

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

02 December 2025



Lasallian Educator of the Year Pete Imperial with wife, SMCHS family, and District representatives

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- The grace of transformative Advent season;
- Blessings on our upcoming District Chapter;
- Healing for Brian Dybowski, Richard Orona, Bernie LoCoco, Joseph Pham, Donald Johanson, Patricia Vega, the Kuffners, and Chance Crews;
- Those in mourning;
- Healing and justice for victims of abuse;
- Those caring for aging and infirm parents;
- An increase of vocations to the religious life;
- The needs of our young Brothers.



Javi Hansen and a La Salle Yakima XC runner ran the local Turkey Trot

My travels and assorted news...

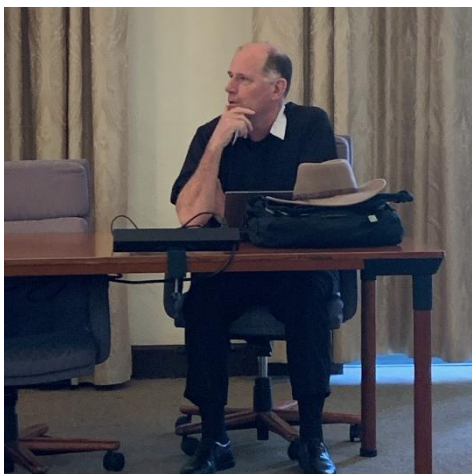
While at Huether, it was pointed out to me that the four large banners on stage are colorized versions of artwork created by the late **Joseph Hiep**. It should give us all satisfaction that his art lives on and serves the region. As part of the preparation for the nomination process for Visitor in the new year, some Partners are participating in a survey to identify qualities needed in the Visitor. This will be part of the information which the Election Committee will put out in January. **Roch Dufresne** has been appointed to the District's Election Committee. He traveled to Napa last Friday to learn about the electronic voting program and meet with some committee members. The first rounds of *sondage* will be electronic with the final round being on paper.

The Central Committee gave delegates to the upcoming District Chapter a copy of Timothy Radcliffe's *Listening Together: Meditations on Synodality* to develop a shared understanding of the synodal process. They are busy finalizing details for the gathering at Mont La Salle in a few weeks. We're blessed with their dutiful and thoughtful attention to important details

*“O house of Jacob, come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord!”* Isaiah 2:5

On Wednesday morning I fly to Rome for a Cluster Meeting, a smaller gathering of eight Districts. There's already been one Cluster meeting and more will follow. This meeting will focus on Educational Innovation and Leadership Models. Mike Daniels, Janell Kloosterman, and I will join teams from DENA, Australia, Ireland/GB, Bogotá, México Norte, Central Africa, India/Sri Lanka, and Centroamérica-Panamá. The schedule encourages unstructured interaction between the representatives.

By December 8, 2025, Brothers will receive an online survey from the Motherhouse. The survey seeks to measure the Brothers understanding of their consecration. Three SFNO Brothers were part of an initial survey and their feedback helped to improve the instrument. As the 46th General Chapter reminded us, discernment lies at the heart of our renewal. We are called to read the signs of the times, listen to the Gospel, recognize what gives life in our communities, and seek new paths with hope. This can only happen if every Brother participates. Your voice matters. We hope to hear from you about your lived experience of fraternity, mission, spiritual growth, and the challenges and opportunities you see in our shared life.



James Joost listening to the discussion at the November District Council Meeting

Miscellaneous...

The online survey is straightforward and easy to use. Please ask your director for assistance if needed.

Brian Dybowski was hospitalized overnight to deal with some cardiac issues. Thank God that he was home for Thanksgiving. **Richard Orona** will have a fistula inserted to prepare for the possibility that he may go on dialysis in the future. There are serious kidney issues.

The novitiate construction project is advancing. Initial framing for the new five ensuite bedrooms upstairs is underway. Designs for plumbing have begun and the team is considering the status of our current electrical panels. Some decisions are also being made about the bedroom furniture. **David Sinitiere** and **Kevin Slate** graciously vacated their offices in the building. That will be the reception area in the new conference space. David has relocated his oral history office to the mezzanine area of the DLSI building.



Ken, Tom, David, George, Donald, Kevin, and Robert wrapping up their Thanksgiving feast at MLS



With my great-nephews Roman and Cameron in Denver for Thanksgiving



Dr. Caesar Smith (SHCP) shared the significant role Brothers played in his life



Donald Johanson, Tom Westberg, and Russ Ricetti sunning in the Novitiate Patio



Laurence Konersmann at the Turkey Carving Station for a delicious Thanksgiving



John Mai shared this picture of a successful Grandparents Day at Christian Brothers School

“Brothers and sisters, it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.” Romans 13:12

De La Salle Institute

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



LASALLIAN DISTRICT
of
SAN FRANCISCO
NEW ORLEANS