

# BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

21 April 2026



Trustee Lawrence Haley and Mission Advocate Andrea Burns at a La Salle Yakima Board Meeting last week

## PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- Peace in our lives and in the world;
- The needs of our community directors;
- La Salle HS in Yakima;
- Students and faculty as the year winds down;
- Young men discerning religious life;
- Healing for Charles Miller, Joseph Pham, Bernie LoCoco, Brian Dybowski, Bosco Truong, Michael French, Julie Sturm (GVS's niece), Carlos Rincon (my godson's father), the Kuffners, and Chance Crews;
- The Holy Spirit to magnify our vocation efforts;
- That we may be examples of Easter hope.



John, Alphonse, Jerry, and Peter at St Paul's Mass celebrated by Archbishop

## My travels and assorted news...

To underscore the importance of Religion teachers in the Mission, **Charlie Legendre**, AFSC, has created two representative chairs to be a liaison to the District Leadership. Lawrence Kong-Ellison (DLSNC) and Mary Alice Spinelli (Justin-Siena) met with me last Tuesday to discuss concerns and possible ways the District could further support the vital role of Religion faculty.

Flew to Seattle and drove to Yakima (in the rain) to spend the rest of the week. I attended a board meeting with Maria Ribera and Mike Daniels zooming in. The board supported focused initiatives on admissions and development. Shout out to **Lawrence Haley** for his conscientious preparation for board meetings. I also met with faculty and staff to listen to their concerns. With low enrollment and declining numbers in the two Catholic feed schools, the faculty shared concerns about the direction and viability of the school. Enjoyed a delicious dinner prepared by Chef **Dan Morgan** and treated the community to dinner at The Outback where we shared a blooming onion. Dan continues to update the alumni and donor database. In our time together, **John Montgomery** was able to concretize the assistance

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*“Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger.” JN 6:35*

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he needs from our district leadership. We are scrambling to get him what he needs. To assist with admissions, **Javi Hansen** is very present to the Catholic community. He makes presentations to Confirmation classes on top of coaching soccer (which involves a great deal of travel). Please keep this school and community in your prayers.

On Saturday the Directors Association met at SMC. Deacon Steven DeMartino from Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM) led the group in reflections on what's working well and what needs attention in our communities. The goal is for Deacon Steven to create a curriculum for coming meetings to develop the skill set of our directors to best serve the Brothers in community.

On Sunday, I traveled to Tijuana to make a joint visit to *Centro La Salle*. I joined Visitor **Carlos Castañeda** (MXN) for a community outing down the Baja CA coastline to Ensenada and Puerto Nuevo where we feasted on *langostas* (lobsters). The community of four Brothers continue to animate



A sunburnt Javi Hansen checked in with Dan Morgan in his La Salle Yakima office

## Miscellaneous...

this all-volunteer faculty. A special blessing was listening to students (now faculty) speak of the transformational power of the adult learning center.

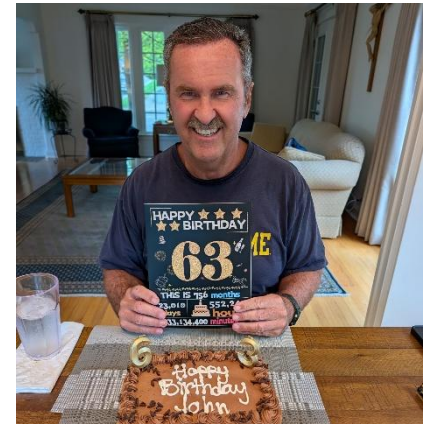
**Charles Miller** was hospitalized to deal with a serious infection and some cardiac issues but he's recovered quickly and returned to HFC. Praise God! **Michael French (MW)** was moved to long-term rehabilitation facility. He has a tough road ahead, but this is a great sign of improvement. **David Caretti** has been in Oxford, MS, to visit with two contacts we have at Ole Miss! Through God's grace and the good example of our Brother and Partners, students are electing to participate in the sacraments of initiation into our Church. Mullen, Saint Mary's College, and DLS Concord are just three examples. **John Hoover** shared a beautiful letter by a student outlining the reasons he'd decided to embrace the faith. Amen to that!



In Ensenada, BC, for outing with Jose Carlos, Rafael, Abelardo, me, Emilio, Daniel, Carlos, and Juan Diego



Jonathan Cord warming up potatoes for community dinner in Berkeley



Dan Morgan and Javi Hansen celebrated John Montgomery's 63<sup>rd</sup> year of life



Charles Miller, Martin DeMartini, and Laurence Konersmann at Holy Thursday service



Mariano Lopez discussing community in Santa Fe during the Directors Association



MXN Visitor Carlos Castañeda listened as *Centro* Director Daniel Novello updated on construction

*"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. 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue | Covington, LA 70433



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