

“Habit Taking” in St. Stephen’s School, Singapore



Recently, St Stephen's School in Singapore hosted an Education and Career Guidance Fair for its Grade 6 students. Br Collin Wee and Br Larry Humphrey were present to speak with the boys about vocations and specifically about the life of a De La Salle Brother. The sessions with the Brothers included an opportunity for the young men to check out what it would "look like" to be a Brother. Maybe in another 10 years we will witness the habit-taking of one of these boys from St. Stephens! (**Br. Larry Humphrey FSC**)

Celebration of the Canonization of St. Brother Solomon, Singapore



The Lasallian family in Singapore celebrated the canonization of St. Solomon Le Clercq, FSC, on 5th November 2016. Although St. Solomon canonization was on 16th October 2016, in Vatican City earlier but the Lasallians and Religious in Singapore continued the celebration with a Eucharistic celebration concelebrated by the main celebrant, Fr. Valerian Cheong and concelebrated by Fr. Edward Seah, Fr. Peter Wee CSsR, Fr. Clement Lee CSsR, and Friar Antonio Gonzalez OP. It was a wonderful sight seeing so many religious present and giving honour to St. Solomon. The Brothers working in Singapore too were all dressed in their black habits to what a Brother might say, “we might never be like St. Solomon but at least we dress like him for this special occasion today.” In this celebration, the Lasallian family also remembers those who have departed from us. It is a tradition in our Lasallian schools to hold a day of Remembrance Day closes to All Souls Day to remember especially our loved ones, teachers and students who had passed on this year. We offered up this celebration for our dearly departed Lasallians in Singapore. **(Br. Kelvin Tan FSC)**

Celebration of the Canonization of St. Brother Solomon, Philippines



It is with great pride that the Lasallian Family has been gifted with our first Brother Martyr and a new saint in the person of Br. Solomon Leclercq FSC. With this the Lasallian Family in the Philippines celebrated this momentous event by offering thanksgiving masses in honor of our new saint. This event has been an opportunity for us Lasallians to remember and reflect on the life of St. Br. Solomon who in the midst of change held on to his faith in God. Drawing inspiration from his example this event also challenges us to remain faithful to a God who is always constant amidst the tide of change our society is experiencing at this time. **(Mr. John Galang)**

Celebration of the Canonization of St. Brother Solomon, Hong Kong



The canonisation of Brother Solomon Leclercq was a cause of great joy to the Hong Kong Lasallian Family. Each school made good use of a resource package to get across the story of the saint and to stress the values he upheld. The main celebration was a Thanksgiving Mass held on the 22nd October in the chapel of St. Joseph's College. Bishop Joseph Ha kindly officiated while Fathers Bruno Lepou and Carlos Cheung concelebrated. The congregation was particularly pleased at the presence of Brother Alphonsus Breen, bright and cheerful at the age of eighty-three. May Saint Brother Solomon bless us all with peace. **(Mr. Paul Tam, Gateway 67)**

The Journey of an Artist: Brother Joseph McNally

Distinguished guests and friends in Singapore joined the St Joseph's Institution International community on 25 October for the opening of The Journey of an Artist: Brother Joseph McNally Art Exhibition at the SJL International Glass Hall.

Curated by Grade 11 Art Students, The Journey of an Artist: Brother Joseph McNally featured Brother Joseph's sculptures on the theme of Heaven and Earth. The intention of the exhibition was both to celebrate Br Joseph's large contribution to the arts and art education in Singapore, and to provide a learning experience for our IB art students. This experience will be of great value when they curate exhibitions of their own work next year as part of their IB course.

During the opening night, Br Larry welcomed everyone with and offered a prayer highlighting Br Joseph's passion and dedication both as an artist and arts educator in Singapore. He mentioned that Br Joseph McNally arrived in Singapore seventy years ago, in October 1946, as a young 23 year old Brother from Ireland. Two of the Grade 11 Art Students then shared how they came up with the curatorial concept of the exhibition.

"Guests are invited to enter through either one of two doors, one representing Heaven and the other Earth. Heaven displays the more abstract pieces while Earth shows more figurative sculptures (largely animal forms). Thus the exhibition is a journey for viewers as they travel between the two. The lighting seeks to highlight the surface and curvature of the works, emphasising Br Joseph's skill and technique," the Art Students said.

Present during the opening night were the Irish Ambassador to Singapore, His Excellency Geoffrey Keating and his wife Mrs Keating; members of the management and directors of LASALLE College of the Arts; Brothers from the St Joseph's Community; and SJL International parents, teachers, and staff.

The exhibition remained open for viewing until 28 October. **(Br. Larry Humphrey FSC)**



Arts and Culture



Diwali is a major festival of India. It is celebrated on a new moon night sometime in the months of October and November. The exact day of the festival is decided according to the Hindu calendar. (This year it was celebrated on October 30, 2016) The day is primarily celebrated to commemorate the return of Lord Rama from his 14 years of exile. However, there are various other stories associated with the festival.

According to popular legend, when Lord Rama returned from his 14 years of exile after defeating Raavana, the people of Ayodhya lighted candles and diya to celebrate his return to the kingdom. The festival gets its name from the lines of diya that were celebrated the return of Lord Rama, and hence the name Deepavali, literally translating to "lines of light." The name has gotten convoluted to Diwali over the years. This day symbolizes the victory of

light over dark. (<http://www.calendarlabs.com/holidays/india/diwali.php>)

(Photo from: <http://www.dssitwing.com/gmedia-album/diwali/>)

Fraternally,

Edmundo Fernandez FSC