

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

07 July 2026



With the beautiful Pacific as a backdrop, Dat Hoang posed with some of his family during their cruise to stunning Alaska

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- Our nation to live out our ideals;
- Peace in our hearts and in the world;
- Those in mourning;
- Fearful immigrant communities in the USA;
- An increase of vocations;
- A successful upcoming Praesidium accreditation;
- Buttimer participants;
- Healing for Brian Dybowski, Bernie LoCoco, Melvin Pelton, Antony Doss, Richard Kovatch, Liza Ribera;
- Families dealing with addiction;
- Healing and justice for victims of sexual abuse.



On loan from *Team México*, Chris Patiño joined Steven, Rafa, and David

My travels and assorted news...

The Buttimer Institute has completed its' first week. SFNO has nineteen participants representing nine of our schools! Ten are in Year 1, four in Year 2, and five in Year 3. Participants come from Saint Paul's (6), Christian Brothers HS Sacramento (2), Cathedral HS Los Angeles (2), Saint Mary's College HS (3), Mullen HS Denver (2), DLS North Catholic Portland (1), Christian Brother School NO (1), San Miguel HS Tucson (1), and Cristo Rey DLS Oakland (1). **George Van Grieken** is one of the presenters with Andy Kuffner and Janell Kloosterman as support staff. After only two days of class, **Antony Doss** tested positive for COVID! Fortunately, he was able to rejoin the group for the last week.

University of Mississippi student and Contact Nicholas Beaumont (SPS alum) just completed two weeks working with incoming freshmen at SMCHS's summer program. The Berkeley community was impressed with his commitment, energy, and serious approach.

Shout out to **Kathy Calder**, AFSC, for producing another issue of *the St. La Salle Auxiliary News*. It highlighted nine legacy NOSF Brothers who celebrated milestone anniversaries since taking the habit, the volunteer

*"I will extol you, O my God and King, and
I will bless your name forever and ever." PS 145:1*

work by students at DLSNO and Mullen HS, and the next chapter of the history of the legacy District's founding (the start of De La Salle New Orleans).

Chris Patiño, **Steven Vasoli**, and **David Caretti** accompanied **Rafa Rodriguez** during a five-day retreat at Parménie. They were blessed with cooler weather and inspirational vistas. Rafa reflected that the retreat was an amazing opportunity to experience the Founder in a more profound way and to feel Christ's presence. What stood out for Rafa was the fraternal hospitality of the French Brothers. The trio returned over the weekend and Rafa is *en route* to his summer program at Boston College.

Chris Brady is busy updating materials for the Praesidium accreditation visit this coming Thursday and Friday. Safe Environment is an essential expression of the care we take of the young people entrusted to us by God. I have been attempting to bring order to my records so that I can answer questions during my interview as provincial. I want to express gratitude to Chris for his diligent oversight in this role.



Angie and Halen Gamino visited a nearby Turkish village and shared a meal with locals

Miscellaneous...

Martin Vu traveled to Austin, MN, to attend his niece's high school/community college graduation. Angel received a full ride scholarship to the University of Minnesota where she'll be a pre-med major.

John Ong, a Brother from the Philippines, will move to SMC later this summer. Kudos to him on being accepted to the doctoral program in Education at Saint Mary's College.

SFNO Archivist Jennifer Sturm posts archival photos monthly at:

<https://www.facebook.com/SFNOArchives>. Check it out!

Angie and **Halen Gamino** returned from Türkiye over the weekend. Halen reports that it was a realization of a lifelong dream

Hard working **Peter deGroot** has begun to harvest his potatoes so that Brothers may enjoy a daily farm-to-table experience. Because Peter loves beauty, he's also very dedicated to caring for his thriving flower beds.



Martin Vu with his niece, Angel Vu, who graduated simultaneously from high school and community college



Peter Dudenheffer and Jerry Vincent do daily "drug runs" to Covington pharmacy



From Archives: Young Raphael Willeke teaching shop at CHSLA in 1949



Fr. Tom, Bernie, and Patrick together on retreat at Redwood Monastery in Whitehorn



James Joost built a makeshift super fan to cool him down while working in the shop



SMCHS leaders Azure'D Nunley, Caesar Smith, and Sara Troyani at Manhattan U for Buttimer Institute

"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves." MT 11:29

De La Salle Institute

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