

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

12 May 2026



With Jack, Matthew, and Martin at the renewal of Matthew's annual vows in front of the San Miguel HS student body

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- In thanksgiving for our mothers and maternal figures in our formation;
- Peace in our hearts and an end to war;
- School communities as the year comes to an end;
- Healing for Bernie LoCoco, Brian Dybowski, Joseph Pham, Bosco Troung; John Montgomery, Edmond Larouche, Matt Powell, Julie Sturm, Liza Ribera, and Carlos Rincon;
- Those in transition and discernment;
- Families dealing with addiction;
- Vocations to religious life; especially the Brothers.



Jack Henderson works with many students to catch up during lunch

My travels and assorted news...

Last Tuesday, our Investment Committee held their quarterly meeting. Our longstanding strategy of a diversified portfolio of value stocks has proven a buttress against global instability and the upheaval of markets. Our committee members thoroughly vet any new investments. The District is fortunate to have their investment expertise in these complex matters.

On Wednesday, I traveled to Tucson for **Matthew Chiantella's** annual vow renewal. The school assembled for a prayer service which featured the testimony of four Lasallians (teacher, former LV, graduate, and staff) reflecting on their vocational journey and the impact which the San Miguel High experience has had on them. I explained how Matthew's choice of being a consecrated religious was one unique expression of the Lasallian vocation. It was a beautiful service celebrating our charism. The Brothers here spoiled me with dinner out at a charming Pho restaurant downtown. On our last night together, we ate Popeye's Chicken in their backyard oasis. There were cool breezes and we were surrounded by the xeriscaped beauty. The Sonoran desert calls to my heart!

“Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope.” 1PT 3:15

Martin Vu captured wonderful images of Matthew's vows. A shout out to him for sharing those. **Jack Henderson** showed me the itinerary of his upcoming summer adventures. On highlight is exploring South Dakota's caves and mountains. Matthew plans to immerse himself for three weeks at *Regis La Salle* in Hermosillo, Sonora, to improve his Spanish in anticipation of the International Young Brothers Gathering.

The Office of Education staff gathered in Denver to pray together, break bread, and to plan out the coming year. This was a unique opportunity as most of the staff work remotely. The initial feedback from the synodal listening sessions has been in support of our efforts in formation and sustainability. In fact, the request is for more formation and District support with sustainability. The staff is exploring how to offer more formation opportunities at the local level or bringing together 2-3 schools by region to save time and cut costs. The same is true for student formation options. Maggie Nass has been partnering with Maria Ribera to address the requests by some schools for assistance with budgeting and managing financial aid.



David and Steven with Chris in Rome for an international conference on formation

Miscellaneous...

The much-beloved physical therapist Peggy LaRochelle returned to HFC after her 8-week post shoulder replacement surgery hiatus. **Laurence Konersmann** and Scott Smetzer led the exercise group for a time, but the group preferred a tape of Peggy directing them. The Brothers are very pleased to have her back in person!

Bosco Truong, who has gone on hospice, was visited at HFC by his younger sister, family, and friends. Although Bosco is increasingly less communicative, he was obviously pleased to be around them. **Thomas Westberg** hosted a group of former retreat center staff to lunch to help him to clarify details and history about that ministry. Tom is writing a book about the center. Brothers have been helpful with identifying individuals in old photos. **Donald Johanson** has been busy overseeing the new irrigation system and planting of a new curbside berm at Mont La Salle.



Andy, Charlie, Maggie, Bob, Maria, Katie, Tracy, Kenenna, and Janell at Office of Education planning in Denver



Although he doesn't look it, Pete Dudenheffer turned eighty last week!



Martin thoroughly enjoyed ice cold fresh coconut water and flesh



Robert O'Kane and Ken Boesch at dinner during Holy Triduum Retreat at MLS



Matthew Chiantella collecting raw clay in Green Valley to fashion into pottery



With Clementina Carlyle and Christine Miranda; fellow founders at San Miguel in Tucson

“Easter opens us up to a hope that never fails, to a light that never fades, to a fullness of joy that nothing can take away.” Pope Leo XIV

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