

6 December 2013 • 127

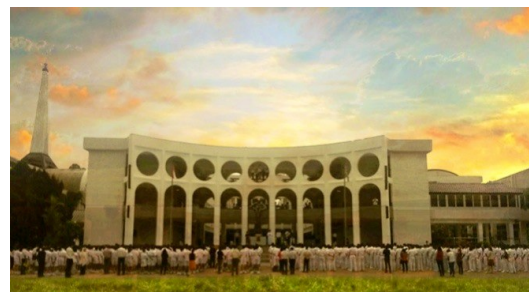


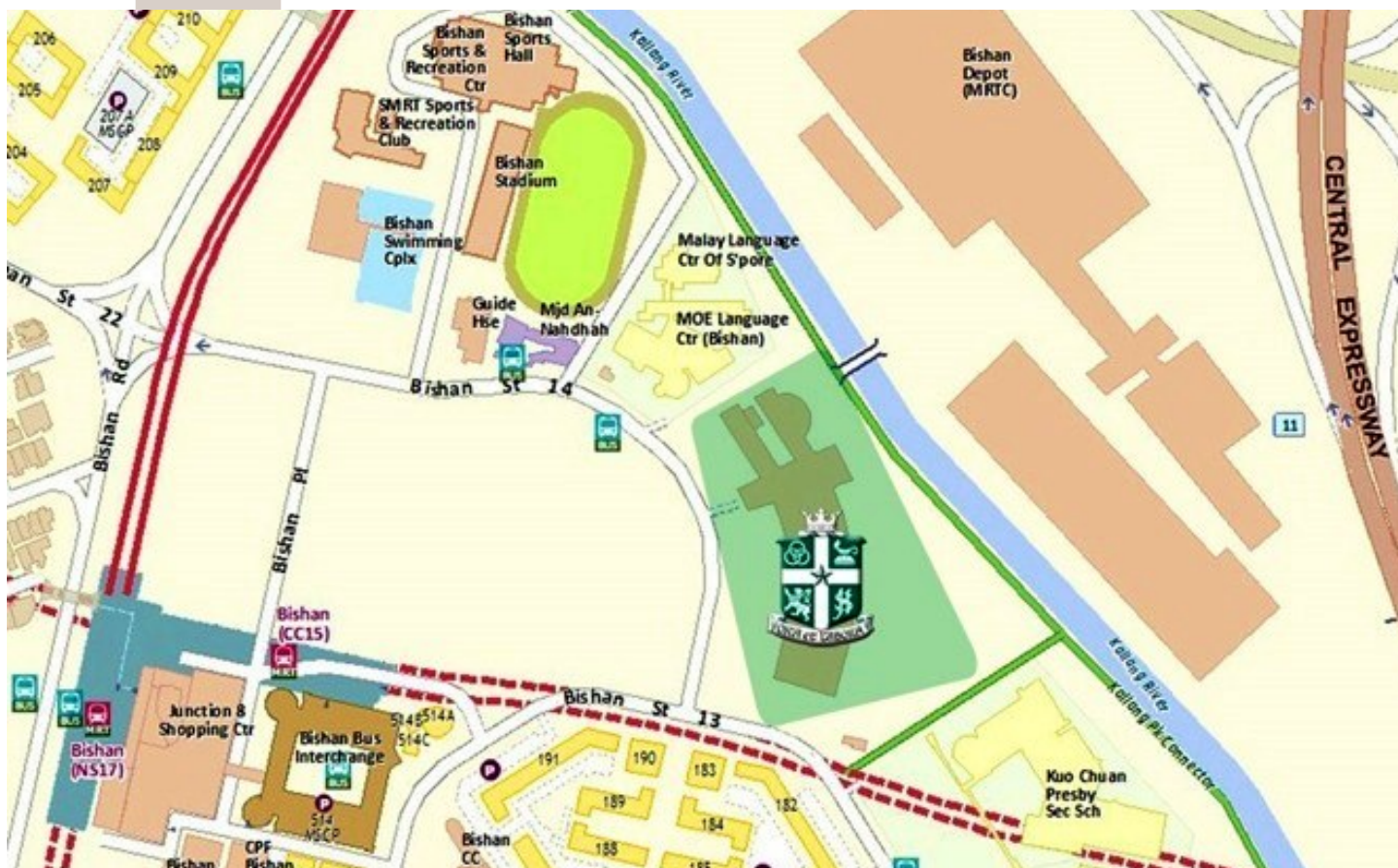
Honoring Rites - Dinner with the Benedictine Sisters. “On 6 November, the Philippine Sector honored the Benedictine Sisters through a simple program and dinner at the Roofdeck of Henry Sy Building. The affair was attended by 12 Sisters from St. Scholastica community and Brothers in Luzon. Present also were the members of the LEAD preparatory committee of the Senior Brothers Assembly namely: Brs. Tom Lavin, Augustine Julian, Dominic Chong, Andre Labelle and Gus Boquer. Br. JJ presented the commemorative cube and St. La Salle medallion to Mother Adelaida Ygruvay OSB, the Prioress of St. Scholastica.

“It was interesting to note that in the response made by Mother Adelaida, she shared an account of how the La Salle Brothers helped the St. Scholastica Sisters during a time of financial crisis. Br. Gabriel Connon FSC at that time issued a blank check to the then Prioress as a loan assistance for their financial concern at that time. This made the Sisters say that they should be the one giving the honor to the Brothers.

“The string quartet of DLSU Lasallian Orchestra serenaded the Sisters during dinner. Through this simple affair the two congregations were able to interact and promised to strengthen more their collaborations.” (*De La Salle Philippines Central House Bulletin 1314 - 13 | 1 December 2013*)

Campus Redevelopment of St. Joseph’s Institution, Singapore . “SJI’s current Malcolm Road Campus will be redeveloped in 2014 and 2015. During this redevelopment period, SJI will relocate to 21 Bishan Street 14, which previously housed the Institute of Technical Education (ITE). SJI’s last day of operations at Malcolm road campus is Friday 6 December 2013, from 8:30am – 6:00pm.





“From 9 – 11 December, the school will be shut down for relocation of administrative functions and server system. During these 3 days, their contact number will be 9059-0354. SJI will resume operations at the Bishan holding campus on 12 December 2013, from 8:30am.” (www.sji.edu.sg)



SJI Holding Site (2014-2015)
21 Bishan Street 14
Singapore 579781
Tel: 62500222 Fax: 62533640
Website: www.sji.edu.sg

2015: Year of Consecrated Life. “The Union of Superiors General held its 82nd General Assembly in the Salesianum in Rome from 27 to 29 November. The Holy Father chose to meet with the Superiors for three hours, rather than the short encounter envisaged: no address was prepared in advance, but instead a long, colloquial and fraternal discussion took place, composed of questions and answers.

“The first group of questions related to the identity and mission of



consecrated life. A radical approach is required of all Christians, the Pope stated, but religious persons are called upon to follow the Lord in a special way: “They are men and woman who can awaken the world. Consecrated life is prophecy. God asks us to fly the nest and to be sent to the frontiers of the world, avoiding the temptation to ‘domesticate’ them. This is the most concrete way of imitating the Lord”.

“Before taking leave of the 120 Superiors General present, the Pope announced that 2015 would be a year dedicated to consecrated life. He added, “Thank you for what you do and for your spirit of faith and your service. Thank you for your witness and also for the humiliations through which you have had to pass”.*” (Vatican Information Service)*

CIL 2013 Update (Week 4). “The Action of the Brothers on the Pastoral Ministry of Vocations: Br. Felix Joseph FSC shared the role of a Vocation Promoter in establishing a relationship with the young person because



this will allow the young person to discern freely the action of the Spirit in his life. This relationship will also be the means to allow the young man to see where and why God is calling him. The Brothers witness through their personal and community life a vocation that bears significance to the salvation of the young. In order to ensure effective promotion of vocations, it is necessary to plan a program for the pastoral ministry of vocations by first preparing a comprehensive study of the realities of the culture of vocation in the Sector or

District.

“Approaches to the Pastoral Ministry of Religious Vocations: Fr. Armedeo Cencini

shared that vocation revelation is the revelation of God through discernment. This God is someone whom we can relate, speak, and connect with. On the other hand, it's a way of defensive



relationship because God's love for us is excessive. That is why some are afraid of the consequences of responding to this revelation. The vocation is the project of God. The primary thought of His creation to carry out His image and likeness to others. The one who responds to it has to work actively, and freely for his concern is based on the salvation of others. True vocation is the same thing as what Jesus did for us on the cross: "To take charge and be responsible of others".

“Promoting and Animating Vocation: Sessions on “Promoting and Animating Vocation” was facilitated by Br. Arian Lopez FSC. He started by sharing his own experience in the pastoral ministry of vocation. The participants were encouraged to share their experiences as well. We reflected on our own story based on the question, “Why am I a Brother and continue to be a Brother?”. There were common expressions heard from the reporting: availability, care and concern, joy, being approachable, compassion, giving hope, not focusing on negative side of others, attention, affection, love, accompaniment, witnessing, mediators, selflessness, kindness, hope, passion, affirming, and happiness.

“Some inspiring videos were shown to the participants as examples of telling personal vocation stories of Brothers. Today, we have to take advantage of media using sound and image in creating materials for vocation promotion in order to enter the culture and the world of the young. On the other hand, it will help the Brothers to rediscover their vocation stories by allowing them to remember the most powerful moments in their lives and also to remind them that there is a dream that has yet to be realized.

“The participants worked in small groups to put together themes and ideas we have had these few days as a communal attempt to capture the dream of our life and the Institute in view of making materials for vocation promotion such as video clips. It is hoped that it would provide inspiration to people who are interested in our life. With the advanced technology today, many Brothers expressed their enthusiasm to continue working, support and exchange ideas as well as sharing materials for vocation promotion after CIL. The networking will not be limited within the language group as the cross language interaction will enhance our international character.”

(Br. Joikul Egbertus Bin Sevelinus and Br. John Neo)

UPDATES: One La Salle Relief Drive: Yolanda (Haiyan). Below are updates on the One La Salle Relief Drive. The Philippine Lasallian Family is very grateful to fellow Lasallians from different parts of the world who have shown their solidarity with Filipinos in this time of need.

Operasyon Yolanda - USLS Bacolod

"Relief operations in Bacolod still on going as they focus on the areas in Northern Negros. They will be distributing relief goods to Cadiz this Saturday."

Coron, Palawan

"Fr. Ed Penafiel, relief coordinator of Task force Tulong Calamian, has sent his message of thanks to the Lasallian Family for the relief goods we shipped for the affected families in Northern Palawan. He expressed his gratitude and mentioned that the relief packs sent will benefit thousands of families in their area."

Abuyog and Tanauan, Leyte

"Our schools have once again consolidated the donations in kind that we received for the past days to be able to cater to the affected families in Leyte. We have partnered with the Parishes in Abuyog and Tanauan for distribution of relief goods in their respective areas. All of which will happen late this week, with volunteers from La Salle Green Hills joining in the Leyte dispatch."



SJI International, Singapore collected donations for the victims of Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda). Aside from relief goods, they received cash donations totalling Singapore \$24,189.55 from the different members of the school community.

One La Salle Medical Mission in Pandan, Antique (early December 2013)

"Plans are shaping up for this project, thanks to our partners in De La Salle Health Sciences Institute! We have also partnered with the Diocese of Antique to ensure the organised conduct of the Medical mission. Specific dates will be released soon after travel to Antique has been finalised."

Rehabilitation Projects on Rebuilding Schools and Centers of Learning

"De La Salle Philippines President and Sector Leader Br. Jose Mari Jimenez FSC sent a letter to encourage our schools to come up with creative ways of generating funds for the rehabilitation plans. The Lasallian Justice and Peace Commission (LJPC) will continue to assess which areas we will respond to as we commit to rebuild schools."

Church and Institute Documents. I am attaching two documents published recently that are recommended for reading. The first is the Apostolic Exhortation of His Holiness, Pope Francis, on the Proclamation of the Gospel in Today's World, "**Evangelii Gaudium**" or "The Joy of the Gospel". Other formats of this document such as "epub", "mobi" or "docx" are available upon request. The second document is MEL Bulletin 49: "**A Religious Institute for Catholic**



Education: The Brothers of the Christian Schools in the 20th Century” by Br. Nicolas Capelle FSC. Translations can be downloaded from the Institute website: <http://www.lasalle.org/en/2012/01/mel-bulletins-49-2/>

Faternally,

Br. Edmundo L. Fernandez FSC
Hong Kong

Visitor's Calendar

December

12 – 18	Sector Retreat	<i>Malaysia</i>
20 – 26	Christmas Holidays	<i>Philippines</i>
26 – 31	Sector Retreat and Assembly	<i>Japan</i>
6 – 9 Jan 2014	Visit to the Novitiate	<i>Philippines</i>

LASALLIAN EAST ASIA DISTRICT GUIDE FOR PERSONAL & COMMUNITY PRAYER 2014

SUNDAY CYCLE A | YEAR I |

SCRIPTURES

- Lasallian Celebrations/
Historical Events
- Calendar Events
- Birthday Celebrants
- Death Anniversaries

**COMING
SOON!**



ABOVE: Brother Thomas Lavin receives the welcome hug of the kindergarten students of La Salle Chanthaburi during his visit last 27 November.

LEFT: Brother Thomas Favier in the “Green and White Walkathon” of St. Joseph’s College in Hong Kong held last 2 November. With over 400 participants, students were encouraged to continue the legacy of SJC’s old boys by living the Green and White Spirit.