew (Malaysia). Photo by Jaker Leaño.



The LEAD Council (L-R) Br Rodrigo, Br. JJ, Br. Vic, Br. Patrick, Br. Ling John, Myself, Br. Paul, Br. Joe, Br. Sockie (LEAD Administrator), Br. Tom, Br. Jose (Bursar). Not in picture: Br. Michael Broughton. Photo by Jaker Leaño.

On 10 October, I presided over the LEAD Leadership Team meeting. We discussed ways on how to best implement the decisions of the District Council and improve the process of meetings.

I am always edified at the effort of the members of the Council and Leadership Team to travel to meetings and make a contribution even if it means a disruption in their daily work and routines.

I wish to thank Br. Joseph Kloug for offering to host us in Thailand, Br. Francisco for making all the arrangements for the meetings, and Br. Peter Boonchert, the Director of La Salle Bangna and the Bangkok Community, for the hospitality and excellent food.

Farewell, Br. Steve Hogan FSC

On 7 October 2015, Br. Patrick Tierney, Supervisor of La Salle College, Kowloon made an announcement to the Lasallian Family in Hong Kong:

“As you may be aware, our Principal, Brother Steve Hogan, came to us in 2010 after due process and open selection. We are very grateful to the Brothers of his District, which includes Australia and New Zealand, for their generosity in releasing Brother Steve.

Brother Steve’s District wishes him to return at the end of this academic year so that he can take up a new Lasallian ministry there. Brother Steve will therefore cease to be Principal of La Salle College as of the 31st August 2016.

We are sorry indeed to be losing the services of Brother Steve who has brought La Salle College to new heights of excellence. There will be occasion to thank him more formally and informally as time goes on.

At a meeting on the 6th October the IMC started the process for selecting a new Principal for La Salle College who will take over the reins on the 1st September 2016. We are grateful to all of you for your support and understanding during the process.”



Br. Steve has been a gift not just to the school he so effectively managed but also to the community and to the District. He further built and strengthened the reputation of La Salle College as an excellent secondary school in Hong Kong; he expanded linkages and extended the international network of the school. He provided a strong presence to students and instilled academic rigour. He was also active in the Hong Kong educational milieu, attending meetings and assemblies.

In the District, he lay the ground work for the beginnings of a Mission Office as the first Director of Mission and Association, a job that was not easy given the diverse nature of the District.

He will be sorely missed but I sincerely understand why he is needed at this time in his own District. He will contribute much to the mission and the life and vitality of ANZPPNG.

I wish to express my deep gratitude to Br. David Hawke, Visitor of ANZPPNG and the previous Visitors (Brs. Ambrose Payne and Mark McKeon) for generously sharing Br. Steve with us.



Three Brothers participated in the Hong Kong Masters Athletic meet held at Wan Chai Sports Stadium on 03 October, Saturday. Br. Steve Hogan and myself participated in the 5,000 meter run and Br. Patrick Tierney participated in the 3,000 meter walk. The three Brothers represented La Salle College Athletic Club (LSCAC).

The meet, held every year and sponsored by the Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association, is participated in by the different sports clubs in Hong Kong. It was also a time for La Salle to renew its rivalry with Diocesan Boys School who fielded a good team. For his efforts Br. Patrick Tierney got a medal!

Title Photo From: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1718605795033311/1733734176853806/> / Photos from Br. Chris Soosai and Br. Dodo Fernandez



The Newest Member of LEAD



Have you ever heard about “Canine Ministers”? Or “Dogs in Pastoral Ministry”?

Dogs are being used for therapy and psychological support in many retirement homes, hospitals, schools, etc. In many Christian Churches dogs are being trained as “Four-Footed Ministers” to help with the pastoral work. Dogs are like angels who have the ability to just calm and bring joy to the people.

When working in formation, we always had dogs and they were very good, friendly, supportive and helpful to the young boys. We wanted to have one when Brothers Fujikami and Suzuki were infirm. In the retirement homes here in Japan, they have animal therapy

once a week, when volunteers bring dogs and cats to be petted by the senior persons in the institutions.

The one in the picture is the anointed one. It’s a “Golden Doodle” baby girl, born last month in Yamagata City, near Sendai. Her name is “Joy” and she’s arriving on November 7 at our Kagoshima Community in Japan. By coincidence, she was born the same day as Bro. Fujita.

Needless to say that she will be in the morning prayers every day.

As you can see we are working on vocations. We are a multicultural and multilingual mixed community. Please, come and meet “Joy.” (Br. Jose Del Coss FSC)

Death Notice: Brother James McDonald FSC

We remember and pray for our Brother James McDonald FSC, age 89. Brother James died on Sunday, October 4, 2015 at Bronzeville Park Center in Chicago, IL. A De La Salle Christian Brother for 71 years, he was born James Cletus McDonald in Oak Park, son of James and Kathryn (nee Dorgan) McDonald. (Excerpt from the notice published by Br. Larry Schatz FSC, Visitor of Midwest).

Br. James was assigned to De La Sale University, Manila from 1957 - 1971.

Health and Wellness

Having a fat-loss diet does not have to be boring. Dr. Roussel gives this list of food that can help in fat loss. Included in this list are rotisserie chicken commonly bought in supermarkets and cheese sticks. See the complete list at <http://www.menshealth.com/nutrition/fat-loss-foods>

Fraternally,

Edmundo Fernandez FSC
Provincialate