

+Brother Charles Michael O'Leary FSC

15 October 1928 - 24 December 2015

*Eternal rest grant unto Charles, O Lord.
And let the perpetual light shine upon him.*

And may the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing away of Brother Charles O'Leary this morning, 24th December 2015. He collapsed outside Stella Maris Church after attending morning Mass in Tanjung Aru, Malaysia. The cause of death is still to be determined.

Early formation

Juniorate 1943-45	Castletown , Co Leix , Ireland
Novitiate 1945/46	Castletown , Co Leix , Ireland
Scholasticate	Mallow, Co Cork, Ireland 1946/47 St.John's College Inglewood, Berkshire, England

Vows	First Vows	1946 Castletown, Leix, Ireland
	Final Profession	1953 Penang, Malaysia

Tour of Ministry:

- St Joseph's Blackheath, Preparatory School (2 months) and Scottish Home Office schools for 3 months, 1950
- St.Joseph's Sec.School, Kuching, Sarawak, East Malaysia 1951 – 1957
- La Secondary School, Tanjung Aru, Sabah East Malaysia. 1958 onwards

Landmark events, appointments and achievements:

- One of the pioneering Brothers in Kuching and Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Borneo in the 1950s
- Appointed Director and Principal of S.M. La Salle, Kota Kinabalu in 1969, a post held for 17 yrs. (1969- 1985) Did much to build up the school physically, academically, socially and spiritually.
- Appointed Director of Benildus House, a boarding hostel in 1990.
- Served on the Boards of Managers of La Salle Secondary and Sacred Heart Primary schools for the past 20 yrs or more. Assisted the Boards to collect funds to maintain and erect new buildings for the schools.
- Patron of the Alumni Association of La Salle and Sacred Heart – attended all meetings as advisor.
- Diocesan Catechetical Director and Coordinator for well nigh 20 yrs.- also was involved in the RCIA in the parishes for 12 yrs. Religious Coordinator and Animator of Religious Knowledge in our 2 schools. For that, the Diocese awarded him with the 'Anugerah Pelayan Setia' on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Diocese in 2002.
- Member of PARC Catechetical Commission 1986-89

State and Federal Awards

- The State of Sabah and the Federal Government in recognition for his long-serving and committed service to Education in Malaysia bestowed on him the followings awards: ASDK 1984 (Sabah); AMN (Federal) 1985; PGDK (Sabah) 1990.
- He was also named 'Paul Harris Fellow' by Rotary International on the occasion of his retirement as Principal of La Salle in 1985.

We have lost a great Brother today. You will be missed, Br. Charles. I would like to request all LEAD Community Directors to have him remembered at Masses and pray the Office for the Dead for the repose of our Brother's soul.

Fraternally,

Edmundo Fernandez FSC
Manila