November 23rd 2015

In the Know... District News

Dear Lasallians

Birthdays
Birthday greetings Br Phillip Elwin (Karlaminda) for today and Br Benilde Tin (Logan Reserve) Friday.

Welcome to District
Antoine Beland, the International Coordinator of Young Lasallians is in Australia. He was a keynote speaker at the Young Lasallians Conference over the weekend and will attend various gatherings of young Lasallians in Sydney and meet personnel at Lasallian Mission Services this week.

Young Lasallians Conference
The first District Young Lasallians Conference concluded in Melbourne yesterday. Visit www.delasalle.org.au for a comprehensive report. Thanks to Br Tony Cummins and Stef Lloyd for initiating this watershed event in the District. Let’s hope this event becomes a regular feature on the District calendar. It was inspirational.

Principal of De La Salle College Ashfield reflects on Parmenie Experience.

Out of all of the wonderful places we visited with the La Salle Pilgrimage Parmenie brought home to me a real connectedness with the founder. We can draw many parallels from the experience St John Baptist De La Salle had in going to Parmenie in the first place. At the time when he went to Parmenie he had had enough of the infighting, the direction the order was taking and his was response like many of us was a human one. This wasn’t what I signed up for. In a way it gives us a signal in our lives to take time out, as the founder did, when we need direction. We can sometimes find the answers in this mindfulness and prayer or it may find us. It certainly found St John Baptist De La Salle in the form of a letter ‘demanding that he return’ in the most respectful way, to fulfil his oath. Not only was Parmenie a significant place in the story of De La Salle but it is a most beautiful place. One of solitude, beauty and history. We were lucky to be given the opportunity to join the brothers’ community in morning prayer and Mass. It was a challenge to interpret Mass said in French.

The most moving moment was hearing Br John, a member of the Brothers community at Parmenie, and his recollection of the story of St John Baptist De La Salle. To see the passion in his voice, to witness him crying as he retold the trials and tribulations was very moving and will certainly stay in my heart and mind.

The hospitality of the entire community was amazing and reinforced to me what it means to be in community. In short Parmenie showed me the human nature of the founder as well as his legacy and that of the brothers of the Christian Schools. (Stephen attended the recent Lasallian pilgrimage with colleagues from the Archdiocese of Sydney)

Graduation at La Salle Hohola Youth Development Centre
In your prayers

Please pray for the eternal rest of Br Anselm McCaffrey of the Mentone community. He passed away peacefully early Thursday morning. And also Br John Hanson He passed away on early this morning at St Vincent’s, Southport (Villa La Salle )

Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

Heritage Programme

Last evening the Lasallian Heritage formation programme run by Lasallian Mission Services commenced in Brisbane. Staff from the Provincial Office are present as part of their Lasallian formation. Pauline Toms, Kate Mason, Janene Populin, Peter Cartwright Shane Dwyer and Michael Kenny are attending

Visitor’s Schedule;

23 November, Youth Encounter, Sydney; 24 November, Funeral Br Anselm, Mentone; 26 November, Board Chairs and Principals meeting, Adelaide– 2 December, Port Moresby, community visits, regional meeting, Sector Council meeting.

Interesting Statistics

New Zealand’s population is growing at its fastest rate for over a decade, and is exceeding Australia’s growth according to new estimates released by Statistics New Zealand. Visit National Population Estimates: At 30 June 2015.

Lasallian Visit to Pakistan Navy Recruitment and Selection Section, Faisalabad on 18th November 2015

Donation by Lasallian Family to victims of earthquake in northern areas of Pakistan

To answer the call for help for the victims of a recent earthquake in the northern areas, under the dynamic leadership of the Principal of La Salle High School & College- Faisalabad, Brother Shahzad George Gill, along with a delegation of teachers and students, we visited the Pakistan Naval Recruitment and Selection Centre, Faisalabad on 18th November 2015 at 10:00 AM. On behalf of the Lasallian Family and the students of La Salle Girls College we handed over a cheque for PKR 100,000/- to the Naval Recruitment officer Navy Commander Faisal Fayyaz.

The Lasallian delegation was warmly welcomed and highly appreciated for its norms and traditions by Naval staff. A student of class 10 briefed the officer on the cause and purpose of the visit. The prayers and sympathies of the Lasallian family were assured to the victims. Lasallians will continue their prayers, moral and financial support. (Source, Ms. Tanzeela Khalid La Salle High School & College- Faisalabad). Congratulations to Lasallians at La Salle High School and College.

Graduation at La Salle Hohola Youth Development Centre

A thought:

“We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it form our children.” (Native American proverb)

Kind regards

David Hawke FSC
Visitor