

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

24 September 2024



The Saint Michael's community in Santa Fe gave heartfelt thanks to their healthcare staff for their generous care

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- Brothers in transition;
- In thanksgiving for those who have experienced healing;
- The needs of our dedicated school administrators;
- The needs of our fragile schools;
- Healing for Ron Gallagher, Brian Dybowski, Richard Orona, David Caretti, Fr. Rico Hernandez, Gale Condit, Liza Ribera, and Joe Welling's father;
- Blessings on our affiliated members and benefactors;
- Justice and healing with victims of abuse;
- Holy Spirit to magnify the building cultures of vocation in our schools.



Laurence Konnersman with Deacon Len Enger at CBS Father-Son Fishing Rodeo

My travels and assorted news...

Wrapped up my visit to the St. Mary's College community before heading south. I was with them from Sunday afternoon through Wednesday night. Director **Christopher Brady** serves as the Auxiliary Visitor and Resident Director. His capacity for organization and multi-tasking is inspiring and much needed. The presence of two new members (**Steven Vasoli** and **Luis Enríquez**) is much appreciated. Steven is, also, a Resident Director, works at the Mission and Ministry Center, and continues to be in charge of initial formation for the District. Luis works with the Vocation team and is finishing up his last year of graduate work at SMC. **Kenneth Cardwell** works on his manuscript on the role of numbers in the Gospel of Mark. He's submitted article proposals on the subject. **Chris Donnelly** is proud of the final build out of the Paris Street renovation. He's currently working on several project proposals for the District. **Anthony Lenz** continues his valuable work at De La Salle Academy in Concord and commutes daily to coach tennis at St. Mary's College HS in Berkeley. **Richard Lemberg** is busy with various projects, cooking, family obligations, and his beloved fly fishing! **Thomas Jones** is dealing with some knee issues but is enjoying more free time. (to be cont...)

“Refuse no one the good on which he has a claim when it is in your power to do it for him.” PRV 3:27

Traveled on Thursday to Tucson for the visit to the San Miguel community. Met the new principal, Ernesto Badilla, who along with **Matthew Chiantella**, rolled out the first monthly Viper Forum which highlights outstanding students. Naturally, Matthew was busy preparing for daily Spirit Week activities! Kudos to the conscientious and hard-working director, **Martin Vu**. I enjoy his honesty and humor. Did yard work with him on Saturday; assisting him to break down branches from the backyard trees damaged by late summer monsoons. Sat in on a class each with **Javi Hansen** and **Jack Henderson**. Both are creative and energetic teachers. The affection their students have for them is palpable. Jack was involved with hosting a robotics event at Pima Community College on Saturday and a Rocketry Club launching on Sunday. On Friday night, the community celebrated Javi's 34th birthday at a New Mexican restaurant. It was a low-key margarita and beer joint with Hatch chile! Although only four Brothers, this community has a tremendous impact on this school community. Everyone I checked in with at school noted that the Brothers convey joy in their vocation and a constant passion for helping their students to grow. May the Holy Spirit continue to work through them!



San Miguel Tucson community: Matthew, Jack, Martin (director), and Javi

Miscellaneous...

Thank you to Mary Kelly and Brenda Itturalde for accompanying **Art Carroll**, **Brian Dybowski**, and **Fred Van Haafte**n from the St. Michael's community to their new home at Holy Family. The journey was uneventful – thank God! Last week during a luncheon, director **Mariano Lopez**, on behalf of the Santa Fe community, thanked the healthcare staff for their years of loyal service and commitment. **Chris Donnelly** and **Kenneth Cardwell** proved most helpful in assisting the three Brothers with final packing and began their cross-country journey to Napa with two loaded vehicles. Last weekend Chef **Martin Vu** helped at Tucson's Our Lady of La Vang parish's Autumn festival which celebrated children and youth. He and another volunteer made savory shrimp and pork Vietnamese omelets for hours! *Does anyone know the history of the St. John Baptist De La Salle totem at La Salle in Milwaukee? It's life size but no one there knows its origin; only that it's always been there.*



At Lake Pontchartrain, LA, with David Caretti, SPS campus minister Jeff Ramon, and Matthew Chiantella



Kenneth Cardwell contemplating how to get into this week's update...



CNA Brenda Itturalde and Brian Dybowski en route from Santa Fe to Napa



In Detroit, MI, for CMSM Young Leaders Workshop : Javi, Matt (MW), and Dylan (MW)



Jack Henderson reading his nomination for sophomore Viper of the Month



James Joost and Jerry Vincent chatting on the front patio of the St. Paul's community

“... to live now as we think human beings should live, in defiance of all that is bad around us, is itself a marvelous victory.” Howard Zinn

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