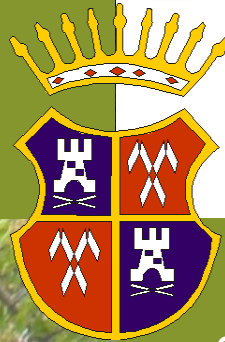


ONE

LASALLE

Newsletter of the



NZ Lasallian Family

"I will always look upon the work of my salvation, and the foundation and government of our community, as the work of God; hence I will abandon the care of both to him, acting only through his orders; I will often consider myself as an instrument which is of no use except in the hands of the workman. Hence I must await the orders of Providence before acting, and be careful to accomplish them when known." - DLS

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Please forgive me for being a bit late on this one. It was due to you the end of Term 1. A very full 12 weeks took its toll on me with two cases of tonsillitis and 5 days of gastroenteritis in the last week! Not fun! As you return to school, I pray you have been able to recharge a bit and return to the students with passion and zeal. Be aware of how important the work that you do is to every boy or girl in your care. With your very hands, you mould their lives. This is not something trivial, but the work of the Lord Himself.

Live Jesus in our Hearts. Forever.

Kane Raukura
Editor
Lasallian Facilitator
De La Salle College



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DE LA SALLE COLLEGE, AUCKLAND

Asia Pacific Lasallian Youth Conference 9 By Darius Apulu - Head Boy

In December of 2012, I was blessed with the opportunity to be one of three New Zealand representatives to attend the APLYC 9 (Asia Pacific Lasallian Youth Conference), at La Salle Bangkok, in Thailand. It was wonderful experiencing the culture, and meeting many new people, who are now friends.

I learnt that the Lasallian community is far larger than our little corner of New Zealand. There is so much variety, as we all come from many different cultures, and it really allows us to be more tolerant of others. It is a very global community, yet despite its large size, and the many differences we have, it is still very much a family.

Over the course of 5 Days, we heard from many speakers, including Lasallian Brothers, Youth Ministers, and others. Each of them highlighted different aspects of our charism, which are important to us as Lasallians. One of the speakers, Joe Gilson, talked about what it truly means to be Lasallian. It is not arriving at school every day, or a crest on a shirt. It is trying to live life in the same way that St John Baptist De La Salle did. And he lived his life to serve those who were less fortunate than him. In living the privileged lives that God has given us, we are presented with an opportunity to serve others and as Lasallians, we must take that opportunity.

During the conference, we also went to an orphanage. The children were not only mother and fatherless, they were also deaf. The conference was a real eye opener, for myself and also for the other members of the conference. I saw how lucky and privileged I was, and the experience truly motivated me to try and serve, and follow the Lasallian tradition, not only while I am at De La Salle, but during my whole life.

I would like to thank God in blessing me with this great opportunity to experience such a kind and happy culture, meet new friends and also to become more Lasallian. I would like to thank my own De La Salle, for choosing me to be our representative. Also, the organisers and speakers were all amazing people, and deserve more than just simple thanks, especially Brother Danai, and James Camden, the head of youth ministry in our district.

As with all the APLYC's over the years, there has been a quote, or tagline. Especially as I am still in school and learning, this year's quote seemed very true. And if there was one thing to remember, it would be this: "Enter to Learn, Leave to serve". In closing, I would like to say, that as Lasallians, we have been educated in this way, with all these values a part of our learning, not to help ourselves, but to serve others.





JOHN PAUL COLLEGE, ROTORUA

TYBURN MONASTERY RETREAT

By Bernadette Fredricksen – Signum Fidei Co-ordinator

On February 23 a group of John Paul College Signum Fidei members began their year with a Retreat at the Tyburn Monastery. The Monastery is set in the rural community of Ngakuru, 30 kms south of Rotorua. The Mothers of the Benedictine Congregation, Adorers of the Sacred Heart provide wonderful hospitality and the peaceful surroundings enable us to pray and reflect on our work as Lasallians. We were also able to welcome Brother Michael Carroll to our group and thank him for agreeing to be our mentor for the next few years.



We began our Retreat with Mass in the Monastery Chapel followed by morning tea where we evaluated the 2012 Action Plan and Mission to support the Pacific Island students and their families. We were very satisfied with the positive outcomes of our plan, which has seen the Pacific Island students in the Senior school achieve very good results in their National Certificate in Education Achievement, the National Qualification set by the New Zealand Ministry of Education. We all agreed that significant gains had been made by our members in the area of strengthening relationships and connections with the Pacific Island community. In our view, the Pacific Island parents are becoming more confident to be involved in education of their children. It is hoped that by strengthening relationships, between home and school, our families to begin to take more ownership of their children's education. It is on this basis that the Signum Fidei members have agreed to continue the mission in 2013 to support the Pacific Island community with the inclusion of Maori students. The need to provide Pastoral and Educational support is still relevant. Of more importance to the members is the variety of opportunities the mission has developed for us continue to foster positive relationships with these communities.

Therefore the following Actions are to be implemented this year:

- Create a data base of Pacific Island and Maori students in the classes that SF members teach
- To continue to host two Sunday meetings during 2013 with the Pacific Island and Maori families at St Mary's Parish Centre. The meetings will give information about the various academic and pastoral support systems in place at John Paul College
- Signum Fidei members will work in groups to provide lunchtime meetings for students. These meetings will encourage members to work directly with students in identifying potential barriers to their learning and achievement as well as empowering the students to take more responsibility for their learning
- Signum Fidei members will become active mentors to students who have been identified as socially, emotionally, educationally 'at risk'.
- Signum Fidei members through the John Paul College Parent's Association will provide items of uniform for students who are not able to pay for uniforms
- Signum Fidei members will liaise with the Truancy office to reduce the amount of absenteeism from school
- Signum Fidei members will promote leadership opportunities for Pacific Island and Maori students. Invite Maori and Pacific Island guest speakers.



JOHN PAUL COLLEGE, ROTORUA

TYBURN MONASTERY RETREAT continued...

By Bernadette Fredricksen – Signum Fidei Co-ordinator

- Seek scholarships for students where appropriate
- Be involved in decisions around funding opportunities for students from the Father Daniel McKeena Trust
- Attend the Pacific Island and Maori Masses at St Michael's Church on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month to be a sign of faith to these communities
- Include the School Nurse to recommend various health initiatives for students. Work with community health projects that support Healthy Lifestyle Programmes

The afternoon reflection was led by Brother Michael, who spoke about the Educational Service of the Poor, from a Lasallian perspective. We, like St John Baptist de La Salle are responding to the needs of young people in our care.

Brother Michael also spoke about the attitude of Jesus to the poor, it is the poor that were sought out by Jesus. We explored together St John Baptist de La Salle's Meditation 154.1 for the feast of St Lawrence. We understand as members of Signum Fidei, it is our duty and privilege to work with and for the poor. The Meditation 96.3 for the Epiphany shows us that like the Magi we are led by faith and zeal to seek for the goodness in our Signum Fidei journey.

Brother Michael used Brother Alvaro's recent pastoral letter to the Brothers (December 2012) to invite us "to be communities of hope, for society today assumes a knowledge of our own situation and an ability to respond generously and effectively to its needs."

Brother Michael also shared with us Brother Mark McKeon's vision for his first term as Provincial which is "Yes, I know what plans I have for you, plans for peace.... a future full of hope."

The afternoon's reflection provided us with plenty of encouragement and inspiration to begin our work. Signum Fidei members are earnest in their work to make a difference and our school motto reflects this "Ma te pono, me te aroha" - Through faith and love. We do this knowing we have the unconditional support of De La Salle Brothers and the encouragement of other Signum Fidei communities who like us have a great sense of hope in what can be done to make a difference.



**John Paul College Signum Fidei members with Brother Michael Carroll and Tyburn Sisters.
- February 23rd 2013 -**



FRANCIS DOUGLAS MEMORIAL COLLEGE, NEW PLYMOUTH

Asia Pacific La Sallian Youth Conference 9 Thailand December 2012 By Robyn Wackrow

In December 2012 three senior students representing the three La Sallian Colleges in New Zealand and myself (Mrs Wackrow) from Francis Douglas Memorial College were fortunate enough to be chosen to attend this conference in Bangkok, Thailand. Joseph Robinson from FDMC, Viliami Taliauli from John Paul College and Darius Apulu from De La Salle soon showed they were positive role models and had been chosen for their people skills and commitment to Lasallian principles.

Within minutes of our arrival the delegates were all mingling and communicating using a combination of speech, sign language and smiles. The outstanding organisational skills and warmth of the Thai Lasallians ensured we were comfortable and relaxed throughout the conference. Special mention must be made of Br. Danai whom we nicknamed "The Energiser Bunny" from the advertisement for a battery that just kept going and going and going! The students from the La Salle College in Thailand were outstanding and are a credit to their families and teachers. They consistently showed their delight at having us there and made us feel a part of their community.

Delicious food appeared at regular intervals served by cheerful staff who had obviously been working frantically behind the scenes to ensure all these people from different cultures had a tempting variety to choose from.

A New Zealand highlight had to be the passionate, resounding haka performed by our boys for cultural night. An Australian brother was heard to mutter I think I'll be a Kiwi tonight. No greater compliment could we have!

It was inspiring. It was humbling. It was reassuring.

Inspiring because it took young people, their teachers and the Lasallian community, mixed them up, shook them together and tipped them out as a united family motivated to help those less fortunate. Humbling because so many were giving of themselves to do so much with so little. Reassuring because if these young people with their commitment and understanding are our future leaders then we are in good hands.





I AM A LASALLIAN TEACHER

A friendly chat with Tania Reti - DLS

TANIA RETI
LITERACY CO-ORDINATOR

A new section within each issue of "One Lasalle" will be an interview highlighting some of our wonderful Lasallian Teachers around New Zealand. People who are dedicated to the mission of our Lasallian schools and whose passion for teaching our students is truly a gift from God.

DE LA SALLE COLLEGE, MANGERE



From left to right: Marie Hepi (JPC), Tania and Br. Michael Carrol (DLS)

What makes me stand out from other people is my..
Good looks, jokes. Jokes! :)

As a child, I dreamed of..
Travelling the world

I'd like it if other people..
Got along with each other without putting up barriers

The last thing I cooked was..
Dinner. Steak and eggs.

To my ultimate dinner party, I would invite
Some funny joker. I do love a good laugh.

My guilty indulgence is..
Nothing. I do everything in moderation.

My worst fashion disaster was..
Probably my coke bottle glasses I used to wear in the eighties (but it wasn't my fault).

A good word to describe me is..
Vivacious

Something that really irks me is..
Ignorance

I would like to be remembered for..
Being a loving and caring person who helped as many people as possible.

The book that had the greatest influence on me was..
I have read too many - just too hard to chose.

How I came to be involved in the Lasallian mission was..

Having brothers who attended DLS, wanting to attend DLS myself as a student, sending my son to DLS and then teaching at DLS started my Lasallian journey. Then attending the Level 1 Heritage Course in Rotorua cemented my desire to learn more about the mission and become more involved because it made sense to me that being a Lasallian teacher is more than being on the payroll.

I believe the Lasallian mission is still relevant today because..

Today we are 80,000 educators and more than 5,000 Brothers who work with more than one million children, young people and adults. Just as our Founder faced challenges, today we are still faced with the challenge of building a world with greater solidarity for equity and educational equality, and social justice.

An awesome experience I had as part of the Lasallian family was..

Attending the first ever Lasallian Women's Symposium in Thailand and getting to spend quality time with the Superior General, Brother Alvaro Echeverria FSC along with other brothers and women from around the world who had similar interests in current and future needs of the mission.

Words of wisdom..

Your first kiss isn't as important as your last. Get caught in the rain. Laugh out loud while you're alone. Go on adventures and get lost. Paint even though you're not an artist. Really get to know people. Accept that you will fail that one math test. Get your heart broken and put the pieces back together. Put your hand up in class only to get the answer wrong. Wonder about things. Learn. Remember that sunrises are free. Let the little things that would ordinarily bore you suddenly thrill you. Work bad hair days. Get drunk and tell people how you really feel at 4 am. Try out for a team. Have feelings for your best friend. Believe that everything happens for a reason. Look at the stars and finally realize how small you are. Travel for a year and look at the world differently when you come back. Eat that red velvet cupcake. Never regret anything, at one time it was exactly what you wanted. Forgive and forget. Don't hold anything back. Live for the music, the moments. Because nobody lives forever, and life is really, really short.

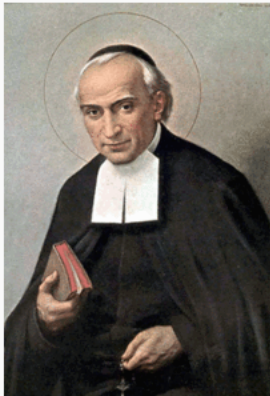
LASALLIAN FORMATION

SAINT BENILDUS



Above: St. Benildus Statue.
De La Salle Mother House,
Rome

St. Benildus Romançon, F.S.C.



Religious and educator

Born	13 June 1805 Thuret, Puy-de-Dôme, France
Died	13 August 1862 Saugues, Haute-Loire, France
Honored in	Roman Catholic Church (Brothers of the Christian Schools)
Beatified	4 April 1948, Vatican City, by Pope Pius XII
Canonized	29 October 1967, Vatican City, by Pope Paul VI
Major shrine	Church of Saint-Médard Saugues, Haute-Loire, France
Feast	13 August
Attributes	Man of Sacrifice to God

St. Benilde, also known as St. Benildus, was canonized in 1967 as the first Christian Brother to be named a saint after St. John Baptist de La Salle, who founded the order.

St. Benilde was born Pierre Romançon in 1805 to a French farming family. A small and frail looking boy, he was not cut out physically to be a farmer, but his enrolment in a Christian Brothers school led him to his calling as a teacher. He joined the Brothers in 1820 and served at several Brothers' schools in south-central France, including a more than 20-year stint as director of a school in Saugues, France.

Known as a strict disciplinarian and rigorous teacher, St. Benilde took special care in preparing 12-year-olds for First Communion. He also looked after his students by preparing meals in the Brothers' kitchen for hungry students, converting old Brothers' robes into coats or pants for them, and spending hours tutoring students who learned more slowly than others. He referred to all students, regardless of age or background, as "Monsieur."

During St. Benilde's tenure in Saugues, the area saw a large number of vocations join the Christian Brothers, with as many as 300 young men entering the order.

When St. Benilde died at age 57, former students vied to carry his casket to the cemetery, mourners spilled into the public square from the crowded church, and people plucked blades of grass from nearby his tomb as "relics."

In his lifetime, St. Benilde quietly introduced many innovations to the Brothers and to the teaching profession in general. He admitted older students to give them their first chance at an education, experimented with evening classes for adults, and became more involved with local townspeople than was customary for Brothers at the time. He was distinguished by his commitment to religious life, teaching, and the notion of teaching as a special vocation in itself.

Pope Pius XI, speaking in support of St. Benilde's cause for eventual sainthood in 1928, lauded St. Benilde's endurance of the "terrible quotidianum," or daily routine. "Sanctity does not consist of doing extraordinary things," the pope said, "but in doing ordinary things extraordinarily well."

