

26 September 2011 • 19

Pastoral Visit, Philippines (Part 2). Br. Tom and I flew to the Philippines on 25 August to go to the remaining six communities that were not visited in June. Due to the number of communities we needed to visit and the limited amount of time, Tom and I decided, at least in the initial part, to separate and visit different communities. Tom interviewed the Brothers of the University of St. La Salle (Bacolod) and St. Benilde Community (Green Hills) while I focused on the formation houses --- the Novitiate and the Lasallian Formation Center.

We traveled together once again in our visits to Jaime Hilario in Bagac, Bataan and to the Mindanao communities. For the latter we flew to Ozamiz first to see the Brothers of La Salle University and after an overnight stay we proceeded by ferry to Lanao and by land to Iligan City to be with the Brothers of La Salle Academy.

The pastoral visit ended with the Sector Council meeting on 7 September with the 8th and 9th as free days. We flew out for Japan on the 10th. The following are some notes of the visit:

- There are five Brothers in Bacolod taking care of three ministries: University of St. La Salle, St. Joseph High School – La Salle and Bahay Pag Asa. Dindo Maralit is Director of house, Vice Chancellor for Administration and in the absence of Arian Lopez who is on Parmenie, looks after Bahay Pag Asa. Ray Suplido is President of the University and St. Joseph High School. Hans Moran and Mario Dacanay are professors in the University and Sockie de La Rosa, the young brother in the community, teaches at SJHS
- The St. Benilde Community has eight Brothers and looks after four ministries namely: La Salle Green Hills (LSGH), College of St. Benilde (CSB), La Salle College (LSC), Antipolo and the Lasallian Formation Center (LFC). Vic Franco is the Director of the house but travels to CSB daily. Dante Amisola divides his time between the Central House where he holds office as Sector Bursar and CSB where he is Vice Chancellor for Development. Felipe Belleza is President of LSGH and LSC and divides his time between the two schools. Manny Hilado ably supports him in various capacities in both schools. Bobby Casingal is Sports Director of LSGH. Vince Fernandez is Director of Postulants at the LFC and Mike Valenzuela supports him as the lone staff. Ricky Laguda is a member of the community but is kept busy with his responsibilities as Sector Leader and President of DLSP.
- There are 11 LEAD novices in the novitiate, 8 Filipinos, 2 Malaysians and 1 from Myanmar. Of the 11 four are in their second year and will finish in January 2012 and the rest are on the new one-year program and will end in May 2012. The three Brothers who are on the staff all come from LEAD and I also took the opportunity to interview them. There are nine Filipino postulants
- La Salle Univeristy in Ozamiz has three Brothers, Manny Sia is Director of the community and Vice Chancellor for Mission, Jimmy Dalumpines is President of the school and Allan Buenavista is Principal of the Laboratory School and Special Education School. Across the bay, in Lanao, is La Salle Academy also with three Brothers. Raffy Reyes is President of the school and Director of the community and under him are two young Brothers, Alex Diaz and Mikey Cua. The two YBs are full time teachers with Alex working in the high school and Mikey in the elementary.
- Jaime Hilario Integrated School in Bagac, Bataan has three Brothers working in the school. Jun Estrellas is Director of the community with JJ Jimenez as Director of the school. Since JHIS has been designated as the Apostolic Training Community, scholastics moving out of the LFC are assigned there thus this is Inigo Riola's first community.
- We also attended the President's Circle, the National Mission Council and the Sector Council

I wish to thank Sector Leader, Br. Ricky Laguda for organizing the two-part visit and to all the Brothers and members of the Lasallian Family who welcomed us warmly.

Fraternally,



LEAD Provincialate
Hong Kong