



Visit To Hakodate

I went to visit the Hakodate Community on an important matter on the third week of October. I was able to interview the three Brothers currently assigned there: Br. Andre Labelle, Br. Fermin Martinez and Br. Victor Gutierrez. While there the school was busy orienting prospective new students and parents, I appreciate very much the warmth and hospitality of the Brothers of the community. On my last evening we had an excellent Walnut Pecan Pie whipped up by Br. Fermin. While in Hakodate, I took the opportunity to do a three-day quiet retreat in the Trappist Monastery in Hokuto, about 40 minutes from Hakodate. Thank you Brothers Andre, Fermin and Victor!



Silver Jubilee Celebration of Brothers Dante, Dodo, and Vince

On 31 October 2015, I celebrated my Silver Jubilee together with my batchmates Dante and Vince. Rather than writing about it, I'd like to share with you the citations in the plaques prepared by Br. Vic Franco. This was a special moment in my life as a Brother and I am filled with gratitude for the prayers and support Brothers and partners have given me throughout the years. (Thanks to Br. Ruben Caluyong for the Photos)



St. La Salle exhorted his Brothers: "You can perform miracles by touching the hearts of those entrusted to your care." (Med 180.3).

Friend to countless people, especially his former students, touching hearts is what **Br. Dante** has been doing for the past 25 years.

Whether as stimulating teacher, innovative administrator, or advocate for empowering young leaders, Br. Dante never lacks for passion.

A joyful presence in community, he lights up a room with his gregariousness and infectious enthusiasm. With interests ranging from football to finance, or from history to languages, and abounding with insights and ideas, there is never a dull moment in his presence.

An early brush with death made Br. Dante realize how deeply he is loved by God. It is this God of love whom he communicates to others. Then miracles happen. (Continued on next page)

Did St. La Salle have **Br. Dodo** in mind when he urged his Brothers to balance being “firm as a father...and tender as a mother”? (Med. 101.3) Note these other felicitous counterpoints in his life:

- free-spirited artist and disciplined jogger
- sensitive formator and resolute administrator
- sober pragmatist and bold visionary.

The most outstanding counterpoint in his ministry: shepherding the 41 year-old Philippine District to a close and ushering in the birth of LEAD. Few leaders would have been up to that daunting challenge. Br. Dodo's readiness to listen, consensus-building skills, and prudent, insightful leadership made it possible.

Not surprisingly, 15 of Br. Dodo's 25 years have been spent in senior leadership, for beyond the firm “father” and the caring “mother” is a Brother who loves his vocation and is deeply loyal to his Brothers.

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“You are under the obligation to instruct the children of the poor... cultivate a very special tenderness for them...” (Med. 80.3)

For ten years, Br. Vince’s big heart for the poor reached out to the youth of Iligan, SJHS-La Salle, Bahay Pagasa, LSGH’s former street children program, and more recently, the Alternative Learning System.

A talented pianist, Br. Vince livens up liturgies and community gatherings with the gift of music.

Entrusted with the special ministry of formation for seven years running, Br. Vince’s service of fraternal accompaniment and spiritual guidance to our future Brothers is deeply appreciated by the District.

Conscientious and single-minded as regards ministry, the playful child in Br. Vince comes alive in relaxed moments, peppered by his trademark “cute” one-liners.

Humor, hard work, heart for the poor. That’s **Br. Vince.**

Singapore La Salle College for the Arts Receives Four Quality Certifications

La Salle College of the Arts continues to rake in national recognition. I am proud to share with you this communication received from Professor Steve Dixon, their President, sharing the wonderful news:

As you know, a panel from SPRING Singapore visited us in early September to review the College in consideration of four separate Business Excellence certifications – for institutional quality and excellence, service, innovation, and as a ‘people developer.’

We have just had the excellent news that we have received all four of these certifications – congratulations!

This brings to a conclusion the marathon of major quality reviews we have undertaken this year, following MOE’s AQAF and CPE’s EduTrust visits, and with another resounding success. Many thanks, as always, for all your tremendous leadership and guidance that has brought LASALLE to new levels of excellence and distinction this year.

I wish to congratulate the Lasallian Family in Singapore and the students and Staff of La Salle College for the Arts! Thank for the update, Br. Paul!



La Salle Green Hills Student Publications Bags National Awards



Over the past ten years or so, La Salle Green Hills Grade School's HASIK and THE GREENERY have always been consistent finalists, if not winners, in the prestigious Catholic Mass Media Awards in the fields of campus journalism and literary composition. This school year is quite special, though, because both publications won the most coveted awards, the BEST STUDENT ORGAN and the BEST LITERARY MAGAZINE awards respectively during the 37th Catholic Mass Media (CMMA) Awards held on November 4, 2015 at the STAR Theatre, Pasay City. Br. Victor A. Franco FSC, LSGH President, Mr. Jose Ramelle E. Javier, Grade School Principal, Mrs. Carol F. Vacunador, Hasik and The Greenery Adviser, Mr. Gilbert P. Ortega, Luntiang Panulat Adviser, and the moderators of the three publications, Mr. Mark Gleen O. Cidro, Miss Ace Lyn U. Miranda, and Mrs. Ma.Dachelle C. Acierto attended the said important event. HASIK bested 14 entries of prestigious grade schools from all over the country in the BEST STUDENT ORGAN (Grade School) category, while THE GREENERY, the only grade school entry in the BEST LITERARY MAGAZINE category from among the different high schools, colleges, and universities in the country emerged the BEST LITERARY MAGAZINE. This back-to-back feat is a manifestation of how our pupils are active and dedicated in producing papers and magazines that are reflective of their learning, an aspect of school rarely reported on in school newspapers. The publications' vision is a paper and magazine that will create a difference in the lives of their readers, their fellow Lasallians. Thus, HASIK and THE GREENERY are created to serve their readers, inform them, enlighten them, help them to cope, and look out for them. The HASIK and THE GREENERY STAFF and their moderators know very well where they want their publications to go and be, and seek that vision every day --- the very source of their hardwork and the commitment to serve.

Congratulations to the staff and moderators. Continue to be inspired and motivated. Animo, La Salle! (Mr. Ramelle Javier)

November Leadership Calendar				
	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Visitor	Provincialate Thailand, Asian Lasallian Renewal Program	Malaysia, Kota Kinabalu Provincialate	Provincialate Philippines, Manila	Provincialate Philippines
AVMA	Singapore	Philippines, Manila Malaysia, Kota Kinabalu	Malaysia, Penang	Philippines, Manila Malaysia, Petaling Jaya
AVVF	Thailand, Asian Lasallian Renewal Program	Thailand, Asian Lasallian Renewal Program	Thailand, Asian Lasallian Renewal Program	Thailand, Asian Lasallian Renewal Program
AVSP	Philippines, Sorsogon Philippines, Pastoral Visit - De La Salle University - Science and Technology Complex	Philippines, De La Salle Zobel, 60th Anniversary of Br. Martin Sellner FSC Philippines, Manila, (De La Salle Philippines Joint Councils' Workshop,) Philippines, Iligan Philippines, Luzon FSC Gathering	Philippines, 60th Anniversary of Br. Benildo Feliciano FSC Philippines, Lipa (Novitiate)	Thailand, Asian Lasallian Renewal Program Myanmar, Yangon

A very special Happy Birthday to our November Celebrants!

Vincent Corkery	04 November, 1928
Fernando Sanding	11 November, 1985
Augustine Boquer	13 November, 1943
Francisco De La Rosa VI	13 November, 1983
Eugene Tianco	17 November, 1947
Hans Moran	18 November, 1966
Stephen Mark	19 November, 1948
Michael Cua	21 November, 1984
Edgar Esparagoza	22 November, 1988
Iñigo Riola	24 November, 1984
Bosco Mung Htoi	25 November, 1990
John D'Cruz	26 November, 1941
Paul Mata	26 November, 1980

Health and Wellness

We've been hearing of the "Asian Haze" caused by forest fires in Indonesia the last couple of weeks. Exposure to smog can cause the following health concerns: Coughing and throat/chest irritation, worsening asthma symptoms, and difficulty breathing and lung damage. To help protect against the effect of smog or haze, Healthline suggests:

1. Limit your outdoor activities as ozone levels rise to unhealthy levels. The EPA notes that elevated ozone levels increase your chances of being affected by smog the longer you stay outside.
2. Keep your activities gentler on smoggy days. The more vigorous your activity level, the greater your chances of experiencing respiratory problems.

Read the entire article on: <http://www.healthline.com/health/dangers-smog-what-you-need-know-about-air-pollution#3>

Read up on the issue of the "Asian Haze": <http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2014/mar/23/indonesia-forest-fires-pollution-asia>

Fraternally,

Br. Edmundo Fernandez FSC
Kota Kinabalu