

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

07 April 2026



The Easter Vigil fire was lit in preparation for the service at the climax of the Holy Triduum retreat at Mont La Salle

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- Easter hope and joy to permeate our being;
- The LaSalle Milwaukie community as they grieve over the loss of a senior student;
- Healing and justice for victims of abuse;
- Healing for Michael French, Bernie LoCoco, Brian Dybowski, Ron Roggenback, and Joseph Pham;
- A swift and just settlement to our CA abuse cases;
- Consolation of mourners; especially the families of Joe Haley and Fr. John Vogl;
- The Holy Spirit to stir young adults to consider a vocation.



Met with Joseph Le, Visitor of Vietnam, to deepen our fraternal partnership

My travels and assorted news...

Last week I had a series of important meetings. One was to lock in spending limits on the novitiate construction project. The team was able to clearly understand what was included and what aspects of the project are to be put on hold for the next phases as funding becomes available. There was a productive Executive Board meeting for Saint Mary's College to prepare for our upcoming board meeting this week and the board retreat this summer. Finally, our legal team assembled online to strategize for a final round of negotiating with insurance carriers before agreeing to the proposed settlement. Please keep our attorneys and this settlement in your prayers.

Joseph Le, the Visitor of Vietnam, joined us for the Holy Triduum Retreat. He'd been in the US for two weeks to visit with benefactors, their network of alumni, and former Brothers. Joseph and I met to discuss formalizing an agreement of district support for Vietnamese Brothers doing graduate work in the San Jose area. They will live with our La Salle Vietnam House community and likely attend Santa Clara University. The Brothers staff a much-needed center for theology and pastoral studies in Vietnam.

“Do not be afraid! You are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here for he has been raised.” MT 28:5-6

George Van Grieken facilitated and planned our district's Holy Triduum Retreat. Twenty-one Brothers signed up for the retreat with members of the HFC and the MLS community joining them for services. We had representation from seven communities. **Father Tom McElligott**, the SMC community chaplain, offered the sacrament of Reconciliation and was the celebrant. The services were simple, reverent, and prayerful. The singing was robust. A shout out to sacristan **Ken Boesch** for the musical accompaniment, setting up and decorating the chapel. **Paul-Andre Durham** assisted as chaplain of the main chapel and as a lector. **David Caretti** served as a cantor and sang *The Exsultet* beautifully. **Emmet Sinitiere** was a lector and acolyte. Other lectors included **Peter Phu**, **Dan Fenton**, **Fortunat Phong**, **Rafa Rodriguez**, Thomas Guro, and me. As always, a key component of the positive experience was for Brothers to converse and reconnect during socials and meals. The weather was cool but sunny which allowed Brothers to walk around the property and sit outside. Many commented on the beautiful rose bushes which were bursting with blooms. There was a well-attended optional discussion each day on spiritual readings.



Holy Thursday procession to the Altar of Repose in the Founder's Chapel

Miscellaneous...

Please keep **Michael French** (MW), longtime CIL staff member and, most recently, subdirector of novices for **Matthew Chiantella** and **Halen Gamino**. Michael suffered a serious stroke and has not been responsive to treatment. The invitations for the *Brothers Under 60* regional gathering in Mundelein went out. **Rafa Rodriguez** is part of the organizing committee for this summer's event. The Superior and some of the General Council will attend. I've walked through the restoration and renovation project in the former novitiate. The progress is dramatic with new ceilings in the large conference space being installed. Most of the sheetrock work is complete so that rooms and halls have taken shape. The shower tile in the seven second-floor bedrooms has been installed and is quite attractive. What one notices immediately is the brightness of the space and the dramatic views out the refurbished windows.



Almost forty Brothers gathered for the Holy Thursday Mass in the Mont La Salle Community Chapel



James Brown as lector at a community communion service at St. Michael's



Affiliated member Ted Tsukahara and wife, Victoria, at the recent benefaction



At a luncheon, Chris Brady and Gerry Short, AFSC, conversed with Sr. Adelia Armentrout



Connected with Ted Kanelopoulos who was at Mont La Salle for a school workshop



Tom Westberg and Edmond Larouche visited during the Holy Triduum services

"Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?" LK 24:32

De La Salle Institute

Mont La Salle | 4401 Redwood Road | Napa, CA 94558
Covington | 104 W. 11th Avenue | Covington, LA 70433



LASALLIAN DISTRICT
of
SAN FRANCISCO
NEW ORLEANS