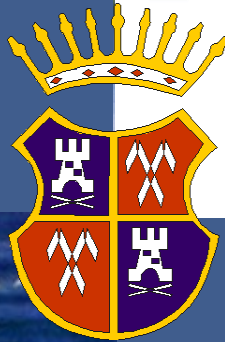


ONE

LASALLE

Newsletter of the



NZ Lasallian Family

**"The more loving you are to
the young, the greater will be
the effects of God's grace."**

- St. John Baptist De La Salle

Hello everyone and welcome to this issue of "One Lasalle" !

Looking at the content this time round, it is very evident that many of us have been extremely busy since our last instalment. The number of staff involving themselves with formation at an international level is impressive, as well as those that give of their own time to grow our Lasallian Virtues in the youth we care for. Please take the time to read the articles enclosed and see those involved as a new national resource. Take the opportunity to corner them when you can - ask questions and have them share their experiences. Ask how you too can be involved and be part of the mission on a new level or role. Please also take note of the invitation at the rear of this issue for the Lasallian Gathering, 15th Sept. , Hamilton.

As always, yours in Lasalle.

Kane Raukura - Editor / Lasallian Facilitator
De La Salle College

Live Jesus in our Hearts.
Forever.

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St. Miguel Febres Cordero



DLS Lasallian Youth Gathering

LASALLIAN YOUTH GATHERING ROTORUA JULY 2012
Andrew Malele

The last time a gathering of this kind was held here in the great Aotearoa was in 2003, and facilitated by a group of old boys from De La Salle Mangere. These old boys were affectionately known as 'Brothers in Action'. Ten years on and the gathering has found its way back, and John Paul College staff and students as well as Rotorua, hosted what possibly was the best Lasallian Youth Gathering in years.

With the biased notion aside, the gathering is an opportunity for Year 13 students and university students who are interested in, and passionate about, the Lasallian call to serve and live the message. The unique gathering is held every two years and is an opportunity for young people to explore their faith, our Lasallian heritage and our commitment to the Lasallian mission.

The week was filled with key note speakers, service projects, a taste of Rotorua and New Zealand culture, and opportunities to share and explore the diverse Lasallian family. Eyes were opened, stereotypes challenged, and more importantly hearts were touched. An address from Francis Douglas old boy Nick Siffleet reminded those who were present that becoming a young Lasallian is not only an honour but a privilege. His commitment to the mission has seen him grow as a young man, and open many other opportunities. Although his personal journey was expressed, Mr Siffleet made sure that all journeys are different and that everyone should strive to achieve their personal best. And although he wasn't Catholic, he was thankful that being Lasallian provided the opportunity to best serve those less fortunate than others.

A commitment from the John Paul College Signum Fidei group produced a day that was everyone's greatest highlight. All 175 participants were divided into groups that were scattered around the city of Rotorua. Groups were sent to child care centres, juvenile detention centre's, a centre for those with intellectual disabilities, homes of those whose backyards needed attention, and areas of the city that needed attention. And to solidify the day, Miranda Chow from the Lasallian foundation affirmed the participants on their efforts, and reminded us why serving those less fortunate is vital to the mission. And then there were the morning prayers and the evening reflections. Selected schools were asked to take charge with the aid of their campus ministers. The different forms of prayer were not only appreciated, but an experience many thought was the best they ever had. A short walk by the great Lake to the Church of St Michael for mass ended a week that for many will be etched forever in their hearts.

Many thanks to Patrick Walsh, Bernadette Fredricksen and John Paul College Rotorua for embodying the very essence of true kiwi hospitality. A special thanks to all students of De La Salle Mangere, Francis Douglas New Plymouth, as well as the host school for being WONDERFUL, AWESOME and PROUD ambassadors, and proving to our cousins from across the ditch that all our actions are indeed for the love of God.





Lasallian Leadership Institute Manila

LASALLIAN LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE, MANILA, PHILIPPINES, 30TH JUNE - 7TH JULY, 2012.

Tania Reti

As many staff and students prepared for a two week break from the daily routine of school term, Marie and I headed off to the Philippines for the second session of PARC LLI involving 28 Lasallian partners from 9 countries in the Pacific Asia Region. During the week we came together to celebrate and reflect on our experiences as a Lasallian Family and how we are continuing to uphold the mission through association. Cycle Two of the LLI programme was less hectic than the previous year as we were based at the Retreat and Conference Centre on campus at DLSU Dasmariñas which meant we didn't have to travel daily to different venues. The Centre was a perfect venue for reflection, however we arrived during the rainy season and monsoons were threatening all week so we experienced a lot of rain, lightning and thunder. But this did not dampen our spirits and we were blessed with each other's company and sharing of experiences from our own Districts.

We were lucky enough to experience an Immersion Exercise on the Tuesday where groups visited and experienced one of three outreach projects which operate in the Manila region because of the Lasallian Presence. These projects were:

- Education Units at New Bilibid Prisons, Medium Security Compound (outreach of DLSZ) an Education programme preparing inmates for re-entry into society where inmates are trained to teach their peers ranging from elementary level through to college).
- Bahai Pag-asa (House of hope) on campus at DLSU Dasmariñas
- Gawad Kalinga (To give care/love) in Tondo, Manila (outreach of DLSU - Taft, Manila) a housing project for the poor where they build houses for the poor all over the Philippines. They work together with other NGOs & local government units.

Before visiting the Prison (my excursion) we visited De La Salle- Zobel, which is a Year 1 to 13 collegiate consisting of 7000 students and 400 staff including 200 teachers. Space doesn't allow for me to share everything we did over the week, but we did have insightful presentations from dedicated Brothers and lay partners who encouraged us to continue doing what we're doing in our Sectors and Districts of the Region. Having communities of people who are competent and committed in upholding the mission in an authentic and sustainable manner is "key" and I am certain from what I have observed that our three schools in little Aotearoa are doing exactly this.

Let us keep teaching minds, touching hearts and transforming lives. Live Jesus in our heart, forever.



Above: Participants from LLI 2012



Right: The ANZACS! Marie Hepi (JPC), Tania Reti (DLS) and Brother Michael Carroll.



JPC PARC Report Manila

PARC REPORT, MANILA, PHILIPPINES JULY 2012
Marie Hepi

It was a privilege and a pleasure to revisit the Philippines and to reunite with our fellow Lasallian friends in mission. We were reminded over and over again about that mission and our commitment to the education of our students and how we should complete God's saving work together and by association.

Sharing our experiences from the past year in regards to our Projects, the development of our leadership and spirituality and evaluating the success in light of the goals we had set was enlightening and uplifting. We are making valuable inroads in New Zealand, which is great. Having like-minded people around us for support has helped us move forward with hope and enthusiasm.

An opportunity for further formation through workshop/lectures – Circular 461, What Makes a School Lasallian?, Lasallian Spirituality, The Inclusive Nature of the Lasallian Narrative (Women in De La Salle's Life), Personal Transformation-Building on Stages of Faith was of great value.

Something Brother John Pill said resonated with me- "*...To live is to change and to be perfect is to change often*". Sometimes it is hard to change because we are so comfortable in our worlds. It is necessary to change if we are to move forward in this ever-changing, ever-challenging world of ours. Our Pacific Asia region is probably the most diverse region on the globe and all the challenges that that presents, can make stepping out into unknown territory very difficult. One day was spent with Group Immersion Activities. I visited BAHAY PAG-ASA (House of Hope), which is situated within the De La Salle University-Dasmarias, which was our venue for the Conference.

Twelve displaced, errant youths ranging from 15-19 years live there and receive all their basic needs and education. In the true Lasallian way they are corrected and reshaped and remoulded through a structured programme which covers life-skills, counselling, discipline, prayer, recreation and rehabilitation. For many different reasons they had chosen to take the wrong path in life and as a consequence of their actions they have ended up in Police hands. Fortuitously BAHAY PAG-ASA has taken them in and given them the opportunity to turn their lives around. With renewed hope and direction they have been able to do that.

I am grateful to the Lasallian Leadership Institute - Brother John Pill, Aimee, Jay and their team, the Brothers, especially Brother Colin Griffin (our mentor), my School and colleagues at John Paul College, particularly Jan Grahamslaw, other Lasallian Leaders like Kane Raukura and Martin Chamberlain and my work colleague and travel companion from de La Salle College (Tania Reti) who have all made this Lasallian Leadership Journey possible.

It has been a worthwhile, memorable and life-changing experience. Thank you.





FDMC Women's Symposium Thailand

"A NEW MOMENT IN HISTORY: LASALLIAN WOMEN OF FAITH AND HOPE"

Sjaane Simpson



I had the honour of being one of forty four women to attend the first Lasallian Women's Symposium for the PARC region and the the international Institute. My New Zealand colleagues, Maree Stewert from JPC and Tania Reti from DLS Mangere, and I flew to Thailand at the end of April to attend the Symposium being held at the Redemptorist Centre in Pattaya. What a fruitful and rewarding time it was.

Today lay women are the majority of those engaged in the Lasallian mission. Over three days (April 29 - May 2, 2012) five Brothers and 44 women from thirteen different countries gathered in the spirit of association. This symposium provided an opportunity for the Lasallian women of the PARC region to respond to the challenges issued by Circular 461 and the 44th General Chapter. Our purpose for the symposium was to enhance and strengthen the essential contribution of Lasallian women in the wider Lasallian mission, to identify and respond to emerging needs affecting the poor and to formulate strategies for future action, including a framework, and support, for networking and sharing best practice.

Brother Alvaro Rodriguez Echeverria, the Superior of the Institute, delivered the Opening address on "Association and Women" inviting those gathered to take on "our new reality" and respond to the call to be Lasallian Brothers and Sisters to each other. The future of the Mission is the responsibility of us lay people today. We were delighted that Brother Alvaro and Brothers' David Hawke, John Pill, Thomas Lavin and Charles Kitson remained with us for the duration of the Symposium addressing the group with key note speeches and facilitating group work whilst also having fun and enjoying their time with 44 noisy women!

Lasallian education Services director, Trish Carroll, delivered a superb keynote address on "Lasallian Women of the Past: Women in the Life of De La Salle." Trish explored the influence of female relatives and friends who inspired De La Salle.

Much time was spent in cross cultural groups discussing and prioritising the needs affecting the poor and emerging issues facing Lasallian women today. All delegates committed themselves to future action in the key areas of formation, advocacy, networking and health.

Other highlights of our time together were sharing our stories and spiritual journeys with our new friends, being inspired by the ways the women served the Mission in their own countries, and participating in fun energizers that kept us laughing long afterwards.

Our final night together was celebrated with a special Thai meal followed by a 'Cultural Pride' night. The women from each country, dressed in their stunning national costume, danced, sang and played the night away. The kiwi contingent did their best to teach the group how to use the poi to the music of 'Poi E". We had to finish our presentation by screening our formidable All Blacks performing the Haka before the World Cup final.

I will never forget the gentle (but firm!) spirit of the symposium and the amazing women from around the world who are committed, just as I am, to serving the Mission with our Lasallian partners. We are fortunate to have such courageous and strong women who continue to work for the education and service of the poor in our PARC region.





Lasallian Formation - SAINT MIGUEL

St Miguel Febres Cordero (1854-1910) De la Salle Brother from Ecuador

A precocious child from the Andes of Ecuador, Miguel was both an accomplished educator and a holy man, who died in Barcelona, Spain. Patrick Duffy tells his story.

A precocious child

Francisco Febres Cordero Muñoz was born in the city of Cuenca 7,000 ft high in the Andes in Ecuador. His grandfather had been active in Ecuador's struggle for independence in 1822. His father taught English and French in the seminary in Cuenca. His mother was a devout woman who was active in works of charity.

Francisco was crippled in both legs from birth. His mother took great care of him and educated him at home until he was nine. He then attended the De La Salle Brothers school in Cuenca where he was quite a precocious student. He was chosen to give the address of welcome to President Garcia Moreno when he visited the school.

De la Salle Brothers

At fourteen he decided to join the De la Salle Brothers and though his father at first made strong objections, he finally consented.

Miguel, as he was now called, began teaching in Quito at fifteen and distinguished himself as a teacher of religion and Spanish. At twenty, he was producing textbooks that were used countrywide.

He was chosen to attend the beatification of John-Baptist de la Salle in Rome in 1887. On his return he continued his work as a teacher of Spanish language and literature. He was the director of novices from 1896 to 1905 and was then appointed principal of Sagrada Familia school, but was soon relieved of the post as he wasn't a great administrator.

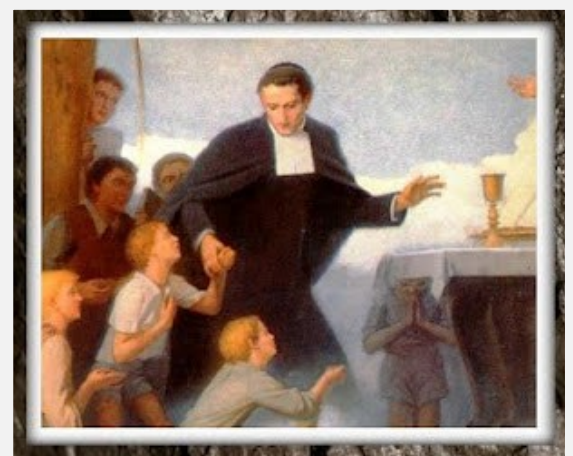
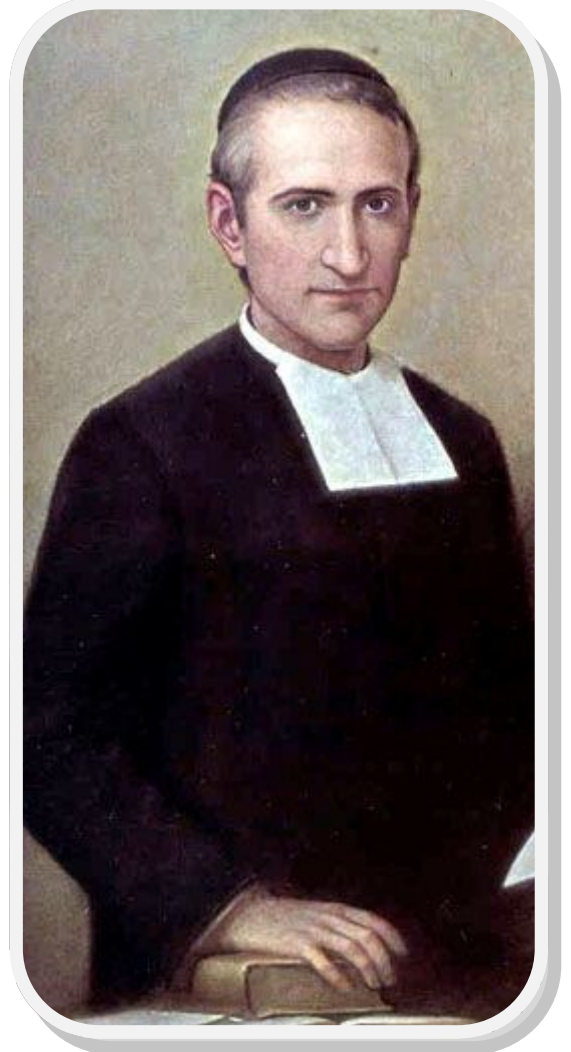
Working in Belgium and Spain

On request from the order's headquarters at Lembecq-lez-Hal in Belgium, Miguel was seconded there to translate French books into Spanish. He was homesick and the climate did not suit him. He was transferred to Barcelona, but here a general strike broke out and churches were being burned. The Brothers were evacuated and Miguel managed to make a pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of the Pillar at Zaragoza.

Death and influence

The experience at Barcelona took its toll on his health; he caught pneumonia and died on 7 February 1910. When news of his death reached Ecuador, the country felt a great sense of loss and the conviction grew that he should be recognised as the country's first saint. In 1937, partly due to the desecrations that were taking place in the Spanish Civil War, his remains were returned to Quito in Ecuador.

In 1977 Pope Paul VI beatified him and in 1984 Pope John Paul II canonised him. Miguel is a saint, not because of his precociousness or his intellectual ability, but because the warmth of his prayer life overflowed in generosity and service to others.



"THE HEART IS RICH WHEN IT IS CONTENT, AND IT IS ALWAYS CONTENT WHEN ITS DESIRES ARE FIXED ON GOD." - ST. MIGUEL



OPEN INVITATION - LASALLIAN GATHERING

OPEN INVITATION TO ALL INTERESTED LASALLIAN STAFF AT DLS, JPC and FDMC

**Event: 2012 Lasallian
Gathering, 15th September,
Novotel, Hamilton
9.30am - 2.10pm**

Morning tea / Lunch provided

Dear Colleagues, our annual gathering is drawing closer and I ask that you consider attending or if you had the intention to do so that you mark into your calendar.

For catering purposes for this event, it is important that you indicate your intention to attend to your Principal as soon as possible.

This years event will showcase many of the wonderful projects currently occurring. Our Keynote is Br. Mark McKeon (the new Brother Visitor).

Most importantly though, it is an opportunity to network, meet others in the NZ Lasallian Family and to share ideas etc.

Hope to see you there!

Kindest regards,

Mr. Kane Raukura
Chair
NZ Mission Action Committee

