

# BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

# THE LWANGA DISTRICT OF AFRICA





## 1. PROVINCIALATE

## 1.1. FROM FORMATION OFFICE

Easter is the season when we focus on joy and life, two key words coming from the Risen Lord. Joy and life have also been present during these past months, as I have visited a number of communities and formation houses.

In January we welcomed Brother Felix Joseph, Institute Secretary for Initial Formation. Brother spent ten days in Kenya, more specifically in our houses of formation. I travelled together with him to our Postulancy in Karemeno and had the opportunity to discuss at length the challenges and expectations of our Lwanga District in terms of formation.

On January 31st we celebrated the end and beginning of canonical year at the Novitiate in Nairobi. It was an occasion to enjoy the life and joy of our novices. Particular thanksgiving to the sectors of Kenya and Nigeria for their vocations. This time the Novitiate also welcomed Manuel, a first year novice from Mozambique. Some days later I joined the Kenyan Brothers at the induction ceremony that took place in the Karemeno postulancy. That very day a number of novices and scholastics of Nairobi attended

the solemn mass on the Day of Consecrated Life at All Saints Basilica. Thanks for being witness of the joy of our vocation as Brothers!

On February 15th and 16th I had the privilege to accompany Brothers Bonface and Weldetsion in a two-day retreat that they had at the Provincialate. They had quality time to reflect on the important step both of them would follow next: their final commitment as Brothers of the Christian Schools.



Then I visited Ethiopia and Nigeria. In Ethiopia it was great to meet again my former students at St John Baptist de La Salle school, whom I greeted and encouraged for their final years in our school. Even though one of the main challenges in that Sector is a serious commitment for the pastoral of vocations, I enjoyed the vitality of our Brothers in temporary vows. I met each one of them individually in our three Ethiopian communities, GMC Addis, Nazareth and

Dire Dawa. I was open to listen to their dreams, difficulties and suggestions. And I also encouraged the Sector Coordinator to strengthen the spirit of good communication and brotherhood. As always, Ethiopia is a synonym of welcoming and hospitality.



Shortly after returning from Ethiopia, I visited Nigeria. This visit had been planned together with Brother Felix Joseph, but unfortunately he was not granted a visa. Being my first time travelling to Nigeria, I was excited about that. The days spent in Naka Postulancy were really a grace. I could sense a huge spirit of vitality and dedication from the postulants, Formators and Brothers. Sharing prayers, meals, social, formation time was a comprehensive means to understand the reality and to own their own struggles and hopes. It was very easy to feel at home thanks to the welcoming spirit and simple life style. This time there was no opportunity to visit other apostolates or communities, although two Brothers in temporary vows travelled to Naka to share with me their life experience. Thanks again for your abundant vocations and for your energy and life, despite the difficulties.



The pastoral visit of the Superior General and the General Councillor for RELAF was another occasion where the formation office was involved, i.e. in the preparation of the ceremony of the final vows of our two Brothers, accompanying the Brothers to the Novitiate, and sharing my own views on the formation area during the extraordinary District Council that we held with the presence of Brothers Robert and Pierre, on March 17th.

The following week I travelled together with Brother Antone Oloo, Sector Coordinator of Kenya, to the Kenyan communities to discuss with the Brothers some matters related to vocation promotion and formation. It was also an opportunity for me to spend some time with the Brothers in immersion and community experience. Being my first experience in Marsabit, I could perceive the sense of openness, hospitality and fraternity.



It was good to witness the "active" part of the novitiate as I visited their apostolate and listened to their reflection on the experience. Once again, the exposure to the apostolic, community life of our Brothers helped me to grasp the reality of our formation at these stages. Thanks again for your open arms, hearts and ears during my visit!

Just before Holy Week we welcomed in Kenya Br Ricky Laguda, General Councillor for PARC. I spent a wonderful afternoon with him at the Novitiate, where the novices and Formators interacted with him and shared their ideas and wishes for the future of the Institute.



As I conclude my briefing about the happenings on the previous months, let me wish you all abundant Life and Joy to celebrate fully this Easter Season. In the coming weeks I will visit again the Scholasticate and Novitiate in Nairobi, and continue to prepare the retreat for final vows, that will be held in Nairobi this

## 1.3. NOVITIATE

#### DE LA SALLE NOVITIATE NAIROBI

# Surrender and Say Yes to Jesus, Novices Told

"Dear novices, thank you for surrendering and saying yes to Jesus." These were the words of Brother Visitor, to the novices during the Eucharistic celebration at De La Salle International Novitiate in Nairobi to mark the start of canonical year for the six first year novices and the habit taking of the



five second year novices on 31st January, 2017.



The five second year novices are Moses Muriuki, Aron Ontita, and Samuel Roba from Kenya while those from Nigeria are Jude Mba and Emmanuel Aondohemba. For the next three months, the five will be out for community experience in different communities in Kenya.

On the other hand, the six first year novices are Augustine Chibuzor Nwode, Daniel Christopher Makama, Jade Okache Ngboma, John Peter Agbor, and Louis Willian Lilm from Nigeria and Manuel Luis Fernando form Mozambique. The six will be involved in different activities aimed at deepening their understanding of the brothers' life and at the same time, being able to acquire the identity of the brothers.

Meanwhile, in the short speech of brother visitor, he started off by reminding brothers that Surrendering is abandoning ourselves to a loving God and His dreams for us. Spiritual surrendering, he said, takes great courage and results because it is an active choice to place our person and possession into the hands of God. Such surrendering is always life giving, he added. Quoting from the words of Denis Creature, the author of spiritual surrender.

Dear novices, he said, I truly hope and feel confident and happy that each one of you feel prepared and ready to start this spiritual journey. Brother visitor then went on to mention examples of people who have abandoned themselves to God's love.



Among those who surrendered their lives totally to God are, "Moses who abandoned himself to liberate the children of Israelites from slavery. Jonah who abandoned himself to save the Nineveh from destruction. Mary who surrendered to God and gave birth to Jesus the Messiah. Paul who become the great apostle to the gentles and St. John Baptist De La Salle who abandoned himself



to God to eradicate ignorance from the society especially of the poor and the marginalized children." He said.

Lastly, he reminded brothers and novices that God call us again and again and that He always wants to create a lasting relationship with us. Dear brothers and novices, we must ask ourselves whether we are ready to enter into friendship with God tonight and to surrender more completely towards Him, He added.



Meanwhile, those present for the celebration were Brother Ghebreyesus, the visitor, Brother Agustin Ranchal, the formation coordinator, Brother Antone Oloo, Kenyan sector coordinator, Brother Anthony Gitahi, the director of novices and his assistant Brother Retta Gezmu. Brother Taddele Negash, the Director of scholasticate and his assistant Brother Weldetsen who were accompanied with some student brothers from the scholasticate community.

## 1.4. SCHOLASTICATE

## SCOLASTICATE NAIROBI

## Kenya - Memorial Service of the Late Brother Pedro Arrambide

Brothers from different communities within Nairobi gathered at De La Salle international scholasticate on 14th February, 2017, to celebrate the life and service of the late Brother Pedro Arrambide.



THANKS, LORD, FOR THE GIFT OF

BR. PEDRO M. ARRAMBIDE FSC

"Life is like a coconut, if you don't open it, it gets rotten"

The Eucharistic celebration which commenced at 6:15pm, was graced by Brother Ghebreyesus Habte, the Visitor, Brother Agustin Ranchal, the formation coordinator, Madam Policena Wanja, the

district bursar and her family, Brother Antone Oloo, the Kenyan sector coordinator as well as brothers from all the communities in Nairobi.

The Late Brother died on 4th February, 2017 at the age of 75, after a long illness that show his health deteriorates until the day the Lord called him into his bosom. He will be remembered by many who encountered him, brothers, among them, the different congregations, the laity and most importantly, the poor.



The Late Brother who was originally from Spain, spent good number of years in Lwanga District of Africa, teaching and serving the poor who came knocking and asking for help. He spent over 17 years looking for funds for different projects across the district, mostly in the sectors of Eritrea, Ethiopia and Kenya.

The brother who described himself as a professional beggar for the sake of the poor

people, will forever be remembered for his enormous contributions in Lwanga District and beyond. Many of those who met him say that he was a brother with a big heart for the poor.

Brother Ghebreyesus described Brother Pedro as a very talented educator who dedicated his entire life touching hearts, teaching minds, and transforming lives of those who came in contact with him. He further described him as a very principled man who never changes his mind easily on matters to do with helping the poor have a better human life.

On the other hand, Brother Agustin Ranchal who also came in contact with him described Brother Pedro as a very talented and intellectual brothers who would stop at nothing in ensuring that the lives of the poor people improve.



Brother Pedro was intellectually qualified. He holds a PhD in history and was incredibly gifted in matters to do with communications. Some of Brother Pedro's hobbies were cinematography and photography which he loved doing during his free time, Brother Agustin commented.

Brother Pedro worked and lived as a missionary in different countries, most of them being in Africa. He funded projects in many Africa countries among them; Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Kenya among others. He also spent some quality time in India, England, Italy and the United States of America.

## 1.5. DISTRICT

## **Final Profession of Vows of Two Brothers**

Two Brothers from Lwanga District of Africa made their final religious profession of vows as Brothers of the Christian Schools on Saturday March 18, 2017 at De La Salle International Scholasticate, Nairobi Kenya.



The finally professed Brothers were Bonface Wachira and Weldetsion Ukubatnsae of Kenya and Eritrea respectively. The vows were received by Bro. Robert Schieler, the Superior General of the Brothers of the Christian schools, who was in Kenya at the time for his apostolic visit.



Brother Bonface is currently teaching, and at the same time, serving as the Dean of Academics at St. La Salle School Karemeno in central Kenya; the only school owned by brothers in Kenya. While brother Weldetsion is currently pursuing his Master's degree in counseling psychology at Tangaza College, and at the same time, serving as the sub director and a formator at De La Salle Scholasticate in Nairobi.

Bro. Robert in his speech encouraged the finally professed Brothers to participate actively in the community and the apostolic life of the brothers, embrace the spirit of faith and zeal and more importantly, to commit themselves totally to God and to the service

of all the students whom they have been called to minister to.



"I wish you happiness as you become fully brothers of the Christian schools, and I gladly welcome you into the institute knowing that the lord who has called you will see you through." Brother Robert commented. He went on to say, "You dear young brothers; you are the source of hope to the older brothers in the institute." On the other hand, he encouraged the older brothers to keep dreaming dreams.

Meanwhile, Bishop David Kamau who presided over the Eucharistic celebration, reminded the finally professed brothers, to make their lives reflect their vocation and dignity. He further called upon the brothers to commit themselves totally to God, to the church and to all the students whom God have placed under their care.

On the other hand, the Bishop called upon Christian to suppose those who have been called by God to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to the young. "You must be ready and willing to support your sons whom have been called by God to serve the young, and bring the good news to their students through human and Christian education."

The celebration was graced by family members, relatives and friends of the finally professed brothers. Brothers from Scholasticate, Mwangaza, Karemeno, Nyeri, Rongai, Marsabit, Provincialate and Christ the Teacher communities were also present to witness and give a moral support to the finally professed brothers. The holy mass was presided over by Bishop Kamau, the Auxiliary Bishop of the archdiocese of Nairobi.

# 2. <u>NEWS FROM THE</u> <u>SECTORS</u>

## 2.1. SECTOR OF ERITREA

## BROTHER PEDRO ARRAMBIDE, FSC

A life well lived!

A life lived for the service of others!

The De La Salle Brothers in the Sector of Eritrea, Religious congrigations and the Church of Eritrea at large mourn the death of a great servant, lover of the poor, and friend of the nation: Br. Pedro Arrambide.

A memorial service to recognize, honor and celebrate the life of Br. Pedro was held in Keren and His Excellency, the Most Reverend Abune Kidanemariam Yebiyo, Bishop of Keren presided over the mass. The De La Salle Brothers in Eritrea, many priests, Religious Sisters, staff of the De La Salle Brothers' Institutes from Hagaz, Keren and Asmara attended the memorial service.

The representatives of students of St. Joseph's School attended the occasion to symbolically recognize the services of Br. Pedro at St. Joseph both as a teacher from 1968 – 1973 and later in raising funds for key developments of the School.

Below are different circulars and communications made to the brothers, Lasallian families and church members to announce the death, life and service of our Beloved Brother, Br. Pedro.



#### **Br. Pedro Arrambide**

R.I.P

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant ... enter thou into the joy of thy Lord"

Mt 25:21

#### The De La Salle Brothers

Regret to announce the Death of their beloved Brother

#### Brother Pedro Arrambide, R.I.P

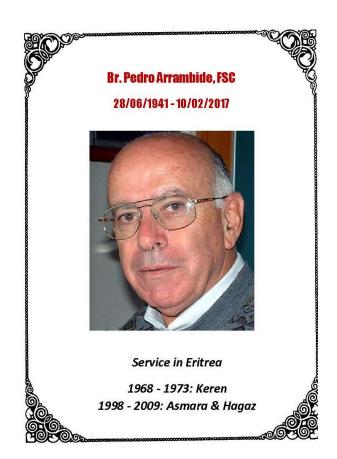
On the 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2017 at his home District in Spain.

Br. Pedro came to Eritrea in 1968 and served at St. Joseph School Keren till he returned to Rome in 1973. Twenty four years later, in 1997, Br. Pedro came back to Eritrea again and served with great passion and commitment till 2009.

Br. Pedro has been suffering from Parkinsonism for the last 5 years and pronounced dead on the  $10^{\rm th}$  of February and buried on the day after.

A memorial service (mass), to celebrate the life of Br. Pedro will be held on Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> of February 2017, at 6:00 AM in Keren at St. Joseph's Chapel (Keren De La Salle Brothers Residence)

May his soul Rest in Peace!



#### Br. Pedro Arrambide, FSC

(1941 - 2017)

Br. Pedro was a great teacher, scholar, writer, organizer, expert photographer and professional project Director. By profession, Br. Pedro is a Philosopher, he holds Ph.D in Philosophy from the Memphis state university, America.

Br. Pedro served as a Director of different organizations in Europe: the Director of SECOLI (Rome), the director of the Department of Missions for Spanish Confederation of Religious men and women, the Director of PROYDE, (Spain) and finally the Director of Solidarity International, Rome

Br Pedro was a pioneer in founding PROYDE, a Spain based foundation that provides support to those involved in social services. As the Director of PROYDE from 1988 to 1998, he opened new ways in Spain for the international cooperation with the developing countries. He prepared and published a lot of booklets, books and videos for sensitizing donors.

An important feature that Brother Pedro had in the service for the poor has been his ability to influence, motivate and involve many others in the service, both in personal presence and in financial support.

#### Service in Fritrea

As a young Brother, Br. Pedro worked in Keren from 1968 - 1973, and later, for eleven years, from 1998 to 2009 in Asmara and Hagaz. While in Eritrea the service of Br. Pedro was not limited to the mission of the Lasallian Brothers but open to serve wherever his help was needed. He helped in establishing schools, kindergartens, clinics, women promotion centres and many other projects in Eritrea. He also played a key role in founding Maadi solidarity in Eritrea.

While in Eritrea, the Basque Government rewarded him with the Prize to the Basque Overseas voluntary worker, a prize that was created to reward the work of those people of the Basque Country that have stood out for the solidarity activities run in developing countries.

On October 15<sup>th</sup> 2014, the City hall of his home town, Hondarribia, paid him a heartfelt tribute acknowledging his volunteer work, his long career helping the needy in different areas of the world.

Among many other things, Pedro wrote: "For me life has a meaning in the faith in Jesus Christ. The great reward is that one finds his own identity and happiness in the service for others".

May the soul of Br. Pedro rest in peace!



The

De La Salle Brothers

are grateful for all who have honored

Br. Pedro

with their prayers

and presence in the memorial mass

held at St. Joseph's School Keren

February 19, 2017

## **Memorial Mass**

## Keren – St. Joseph's School









## 2.2. SECTOR OF KENYA

#### **MWANGAZA COLLEGE**

## Workshop for Young Lasallians from Mwangaza College

Brother Oscar Okoth, the Principal of Mwangaza College gave a talk to Young Lasallians of Mwangaza College with the aim of enlightening them about Lasallian activities and the mission of Brothers of the Christian schools in Kenya and around the world. This took place at the college in Nakuru.

The talks were geared towards elucidating Lasallian mission and role among young people entrusted to Lasallian family. It was also meant to create awareness about St. John Baptist De La Salle to the Students at the college.

Brother Oscar went further and shared in details about the activities of Lasallian family around the world, the life of St. John Baptist De La Salle, the founder of Brothers as well as what Brothers stands for in Kenya and beyond.



At the end of the workshop, the students at the college got a gist of who St. John Baptist De La Salle is, his contribution on matters education as well as some of his contributions and work Brothers are doing in Kenya and in the world in following the footsteps of De La Salle.

The main challenge the students expressed to their principal is lack of enough literatures and materials on Lasallians mission in Kenya and in the world at large. They requested their principal if he can make some arrangements and get some few copies for references.

The students were captivated and expressed their gratitude to Brother Oscar for having taken his time to give the talk. "We now understand Lasallian mission and vision in the world," Pius Ng'ang'a, the chairperson of Lasallian movement at the college commented.

## LA SALLE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Kenya - The Annual Swimming Gala at La Salle School Nairobi

Teachers, parents and pupils of La Salle School Nairobi took part in an annual swimming gala which was held at Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB) leadership center in Nairobi on the 16th February, 2017.



Pupils in Red, Blue, Yellow and Purple houses took part in different swimming races among them; Individual medley, Noodle race short course, Kickboard short course, Front crawl both short and Long course, Balloon in the water, Free style, Piggy on the back, Breast stroke, Butterfly, Back stroke, Pushing race, Medley relay, and Free style relay. While Parents and the entire staff took part in a free style swimming race.



The best overall house was Red, which was presented with a trophy as the annual winning team, followed closely by purple house who took the 2nd position, and were also presented with a trophy as the second best. Yellow house took the 3rd position and lastly, Blue house at 4th position. The third and the fourth placed houses were also presented with trophies. No house went home empty handed.

The Champion for the year 2017 Swimming Gala was Maya Chepngetich Rotich, a standard five pupil who showed exceptional swimming ability and emerged the best pupil overall. She received a trophy bearing her name with the title "La Salle 2017 Swimming Gala Champion." She will retain the title "The swimming champion." until the next swimming gala which will be held in 2018.

The First, Second and Third positions in each category received Gold, Bronze and Silver medals respectively. Other participants and



group activities received Certificates of participation. "These are some of the activities we want our pupils to get involved in." One parent commented. It is also worth noting that the turn-up for the event and the participation was absolutely incredible, He added.



Other than academics, we involve our pupils in variety of co-curriculum activities. Such as; Tennis, Taekwondo, Skating, Swimming, Soccer and Music. David Busuru, the patron of Lasallian movement in the school commented. Since the official opening, we have participated in a number of activities with other schools such as National Swimming Association competition (Swimming) held at Cambridge International School Nairobi. He added.



It was an in-house competition and fan as well since most Pupils, Staff and Parents got a chance to participate at least in one activity. It also showed a united Lasallian family and very supportive and committed parents since they came in large numbers to support their children as well as also taking part in the event.

## 2.3. SECTOR OF NIGERIA

#### MOUNT LA SALLE COLLEGE, NAKA

## **Second Term Resumption**

Mount La Salle College, Naka resumed for the Second Term, 2016/2017 Academic Session on Monday, 9th January, 2017. The Staff and Students resumed overwhelmingly the first day. The Principal of the College, Br. Patrick Obam fsc, welcomed the Staff and Students back to the school from their Xmas and New Year holidays.





He expressed satisfaction over their return, despite the economic recession in the Country. He encouraged them to take their teaching and learning seriously.

### **Activities of the Term**

The School started academic, sporting and religious activities the very week of resumption. The Inter - House Sports Competitions which started First Term continued this Second Term with Handball, Volleyball, Basketball, Table Tennis and Badminton games competed among St. John, St. Matthew, St. Mark and St. Luke Houses. Also, Cultural Festival was among the activities of the term. Dignitaries like; Ter Tyoshin, Chief Abomtse Ayua, the Sole-

Administrator of the Local Government, Hon. Timothy and other people from all different works of life and from the nook and cranny of the State were in attendance



## **Visiting Brothers**

The School was blessed to have Br. Dennis Lee and Br. Dennis Malloy who visited the school in the month of January. In addressing the Staff and Students, Br. Dennis Lee encouraged the members of the Faculty, Staff and Students to keep the Lasallian values flying. On his part, Br. Dennis Malloy, a Visitor of North American District reiterated the Founder's position of human and Christian Education of selflessness, touching hearts and training the mind of young people in the locality. Brothers commended the school administration for its commitment and dedication to the growth and development of the school.



In the related development, the Spanish Brother, Br. Augustine Ranchal fsc who visited the Sector, witnessed the school Cultural Festival. Br. Austin is the Formation Coordinator in Lwanga District. He applauded the diversity of cultural values displayed by the students. All the Brothers applauded the development of the school; the development they described as fantastic did not only lie on the facilities, but also on moral, spiritual and academic development. They appreciated the neatness of the students and the colours of their uniforms -green and white which they said, represent 'life and peace.'



Also, The Visitor of St. Charles Lwanga District, Br. Ghebreyesus Habte Fadega made his Pastoral Visit to Nigeria and came to Naka in the month of April 2017. He visited the school where he met his Basketball Team, the team he formed in 2016.



His involvement in the team was enormous; he coached the players and played matches with them. He witnessed the school and the Community some infrastructural development. For instance, he saw in the school the Computer Laboratory taking a



new outlook. It is the project he initiated in collaboration with the Twining Schools in the U.S.A. Likewise, in the Community; the Brothers' House had gone through a renovation. One who has known the 'Old Brothers House' will not recognize it anymore if he or she walks in to the 'New House'. Kudos goes to the Brothers in Switzerland, heavily represented by Br. Mac-Hofer who assisted in the project.



## The End of Second Term 2016/207 Academic Session

"What has a beginning always has an end." The Second Term 2016/2017 Academic Session came to a close on the 7th April, 2017. Brother Visitor who witnessed the closing ceremony expressed satisfaction over the general conduct of the school and the performances of the students. He congratulated the Staff and Students on their work and commitment. He congratulated especially students who won awards in their

academics and other aspects of the school life. He promised support to the school and its activities.



The Sector Coordinator, Br. Kesiki Simon, on his part also expressed delight on the students' performances and encouraged them to do more. He thanked the Staff for their dedication to the service of humanity through education.



## 2.5. SECTOR OF SOUTH AFRICA

## BROTHER ROBERT SCHIELER'S VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA

Br. Robert Superior General arrived as planned for a five day visit to South Africa on Friday afternoon 20th January 2017. Bro Thomas Sheehy and Bro. Cornelius were at hand at Oliver Tambo International Airport as the Emirates flight direct from Rome touched down. In normal circumstances, the journey back to La Salle Community is easily covered in an hour but being Friday evening rush hour Br. Robert was having first-hand experience of rush hour in Johannesburg at week's end. The journey took two hours with the Mercury pointing at 28C and this after a long journey from Rome.

Brother Tim O'Sullivan was awaiting the distinguished guest and with no meetings or schedule that evening everyone was able to relax.

Saturday morning saw clear blue skies over Johannesburg and temperatures expected to hit the high 20's as the schedule planned by Br. Thomas swung into action. The highlight of this first day was a trip to our Mission station in Phokeng which is some two hour drive from Johannesburg. On reaching Victory Park which is situated some twenty

minutes' drive away in the Northern Suburbs of the city, Mr. Atholl Murray Principal of De La Salle Holy Cross

High School had the School bus to ferry us off to Phokeng. Unlike Friday evening, the traffic leaving the city was very manageable as we skirted Krugersdorp on the west of Roodepoort.

The landscape and scenery on our way to Rustenburg is very interesting as it rides very close to the Magaliesberg Game Reserve. Some half an hour's drive beyond Rustenburg lies the Platinum Mines which forms the main stay of the rural communities living in this sector of the North West Province. To our readers who lived in South Africa before Independence in 1994, the country was divided into four Provinces - The Cape Province, Orange Free State, Transvaal and Natal. Now the country is renamed under nine Provinces.

We reached Phokeng shortly after 10am and were warmly welcomed by both Brother Joseph and Sister Georgina and the community that can number 14 at times. The community in Phokeng have for some forty odd years been a God sent blessing to the very poor of this corner of South Africa. Some half an hour's drive from Phokeng lies a squatter camp and it is teeming with people,

mostly young who are refugees from neighboring countries or evicted from their homes in other parts of the country. Here Sister Georgina runs a basic clinic for the needy while Br. Joseph has seen to the establishment of deserving creches. We think of squatter camps when viewing pictures of distress in Syria or Sudan. Go no further than visit this particular camp and one will no longer complain of the lack of creature comforts in our communities once and a while. Here Br. Robert met first hand those on the peripheries of society. He said that if St. John Baptist de La Salle was here today this type of work would get his blessing.

Back to Phokeng Community for a nice lunch prepared by Sister Georgina and her helpers which was relished by all. After lunch Br. Robert met with the Community and Bishop Kevin

Dowling who resides in the Mission Campus.

Br. Robert sat front seat beside Mr. Atholl Murray who filled him in on the workings of educational trends in South Africa for two hours.

We arrived back in Discovery in time for 5:30pm Saturday evening mass in Roodepoort.

In the meantime, Br. Pierre, one of the Councillors in Rome arrived on a flight from West Africa and was picked up by Br. Cornelius.

Sunday morning the Victory Park bus was on hand to take us on a trip through downtown

Johannesburg and Soweto. It was interesting to visit Regina Mundi Church in Soweto and see the bullet holes in ceilings and walls after the uprising of those years. Our visit to Soweto ended with a delightful lunch close to the home of Nelson Mandela.

Of course, our days at La Salle College and De La Salle Holy Cross Victory Park were the heart of the visit. Our guests had ample opportunity to meet with staff, students and Lasallian groups and listen to their achievements and concerns. Br. Robert and Pierre were inspired by the quality, competence and dedication of the schools' leadership both on the part of the administrators and the Management Boards.

All good things come to an end, so on Wednesday afternoon Br. Robert was winging his way back to the Eternal City to catch up on the work he had left. Thursday morning found Br.

Pierre retrace his steps to the Motherhouse and leave the warm summer weather of South



Africa.

Everyone who met Br. Robert and Br. Pierre were duly impressed by their zeal and enthusiasm and above all by their keen interest in the Lasallian Mission in South Africa.

#### DE LA SALLE HOLY CROSS COLLEGE

Celebrating Lord Robert Baden-Powell, Founder's Day - De La Salle Holy Cross College Junior School

## February 2017:

Scouts, Cubs, Guides and Brownies from De La Salle Holy Cross College Junior School wore their uniforms to school to celebrate Founder's Day on 22 February. Scouts around the world commemorate the birthday of Lord Robert Baden-Powell, founder of the Scout Movement.



The children paraded their uniforms proudly and gave their fellow pupils interesting information about their mottos, activities and the projects they take part in.

"The Scout motto 'Be prepared' ties in very well with the College ethos of 'Be first that you may be of Service'. This was a wonderful opportunity for the children to show their service and their dedication for various community commitments." said Mrs. Mary Hyam, Headmistress of the Junior School.

# De La Salle Holy Cross College does it again!

## December 2016:

De La Salle Holy Cross College is proud of their high-achieving Matric class of 2016! The College has once again achieved a 100% Pass rate for the 30th consecutive year in the 30 year history of the Amalgamated College. All Matric students obtained a Bachelor Degree Studies Pass.

The 2016 Matric class attained an average of 2.3 subject distinctions per candidate, with 3 pupils achieving 8 distinctions and 3 pupils achieving 7 distinctions.

# Top achievers (by number of distinctions and alphabetical order):

**8 Distinctions (3 pupils):** Sofia Gouveia; Aimee McShane and Elizabeth Stone.



**7 Distinctions (3 pupils):** Daniella da Silva; Jessica Robertson and Caitlin Robinson.

## 6 Distinctions (3

**pupils):** Hayley Bue; Tanika de Waal and Keeanu Jardim.

**5 Distinctions (4 pupils):** Constantine Catsicas; Claudia da Silva; John Maree and Patrick Rogers.

## 4 Distinctions (8 pupils): Savannah

de Carvalho; Louise Impey; Michael Joannou; Emma Knight; Zeena Morar; Marco Morna; Jessica Patton and Daniela Wilson.

## 3 Distinctions (4

pupils): Sabrina Carvalho; KiaraColes; Shane de Achadinha andMatthew Nevill.

## 2 Distinctions (14 pupils): Megan Cox; Bianca Ferreira; Angelo Guerra; Gabriella Guerra, Larissa Jacobs; Ashleigh Jones; Makanatsa Mafukidze; Darren Marsh; Megan Mulder; Ashley Rosenberg; Ian Samson; Chrysoula Soteriades; Warwick Taylor and Christopher Walter.

## 1 Distinction (27 pupils): Ewan Anfield; Justine Azzie; Grant Bubb; Dylan Chapple; Liam Cuffley; Holly Firth; Jennifer Greeff;

Robert Kay; Kai Ludewig; Logan May;
Brandon McCloed; Philippa Mungle; Dylan
Nourse; Britt Paterson;
Justin Raal; Cameron
Roach; Diandra Rodrigues; Paige
Steele; Mmathaphelo Tleane; Ryan Towell;
Clare Truter; Daniel van den Berg; Ethan
van Greenen; Andrew
Venter; Giasmin Walma van der Molen and
Daniella Zoghby.

"We would like to acknowledge all of our pupils' efforts, from those who achieved excellence against the national benchmarks, to those who triumphed personally to achieve their full potential. We are incredibly proud of each and every pupil as well as our staff - congratulations to all of you!" said Debbie Harris, College Principal.

## De La Salle Holy Cross College welcomes Superior General Brother Robert Schieler

## **January 2017:**

De la Salle Holy Cross College in Victory Park was privileged to have a visit from Brother Robert Schieler, the Superior General of the De la Salle Brothers, currently based in Rome.

Born in Philadelphia, USA, Brother Robert completed his studies in Modern European

History and his PhD in educational administration. He worked as a teacher in the United States and, after making his final profession in 1979, he worked as a missionary in the Philippines for 13 years. Brother Robert is now leading the largest order of religious Brothers in the Church dedicated to education.

Brother Robert was accompanied by Brother Pierre Quattara, General Councillor of RELAF region (all African countries in both French and English speaking Africa). This is a huge responsibility as there are 46 Lasallian institutions in Africa in fourteen countries. Brother Pierre was born in Burkino Faso. He completed his formation in Burkino Faso and took his final vows in 1988. He holds a PhD in Philosophy.



Brother Robert presented Honours blazers to the Head Boy, Philani Mpofu and Head Girl, Deena Martin.

Today the Lasallian Mission continues to flourish. There are institutions in 80 countries around the world serving 1 000 000 students in over 1000 schools and universities. Following the teachings of their founder, St John Baptist de la Salle, the brothers, associates, teachers and students continue to embrace the ethos of this saint, whose main focus was on the education of young people.



Superior General of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools Br Robert Schieler with management of De La Salle Holy Cross College High School

While in South Africa, the Brothers visited the Tsholofelo Mission in Phokeng, La Salle School in Discovery and De la Salle Holy Cross College in Victory Park where they met the staff, pupils, parents and members of the School Governing Bodies. At De La Salle Holy Cross College they attended assemblies at both the Junior and High Schools and Brother Robert proudly presented Honours blazers to the Head Boy, Philani Mpofu and Head Girl, Deena Martin.

Br Robert was interviewed by Fr Emil Blaser on Radio Veritas on Wednesday, 25 January.

## 3. CALENDARS:

Brother Agustin already fixed schedule

## Visitor's Calendar:

The next submission deadline for the news clip will be on June  $20^{th}\ 2017$ .