LEAD STORY

Official Bulletin of the Lasallian East Asia District
www.lasalle-lead.org

DATE 15 April 2024 · **ISSUE** No. 415

+
JMJ

April 2024, Wk 3

Why are you troubled? And why do questions arise in your hearts? [Luke 24:35-48]

What touches me in our Gospel is that Jesus takes time to find out where we are. He is thoroughly interested in our situation. He invites us to tell our story. I remember a spiritual director telling me once that in life, it sometimes does not matter that you do not know where you are going. Sometimes, what is more important in life is just knowing where you are. We appreciate the spaces where we can tell our story; and with someone else, discover where we are. Later on in the Gospel we are told, that "Jesus opened their minds to understand the Scripture". Jesus' action reminds us that the act of teaching begins with a keen interest in and openness to the situation of those we teach. Let us endeavor like Jesus, to create those spaces where we invite others, as individuals and as communities, to become aware of their life situation. And as we become more aware of what troubles them and the questions that arise in their hearts, we create an openness for the Spirit to cast new light and breathe new life on their situation.

This week in LEAD, we welcome back to the District Br. Allan Buenavista FSC who returns after a 2-year assignment in Jerusalem in the Proche-Orient District. We also thank Ms. Josie Burgos and Ms. Vangie de Peralta from the Philippines who assisted Br. Raffy Reyes FSC in conducting Lasallian formation for our communities in Papua New Guinea. This week, Br. Nico Mariano FSC begins his classes in Japanese Studies. Like Br. Allan; Josie and Vangie; and Br. Nico, we are always being sent to bring Good News to other cultures. In our encounters, we hope to arrive at a renewed understanding of ourselves and our own culture – of its gifts and its wounds. In response to the Institute's call to go to the peripheries, let us continue to develop in ourselves this openness to the situation of persons of other cultures. May our encounters in the peripheries be spaces for new life to be breathed into us.

Br. Allan with young people from the Proche-Orient District

Ms. Josie (left) and Ms. Vangie (right) together with Br. Raffy and Mr. John Mondo

Br. Nico in his Japanese Studies class

Fraternally,

Br. Jose Mari Jimenez FSC

LEAD STORY

Official Bulletin of the Lasallian East Asia District
www.lasalle-lead.org

DATE 15 April 2024 · **ISSUE** No. 415

PARC 2024 RENEWAL PLAN: A ROADMAP FOR LASALLIAN TRANSFORMATION

Text by Mr. Jyron Raz

The Pacific Asia Regional Conference embarks on a journey towards greater collaboration and synergy with its Renewal Plan. Aimed at fostering vibrant communities, strengthening mission associations, and promoting unity, the plan outlines five pathways for transformation over the next six years.

Initiated at the PARC48 Conference in Pattaya, Thailand, in January 2023, the process involved members from each district forming project teams to address regional priorities. With a focus on Lasallians Beyond Borders, sharing best practices, and enhancing formation programs, the groundwork was laid for the development of the Renewal Plan.

From 7 to 11 April 2024, 11 Brothers and 6 Lasallian partners met in Tagaytay, Philippines, for the PARC49 Conference. Under the leadership of Br. Ricky Laguda, Br. Chris Patiño, and Br. Sergio Leal, extensive planning was done devised to promote collaboration and communication across diverse Districts within PARC.

The objectives of the conference included:

- Reviewing and developing Brothers' formation.
- Creating new avenues for leadership gatherings.
- Dreaming of ways to harness the diverse talents across the region.

Central to these efforts was creating a Renewal Plan aligned with the directives of the 46th General Chapter.

The discussions and reflections underscored the region's commitment to initiatives like the Leavening Project while recognizing the need for innovative approaches to collaboration and communication. Challenges such as strengthening accompaniment models and enhancing communication effectiveness were identified and addressed.The Renewal Plan, that covers 2024 to 2029, outlines five pathways for transformation; these pathways include deepening spiritual and fraternal lives, promoting co-responsibility, and advancing Lasallian educational missions. Over the next six years, PARC commits to implementing these pathways through collaborative efforts and shared commitment.

As the region sets off on this journey of renewal and transformation, the spirit of unity and cooperation remains at the forefront. With renewed purpose and dedication, the region endeavors to build synergies and propel the Lasallian mission toward a more prophetic and impactful future."

You may access the photos through this link: **https://photos.app.goo.gl/7ga2s8dvSmbuZbPn6**

CALLS FROM THE CHAPTERS
AIMEL Strategic Axis 2 (p.40)
Building and Revitalizing Formation and Accompaniment for the Future of the Lasallian Mission
General Chapter Pathway #5 Association for Mission

LEAD STORY

Official Bulletin of the Lasallian East Asia District
www.lasalle-lead.org

DATE 15 April 2024 · **ISSUE** No. 415

LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION FOR THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF LASALLIAN PRESENCE IN HONG KONG

The Hong Kong Lasallian Family kicks off its preparation for the 150th anniversary of Lasallian presence in the Sector with a **Logo Design Competition.** Interested Lasallians may scan the QR code on the poster above for more details. The deadline for submission in on 30 April 2024.

LEAD STORY

Official Bulletin of the Lasallian East Asia District
www.lasalle-lead.org

DATE 15 April 2024 · **ISSUE** No. 415

LASALLIANS IN THAILAND CELEBRATE SONGKRAN FESTIVAL

The Songkran Festival (13-15 April 2024) marks the traditional Thai New Year—when the sun passes into the Aries constellation. The water pouring ceremony—a significant part of Songkran—symbolizes "cleansing, reverence, and good fortune." The festivities is seen a time to "symbolically wash away misfortunes, pray for prosperity for the coming year, reunite with family members, and honor ancestors and older adults."

Lasallian schools and ministries in Thailand celebrated Songkran last 11 April 2024.

UNESCO - Songkran in Thailand, Traditional Thai New Year Festival. ich.unesco.org/en/RL/songkran-in-thailand-traditional-thai-new-year-festival-01719.

La Salle Bangkok
(photo from De La Salle Brothers – Thailand Facebook page)

La Salle Chanthaburi
(photo from De La Salle Brothers – Thailand Facebook page)

La Salle Miguel House
(photo from De La Salle Brothers – Thailand Facebook page)