

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

06 August 2024



Bethlehem University's community at crypt for inurnment of Rafael Gonzalez who served 50 years in Proche Orient District

PRAYERS REQUESTED

- Our faculties and students as the year ramps up;
- Repose of the soul of Buck Hutchinson and the consolation of his family;
- All in need of healing; especially Charles Miller, Richard Orona, Fred Van Haften, Gale Condit, Walter Durham, Alan Sturm, Fr. Donald Kinney, Armand St. Raymond, and Fr. Rico Hndz;
- Healing and justice for victims of sexual abuse;
- For the needs of our caregivers;
- Our Brothers in ministry; especially those in formation;
- Blessings on our vocation efforts.



Dan Fenton with students at Bahay Pagasa eagerly learning with circuit kits

My travels and assorted news...

Attended the Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM) in Atlanta last week. It was an excellent learning experience, thought provoking, and a networking opportunity. I was able to meet with **Dan O'Riordan, FMS**, provincial for the US Marists to discuss our collaboration with Cathedral El Paso's *El Otro Lado* program. **Stephen Olert** (DENA) and I caught up. He's working with the John Vianney House. I was very proud of our Lasallian representation. One of the keynotes was by the Springtide Director, Dr. Tricia Bruce. This nationally leading research firm in the spirituality of young people is a spin off from Saint Mary's Press. Christian Brothers Services (shout out to **Peter Tripp**) and Christian Brothers Investment Services were also represented. I was on a panel that discussed the past, present, and future impacts of the abuse cases on our congregations.

Last Sunday night I met with the Brothers in initial formation via zoom to discuss the importance of safe environment and their role modeling for it. I noted that adult misconduct reports are on the rise nationally and how important it is to discuss their affective life with their director.

"Following the example of their Founder, the Brothers see their lives as a process of affective, intellectual, moral and religious conversion..." Rule 29.2

I continue with some reflections by **Dan Fenton**: "Shortly after our arrival in Bacolod City, my three fellow travelers discovered that life, on the island of Negros, centers around eating. The primary custom of residents of the island is force-feeding their guests. No one lost weight on the trip! For the BPYC boys, the highlight of our visit was the day we took them to Campuestohan Highlands Resort. Nestled against the Marapara Mountains, the place offers unlimited swimming, including two wave pools, zip-lining, obstacle courses, and various rides amid a crazy assemblage of towering figures of dinosaurs, King Kong and, what is claimed to be, the world's tallest free-standing rooster (still under construction)."

Pleased to report that seven staff from five SFNO schools began the first of three years in the Buttimer Institute this year. Kudos to Dr. Raul Cardenas, Tena Thwaites (**Mullen**), Ricardo Dominguez (**San Miguel**), Arturo J. Lopez (**Cathedral LA**), Mimi Monteiro, Harry Nunez (**Saint Paul's**), and Casey Reeve (**CBHS Sacramento**). The desire to deepen their understanding of the Founder is a prompting from the Holy Spirit. May it grow!



Halen Gamino and his mother took in the gorgeous sights of Yosemite Park recently

Miscellaneous...

While on retreat in Napa, **Dylan Perry (MW)** recruited **Ricardo Palacio** to visit De La Salle Blackfeet in Montana to share his expertise in the Montessori classroom. Ricardo is arranging to go in the fall. **Gale Condit** has begun state-of-the-art radiation treatment in Baton Rouge to address the remnants of prostate cancer. Unfortunately, some of the **Holy Family Community** was exposed to a CNA with COVID so they must mask for Mass and prayer. Three Brothers must test and isolate. **Pierre St. Raymond** has returned to Lewis University after caring for his brother in Alabama this summer. He reports that Armand has made progress and is ready to be more independent. After a month at a rehab center in Napa, **Ron Gallagher** is at Mont La Salle to continue his recovery and therapy. **Lawrence Haley** is traveling to a board meeting in Yakima this week. **Mariano Lopez**, **David Sinitiere**, and me will attend a memorial service in Denver next weekend for Buck Hutchinson, beloved longtime board member at Mullen HS. Visited with **Fortunat Phong** in San Jose to learn all about his inspiring summer experiences in Vietnam and Cambodia.



Dan Morgan joined the McGree family to celebrate the opening of the McGree Admin Annex at La Salle Yakima



Jack Henderson greeting returning students to San Miguel



A student from Bahay Pag-asa Center enjoying an aerial obstacle course



Bernie LoCoco renewed his vows at the Midwest District Day in Darien, IL



Mary Kelly visiting Ron Gallagher at The Meadows rehab center in Napa



Dr. Tricia Bruce, director of Springtide Research, made a presentation to CMSM

“In the light of the Gospel, the Brothers always keep in mind the promotion of justice and the direct or indirect service of the poor...” Rule 29

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