

+ Brother Vincent Corkery FSC
November 4, 1928 - March 22, 2016

*Eternal rest grant unto Vincent, O Lord.
And let perpetual light shine upon him.*

And may the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



It is with deep sadness that we announce that Br. Vincent Corkery FSC, 87 years old, passed away peacefully after a short bout of sickness in Ipoh, Malaysia. Br. Vincent kept his vows as a religious Brother faithfully for 71 years.

"My main aim in life is to build communities and to bring people together. Former enemies came together after World War II to build the future and we can build communities in the classroom and the original classroom designed by La Salle 300 years ago [was] based upon the principle that nobody should be left behind. If we see negativeness in others, we have not discovered the goodness in ourselves." - Dato' Brother Vincent Corkery FSC DPMP

Religious Formation

Novitiate	7-Sep-1944, Castletown
Habit Taking	7-Sep-1944
First Vows	8-Sep-1945
Perpetual Vows	2-Sep-1953

Curriculum Vitae



In 1957, Brother Vincent was posted to the St Michael's Institution in Ipoh, which he would call home for the next 53 years. In addition to teaching English, Literature and History to Form Six students, Brother Vincent was also the Brother Sub-Director of St Michael's. He was appointed Brother Director in 1971, taking over from the late Brother Ultan Paul.

As Brother Director, Brother Vincent decided to do away with streaming according to academic ability and introduced mixed ability classes, which is practised at St Michael's till this very day.

"I was happy to return to teaching, which I prefer to managing the school but then, I had to take over again (managing the school) at the end of 1986 until my retirement in 1988," said Brother Vincent.

Brother Vincent was born in Ireland in 1928. Hardly an adult at the age of 20, Irish lad Vincent J. Corkery set sail on the P&O liner S.S. Carthage for Malaya, half a world away, in 1948. Leaving his family in Millstreet Town, a little known place in Cork County, Ireland, he was about to embark on his first teaching post as a La Salle Brother. Since then, the former Brother Director of St Michael's Institution Ipoh has continued to lead an active role in the development of local education.

When he disembarked at Penang, he was told by the Brothers at St Xavier's Institution to get back onto the ship and continue his journey to Singapore where he spent the next decade teaching at the St Patrick's School and St Joseph's Institution.

Post retirement, Brother Vincent found himself a student again, proving that life does not stop at 60. He took up a refresher course in French language and culture at the University of Angers, France, and then to Rome to study the traditional pedagogy of the Brotherhood founded in the 17th century.

In 1994, he was roped in as secretary for the Asia Pacific network of the La Salle Brothers. “Most of my life I had been living within the St Michael’s compound when suddenly I found myself all over Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Burma, Thailand, India, the Philippines, Japan and Australia. “I later resigned as secretary in 2004 as the travelling was getting too much for me,” he said.

He had also served as supervisor for Oral English for Perak, secretary for the Conference of Heads of Secondary Schools and a founding member of the Perak Historical Society.

At 82, one would expect this dear old man to rest on his laurels. But no, he continued to immerse himself in educating the young and less fortunate as director of the La Salle Centre for Malaysia, Singapore and Hong Kong, which is located within the school itself.

In recognition of his contribution, Brother Vincent was conferred the Dato’ Paduka Mahkota Perak (DPMP) award in conjunction with the 82nd birthday of the Sultan of Perak, Sultan Azlan Shah. The award carries the title Datuk. Brother Vincent, who was dressed in the ceremonial costume of a Perak Datuk, received the award at an investiture ceremony in the throne room of Istana Iskandariah in Kuala Kangsar on April 19, 2010. He is happy to receive the award, Dato’ Paduka Mahkota Perak (DPMP), on behalf of the La Salle Brothers and St Michael’s Institution. “It will be greeted with joy amongst the thousands of our ever faithful alumni”, he said.

Curriculum Vitae excerpt from: http://www.e-lasallian.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=265&Itemid=2

Photos from:
<http://louisrozariodoss.blogspot.com/2014/11/brother-vincent-corkery-this-article-is.html>,
http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_kJs4Q-lrj2k/S9Br5nic_rI/AAAAAAD9E/1n6cT63tmEg/s1600/DSC_0064vc_resize%5B1%5D.jpg,
http://www.thestar.com.my/~media/online/2014/09/01/21/07/mprk_dz_0209_p4c.ashx?la=en

Fraternally,

Br. Edmundo Fernandez FSC
Bangkok

