

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

15 October 2024



Brothers in Formation regional gathering was at Mont La Salle last weekend. It was a joy to have them on the property.

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- Our schools and communities in Lebanon and Gaza;
- The needs of our young Brothers and those in initial formation;
- All in need of psychological and physical healing; especially Peter Tripp, William Hughes, Ron Gallagher, Brian Dybowski, Gale Condit, Jess Southard, Sally Jamison, Manuel Valdivia, and Walter Durham;
- Just settlement to our mediation;
- healing for victims of sexual abuse;
- Our contacts.



Chris Patiño and I checked out the Minnesota state capitol in St. Paul

My travels and assorted news...

Four Visitors, two Auxiliaries, and three Education Directors met in person or via zoom in Saint Paul for the regional RCCB meeting last week. **Carlos Gomez**, the Vicar, **Chris Patiño**, and **Sergio Leal**, the new Bursar, were also present. There was much discussion about how to put the goals of the 46th General Chapter into effect. How do we track and measure progress? How can we make our RCCB meetings less clerical and more about visioning?

These meetings provide a valuable opportunity for the Visitors to build community and to exchange ideas. (After complaining, of course...) One great notion from the Midwest was to have young Brothers give presentations on District Days. This is currently being finalized for our young Brothers. We also share forms, handouts, etc... for formation, CAP, and retreats. One major benefit is to compare what SFNO does well and where we can grow. I am convinced that our focus on and investment in formation for partners is essential for our current and future fidelity to the Mission. I returned home grateful for what our fore-Brothers passed on to us and for the grace to adapt to current challenges.

“Fulfill your ministry, then, with all the affection of your heart, working entirely for Him.” MTR 9

Sat at one dinner with **Carlos Gomez** who updated me on our Fratelli Projects in works in Lebanon and Columbia. Despite great challenges and danger, the Lebanon site manages to provide assistance to families and some normalcy for children. Staffing the project in Columbia remains a challenge as does the identification of a specific work. The needs of thousands of migrants are overwhelming. They are discerning what positive educational impact they can have.

Returned to Mont La Salle in time to join the Brothers in Formation gathering. I treasure time with our three young Brothers. Their love for God and their students inspires me. They are joyous in their vocation, plus they make me laugh with their wicked humor! Join me in praying for them.

Kudos to **Gale Condit** who was featured in the New Orleans diocesan newspaper. The article highlights what he’s learned after six decades of ministry with students. Check it out at

<https://clarionherald.org/news/brother-gale-with-age-there-is-wisdom>.



Rafael, Halen, and Matthew helped Steven to host the Brothers from around the region

Miscellaneous...

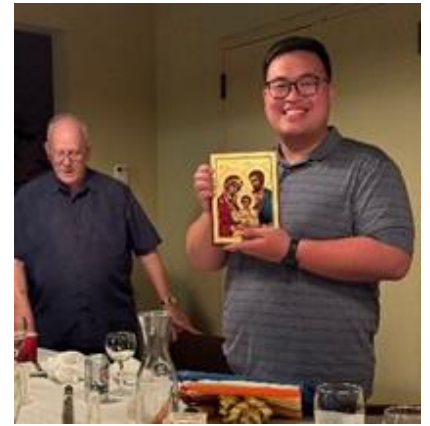
Victor Kenneth Curley attended his 56th class reunion from Central Catholic in Pittsburgh. He took the opportunity to visit Kenneth Curley Park which is named in honor of his father, a decorated WWII veteran and POW. **Ron Gallagher** happily returned to HFC after six days in the hospital. He continues to fight an infection and is getting physical therapy to regain strength. **Gale Condit** reports that he's completed his cancer radiation treatments and is scheduled to be tested soon to see if the treatment was successful. He's feeling stronger and is very excited about the upcoming fundraiser gala in his honor. **Richard Kovatch** and **Pete Dudenheffer** returned safely to Covington after their 2,250 miles round trip to Santa Fe. **Joe Haras** and **Jim Brown** were most appreciative of their visit. It was Pete's first time back in several years while Rich drinks more regularly from the elixir that is the Santa Fe experience!



Chris Patiño and Christopher Brady in deep discussion during the RCCB meeting in St. Paul, MN



Ricardo Palacio with more of the MLS garden's abundant fall harvest



Jonathan Cord and Luis Enríquez at a dinner thanking Weegee for time at SMCHS



Antony Doss modeled with ripe fruit for the delighted office staff and Brother saints



Anthony Lenz gleefully announced the end of recess at DLS Academy in Concord



Javi and Jack hiked Mt. Wrightson, highest point in Tucson area (9,500 feet); still sore...

“We choose to be Brothers – and to accept all the duties, responsibilities, and obligations implied in that choice. We choose to remain...” J. Johnston 1994

De La Salle Institute

Mont La Salle | 4401 Redwood Road | Napa, CA 94558
Covington | 104 W. 11th Avenue | Covington, LA 70433



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