

30 April 2013 • 96

362nd Birth Anniversary of Saint John Baptist de La Salle



Vocation Summer Camp (#VSC13). 41 Aspirants, Contacts and Discerners from all over the Philippines, 10 Lasallian partners and four Young Brothers gathered together to share 3 days of faith, give service and build community with one another in the City of Smiles, Bacolod City.

Day 1 - Faith. This day allowed the participants to be more sensitive to the stirrings of their hearts through the inspiring messages of faith and vocation by Mr. Sonny Alvarez and Br. Dante Amisola FSC. Br. Mandy Dujunco FSC capped the morning with a short yet meaningful recollection on seeing things with the eyes of faith. In the afternoon the participants were given a tour of USLS and St. Joseph's School – La Salle. Br. Mikey gave the synthesis of the day during the night prayer.

Day Two - Service. In the morning the participants went to Bahay Pagasa Youth Center to share their skills and talents. The most significant experience of the participants was their interaction with the residents over snacks and lunch where they got to hear life stories of the young boys in conflict with the law. In the afternoon participants went for recreation and relaxation as they enjoyed the facilities of the USLS Ecopark. In the evening the programs for the coming school year of the Vocations Ministry Office were presented to the group for streamlining of activities and plans in vocations promotion in the different ABCD Communities. Br. Iñigo synthesized the day's events during compline.

Day 3 - Communion. On the last day of the camp, communion was developed and strengthened as the participants did a citywide amazing race. As a community, the participants were able to learn about the significant events of the life of St. La Salle, got to visit and experience the Bacolod culture as they performed tasks and raced around the places that are distinctly Ilonggo. #VSC13 culminated with a Eucharistic celebration where six contacts

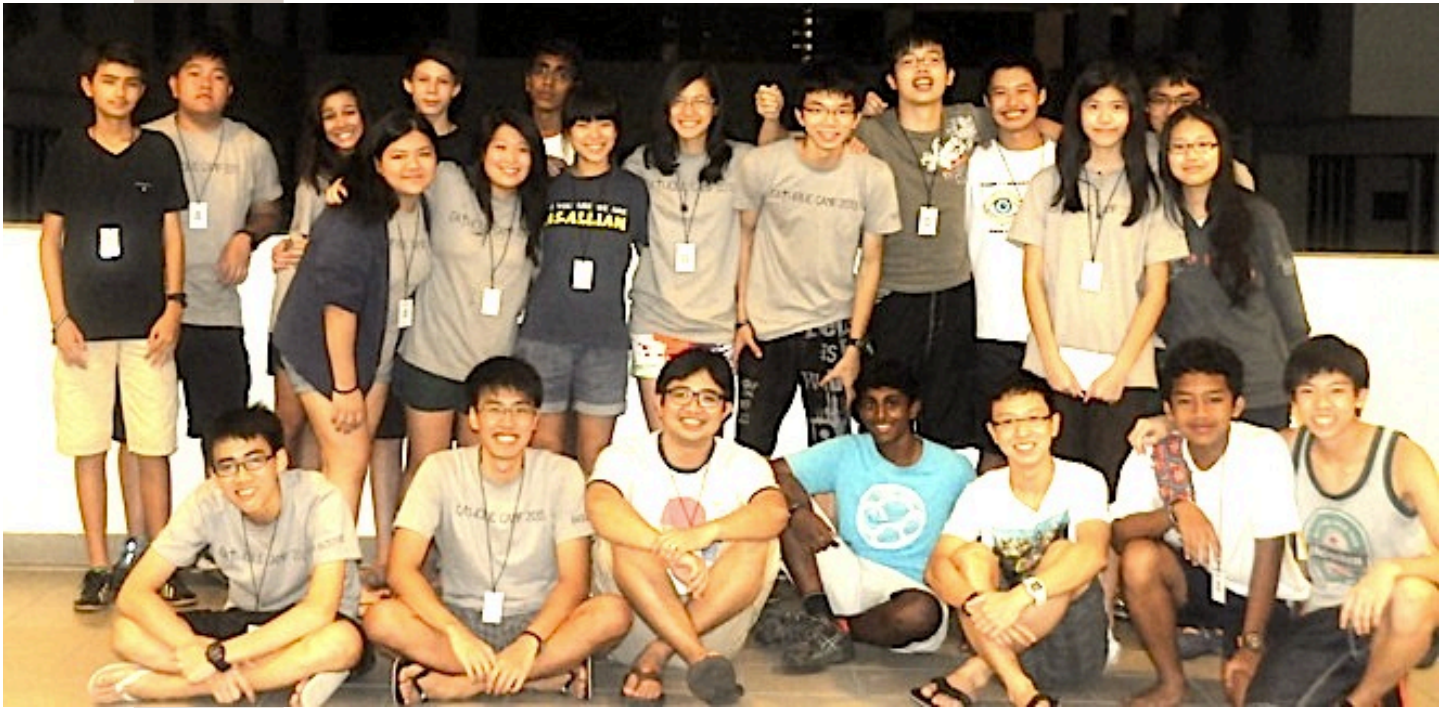
signed up for the Aspirancy Program while 19 others renewed their contracts.

Chefs Richard Ynayan and Andrew Go of the Institute for Culinary Arts (ICA) prepared a sumptuous dinner for all the participants and staff of the camp. A simple and meaningful solidarity night followed which ended with the testimonials of the incoming Postulants, Eugene de Luna (Lipa) and Felix Murillo (Bacolod) and incoming novice, Ranier Guillergan.

It was indeed a successful #VSC13 as the ABCD's all went home with bodies nourished by the delicious Ilonggo food served to them and with hearts full of enthusiasm and renewed vigor in discerning God's will in their life brought by the whole experience of the Vocation Summer Camp 2013. "Amu kami ni ya sa Bacolod! (This is how we do it in Bacolod!)" (Br. Alex Diaz)



LEAD Mission Study. The members of the LEAD Mission Study Team, Prof. Ronald Holmes, Br. Steve Hogan, Br. John Pill, Br. Thomas Lavin, and Br. Ricky Laguda, met at the LEAD Provincialate in Hong Kong last 27 April to discuss the next phase of the study. The team was commissioned by the District Council in response to the Lines of Action under "Educational Mission" and "Association" from the Acts of the First LEAD Chapter. The initial results and recommendations were already presented to District Council last 20 April.




SJII Catholic Camp. Around 60 students from Grades 7 to 12 of St. Joseph’s Institution International in Singapore took part in the Catholic Camp from April 26 to 28. The 3-day camp aims to strengthen the ties among the Catholics in the high school. The students were joined by Br. Arian Lopez FSC, Faith Formation Coordinator for the High School and Bryan Oh, a recent alumnus. A dedicated team of facilitators from Grades 7 to 9 accompanied the younger students through a series of games, input and prayer sessions meant to help them begin to take a more active role in their faith. It is hoped that the students will continue to find ways to get together to help each other deepen their relationship with God and each other. *(Br. Arian Lopez)*



Circular 466: “They Will Call Themselves Brothers”. Circular 466 is the logical continuation of Circular 461 which was entitled “Associated for the Lasallian Mission...an Act of Hope”. The Superior General and his Council has repeatedly encouraged all Brothers to use the document for personal and communal reflections. It is also one of the preparatory documents for the 45th General Chapter and other international Lasallian gatherings. By this time, Circular 466 has been distributed to each Brother. Br. David Hawke and the other General Councillors are interested in any feedback that you have yourself or that you have heard. You may send your comments and questions to Br. David

They will call themselves BROTHERS



Circular 466
BROTHERS OF THE
CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS
General Council

directly through electronic mail. Those who wish to have a digital copy of Circular 466 may download it through this link: http://www.lasalle.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Circular466_ENG_web.pdf



LSC Hosts Lasallians from Paris. “Wednesday, 17 April, to Friday, 19 April, La Salle College (Kowloon, Hong Kong) hosted students from Francs-Bourgeois, a Lasallian school from Paris, France. The students from Paris were able to practice their Putonghua (Mandarin) and our French language students were able to practice their French. Girls from Heep Yunn and Maryknoll Convent School assisted with home-stay for the girls from Francs-Bourgeois and the PTA supported the farewell dinner for the guests. Thank you to Mr Chan, Mr Sin, Mr Mak, and the parents and students who hosted our guests from Paris. Picture courtesy of Mr Mak.”
(<http://web.lasalle.edu.hk>)

INSTITUTE SNIPPETS

LASALLIAN REGION OF NORTH AMERICA (RELAN)

Lasallians to Serve in Jamaican School. The Lasallian mission will now touch the hearts of young people in a Jamaican school. Brothers and lay Lasallians from the District of Eastern North America (DENA) will open a new community and serve in a high school starting August 1, 2013.

This commitment is in response to an invitation by Bishop Neil Tiedemann, CP, Bishop of the Mandeville Diocese of Jamaica, West Indies. DENA will provide the leadership for St. Vincent Strambi School, which had a modest beginning as a trade and agricultural school but reopened as an academic school in 1994. It currently serves 175 students from grades 7-13 as a college preparatory school and offers skills-training for grades 12 and 13.

Brother Augustine Nicoletti, FSC, D.Min, Ed.D, currently in his ninth year at Manhattan College and presently the chair of the Education Department, will assume the role of principal at St. Vincent's. Brother James Wallace, FSC, Ed.D, a veteran missionary, currently in his 10th year of service at Manhattan, including the past three years as Vice President for Mission, will also serve at the school. Two lay Lasallians are in the process of being identified to complete the community and to serve in the school as teachers and as moderators of extracurricular programs.

St. Vincent Strambi will continue to be a diocesan school and rely on Jamaican teachers. DENA's initial commitment to the ministry is for two years. (www.lasallian.info)

Bro. Dennis Malloy Re-elected as DENA Visitor. Brother Dennis Malloy will serve another four-year term as Visitor of the District of Eastern North America. After the General Council reviewed vote results showing overwhelming support from the Brothers of the District, Superior General Brother Álvaro Rodríguez Echeverría officially appointed Bro. Dennis for a second term which will begin this September. (www.lasallian.info)

Young Brothers Workshop. The young Brothers of the Region gathered at Daylesford Abbey in suburban Philadelphia, April 5 – 7, for their spring retreat. Bro. John Crawford, professor of Religious Education at La Salle University gave presentations and facilitated discussion on Circular 466: They will call themselves Brothers. Our young men also spent one day preparing for the International Young Brothers Assembly this summer in the Philippines. They drafted a statement of beliefs and hopes. (*RELAN Review* | Vol. VII No. 2)

RVFC Meeting. The spring meeting of the Regional Vocation Formation Committee (RVFC) was held at Daylesford Abbey, April 7 – 9. In an effort to coordinate regional initial formation programs, members shared their District's application process for the postulancy. The 2012-2013 Regional vocation promotion efforts were reviewed and plans for 2013-2014 were developed. Preparations for the 2013 novitiate class were announced. Four novice-candidates will begin the novitiate year on August 12 at the Regional novitiate in Napa, CA. (*RELAN Review* | Vol. VII No. 2)

AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, PAKISTAN AND PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The Lasallian Spirit Alive in Aotearoa. New ground was broken last week when thirteen Lay Lasallians joined six Brothers for the retreat at the Mary MacKillop Centre at Mission Bay in Auckland. Br Michael Valenzuela's presentations on spiritual and personal transformation and on reaching out in ministry were very well received and made a deep impression. Daily Mass was celebrated alternatively by Bishop Pat Dunne and Mons Brian Arahill, affiliated member of the Institute, both of whom collaborated in a sacrament of Reconciliation service one evening. In expressing appreciation, many of the Partners said that they had been longing for such a retreat opportunity for some time and hoped the initiative would be available to others. While the retreat was taking place the whare at John Paul College Rotorua was the venue for the LES Heritage programme last week. The participants included teachers from the three schools. Ben Blanche and Dominic Woodward (STM Volunteers at Mangere) added something special to the programme. The three day programme was facilitated by Bernadette Fredricksen (Lasallian Facilitator JPC) and Br Anthony Cummins and Br Ray Khan. (*Now You Know* | ANZPPNG: 29/04/13)

Share the Mission in Balgo Hills. While in Balgo, I met with the four young men participating in the Share the Mission Program this year. Every Thursday night they meet in the Brothers' community to share with the Brothers reflections on their experiences of the past week. All four volunteers are writing a blog. Take a look at "Desert Living, Balgo Life" by Mitchell Marshal (Oakhill). Mitchell's blog can be found at <http://mitchmeetsbalgo.blogspot.com.au/> (*Now You Know* | ANZPPNG: 29/04/13)

Errata. In the document, Circular 468: "Convocation of the 45th General Chapter", kindly note the following correction:

In the last line of the last page of the timetable – page 26 – for the 45th General Chapter it states that the dates for the 45th General Chapter are: 22 April – 2 June. This line should read: 22 April – 8 June.

As is already stated on page 10 of the same Circular (1.3.8) the Chapter will conclude on 8 June which is Pentecost Sunday.

30 April 1651. Today, 30 April, we join the worldwide Lasallian family in celebrating the 362nd birthday of Saint John Baptist de La Salle. Schools in some Sectors are preparing for Founders' Day, which is traditionally celebrated on 15 May, the original feast day of the Founder according to the General Roman Calendar of the Catholic Church from 1904 to 1969. The current General Roman Calendar moved his feast to the date of his death anniversary, 7 April. Brothers and Lasallians may find the following resources helpful for personal or institutional use:

La Salle Magazine. An excellent magazine from La Salle University in Philadelphia on the life, writings and educational impact of St. La Salle. A large file to download but worth having a copy and sharing with fellow Lasallians: <http://www.brothersvocation.org/pdf/printresources/LaSalleMagazineseriesonDeLaSalle.pdf>

In The Footsteps of De La Salle. An interactive website dedicated to the life of St. La Salle based on an actual pilgrimage of the places in France where he walked and worked. Complete with maps, timelines, images and videos, it is a useful resource for anyone interested about the Founder: <http://www.dlsfootsteps.org>

Others Resources. Other Lasallian websites offer a variety of materials: comics, posters, prayers, articles:
 RELAN: <http://www.brothersvocation.org/getinvolved/resources/default.asp>
 ANZPPNG: <http://www.lasallian.org.au/public/resources/index.cfm?loadref=3>
 Generalate: <http://www.lasalle.org/en/resources/>



Fraternally,

Br. Edmundo L. Fernandez FSC
Hong Kong

Visitor's Calendar		
Date	Event	Venue
May		
02 – 05	Japan Finance Meeting	California
05 – 09		Mexico
10 – 12	Sector Council Meeting	Thailand
15 – 18	Jubilee: Matthew Liew Visit Kota Kinabalu	Malaysia
20 – 29	Dental Medical Check Up	Philippines