



Celebrating De La Salle

LWANGA LA SALLE  
GAZETTE

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**H**ave you sent us anything this time? Please, submit photos, poems, jokes, brainteasers and articles to the shared Communication Office email address at the Provinciate, Nairobi, by the end of June 2017.

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# PROVINCIALATE

## *Message from the Brother Gabriel*



Bro. Gabriel Griffin

**A**s we begin the 2017 calendar year I take this opportunity to wish all Lasallians and associates a very happy New Year.

Our schools in Kenya and South Africa are beginning a new academic year, while schools in Eritrea, Ethiopia and Nigeria are in the middle of their academic year. Wherever you are on this journey I wish you a happy, fruitful and fulfilling 2017.

To new students, educators, staff and parents joining the Lasallian family at this time I wish you a long and happy association with us.

Congratulations to the students and educators in our schools in Kenya and South Africa on the excellent results achieved in their 2016 Grade 12 National Examinations. Academic excellence is a feature of a Lasallian School.

**W**hen visiting schools a question I ask teachers/ educators is 'What do our students take with them when they graduate'? Some will say good results. Most of them will leave with good academic results but what else will they take with them? There is more that happens in a Lasallian School. Education also involves formation. Our students will take memories and experiences with them. They will also be influenced by the value system and ethos of the school.

Many of our students spend twelve or thirteen years in our Lasallian schools – at a very formative stage of their lives. Over the years it was interesting to observe how excited the Grade 1 students and

their parents were on the first day of formal schooling. But what happened to all the enthusiasm down the line? When they graduate in Grade 12 many of them fit the description of the student in Shakespeare's *The Seven Ages of Man* - 'creeping like snail unwillingly to school.' Has the school system killed their enthusiasm?

“If we teach today’s students as we thought yesterday’s we rob them of tomorrow.”(John Dewey)

Today we live in the digital age and we must cater for the 21st Century Child. We must embrace the digital reality, to make school more relevant for the students of the current generation. The educator David Warlick has said that ‘we need technology in every classroom and in every student’s and teacher’s hand because it is the pen and paper of our time and lens through which we experience much of our world.’

At a world conference in Abu Dhabi in April 2016 Microsoft’s Vice- President for worldwide education shared a global perspective about the transformation happening in schools today and how the five C’s – communication , collaboration , critical thinking, creativity and computational thinking are becoming the core skills of hiring that managers are hungry for as they transform globally.

In February 2015 when Pope Francis spoke to representatives of the Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar they asked him to identify an important mission for the church in Africa. He said “Education today is a key, key, key mission. Invest in education in Africa to defend the young from fundamentalism and the abuse of religion. The most effective way to overcome the temptation to give in to harmful lifestyles is by investing in education.

Education will also help to overcome a wide spread mentality of injustice and violence, as well as ethnic divisions.”

Pope Francis meeting with educators in Ecuador in July 2015 said –“My question to you, as educators, is this:”

“Do you watch over your students, helping them to develop a critical sense, an open mind capable of car-

ing for today’s world? A spirit capable of seeking new answers to the varied challenges that society sets before humanity today. Are you able to encourage them to disregard the world around them, what is happening all over? Can you encourage them to do that? To make that possible, you need to take them outside the University lecture hall, their minds need to leave the classroom, their hearts must go out of the classroom. Does our life with its uncertainties, its mysteries and its questions find a place in the University curriculum or different academic activities? Do we enable and support a constructive debate which fosters dialogue in the pursuit of a more humane world? Dialogue, that bridge word, that word which builds bridges.

One avenue of reflection involves all of us, family, schools and teachers. How do we help our young people not to see a university degree as synonymous with higher status, with more money or social prestige? It is not synonymous with that.

How can we help make their education a mark of greater responsibility in the face of today’s problems, the needs of the poor, concern for the environment.”

Br Alvaro in one of his Pastoral Letters writing about Education for Justice wrote:

“Education for justice should not be merely a specific subject area but a common thread that runs through the entire curriculum. This common thread should be reinforced by daily practice within the school. . . It is important that within the school there exists an experience of justice in which values, such as solidarity, community and participation are top priorities. Otherwise the school runs the risk of duplicating the system and preparing students for a society of privileges training them in the competitive struggle where there is no solidarity”

Brother Alvaro goes on to quote Father Kolvenbach former Superior General of the Jesuits when he addressed a meeting of former students in Bolivia. Father Kolvenbach spoke about the tremendous pressure which is placed on schools in the global jungle in which we operate where only the most prepared survive. He said: “Naturally we have to prepare our students so that they obtain one of the relatively few jobs that are available. But if that is the only criteria we have to evaluate our institutions, we can consider them as having failed. If all they achieve is simply to turn men and women into being “for themselves and their friends,” and not “for others” especially for the poor and excluded, our education will not have achieved its objective and will not have educated for justice.’

A third quote: from the 2015 Pastoral Letter of Brother Robert Schieler, Superior General “Every Graduate of a Catholic School should emerge with a deep commitment to promoting the equality of life, to justice as a seamless garment, and to protecting the integrity of creation . . . They ought to come out committed to oppose all sinful social structures, and to help reform them or to create new ones.”

Br John Johnson former Superior General was quoted as saying that every Lasallian Centre / Institution should be an ‘Impact Centre.’

As a Lasallian School/ Centre we have an obligation to make a difference in each student’s life so that when they leave us they will

leave to serve others. The motto of some of our Lasallian Schools is ‘Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve.’

A former student of one of our schools in Kenya is a good example of Lasallian service and outreach. Recently, the Daily Nation Newspaper featured the life of six young people who are making a positive impact in their community. This young University student relates that his school administration constantly encouraged him and his schoolmates to care for and give to needy orphan children. This young man and some of his friends have registered Kids for Life as a nonprofit organization. His group started off with a gathering of 10 friends, now, it has a membership of over 200 volunteers drawn from various universities in Nairobi. Most of them do not have a stable income and depend on donations. They are not deterred though and intend continuing doing what they are doing as long as it brings a smile to a child’s face.

He and his friends find it more worthwhile spending time with the children, instead of solely giving the conventional donations of food, clothing and money. They believe that since most of these children have faced a form of neglect or rejection, what they need more than material things is affection, if only to rebuild trust and give them a sense of hope for the future.

This is what we are about. “We plant seeds that will one day grow, and water seeds already planted knowing that they hold future promise.” (Oscar Romero)

Every year around 1000 students graduate from Lasallian Schools in the Lwanga District.

What do they take with them?



# MOUNT LA SALLE COLLEGE, NAKA

Nigeria

## Admissions

September is the beginning of Academic Year in Nigeria. Mount La Salle College, Naka started the process of admission earlier in May, 2016 when the Catholic Common Entrance Examination was written. It was followed by Late- Intake Examination in September, 2016. At the end of the process, the school finally, admitted a total number of one hundred and twenty-seven candidates; ninety-four into JSS 1 (Grade 7), twenty-seven into JSS 2 (Grade 8), four into SS 1 (Grade 10) and two into SS 2 (Grade 11). On the 5th September, 2016, the school started the academic activities for the 1st Term 2016/2017 Session. Covering

## Population

The school had a population of 591 students. A total of 137 students are boarders: 93 Boys and 44 Girls. A total of 454 students came from their homes: 275 Boys and 179 Girls. There were 60 Staff; 49 Staff are Male, while 11 are female. The number of teaching staff was 38, while that of the non-teaching staff was 22.

## Workshop/Orientation

On Friday 16th September, 2016, the new students were given orientation. During the orientation, the Dean of Students' Affairs, Mrs. Edith Ugwuanyi and the Dean of Studies, Mr. Orbunde Moses led the new students on a familiarisation tour of the school premises and facilities.

At the weekend, the school organised a workshop for the New Teachers. Mr. Matthew Nwougwugwu, Lasallian Association Coordinator, and Mr. Ajav Thaddeus were the facilitators. The workshop was titled, 'The Presence of God'. Mr. Matthew took the teachers through the historical background of Lasallian Education. He emphasised teaching as a call from God and as a vocation rather than a job. He went through the Founder's 12 Virtues of a good Teacher. Mr. Ajav, on his part explained who is a Lasallian Teacher. "A Lasallian Teacher opens the mind and touch the hearts", he said. He went through the characteristics of Lasallian Schools. The New teachers expressed gratitude for the workshop. Also, the early part of the school resumption witnessed the inauguration of the Prefects during the Opening Mass.

## Competitions and Awards

During the course of the term, the school participated in the series of competitions. For instance, some of students represented the school in the All Secondary Schools Games in the State. They won medals and trophies in the various categories of events. Also, three students won a scholarship awards after they came first in the Mathematics Competition organised by Nzuur Scholarship Scheme.



## Anniversaries

The former Students of 2006 celebrated the 10th Anniversary of their Graduation from Mount La Salle College, Naka on the 11th December, 2016 at the School Auditorium. At the celebration, they donated four white marker boards.

Furthermore, during the term the Staff and students of Mount La Salle College, Naka had an opportunity to chat with RELAN Staff and students on Skype. It was an exciting and interesting experience.

The term ended with Xmas Carols marked with presentations of songs, dramas, dances and jokes.

# ST. JOSEPH ADDIS

Ethiopia

## De La Salle Day Celebration

De La Salle Lwanga

St Joseph celebrated Founders day on May 13, 2016. The full day celebration started with a morning mass at the school chapel. At the end of the service two dedicated members of the campus ministry who will be graduating this year were recognized by Brother Belayneh principal of the school.

Following the mass students from the campus ministry presented De La Salle's life in a drama presentation attended by parents, students and teachers.



Sport is a major activity for De Lasalle day at St Joseph. Games were played between teachers and among students who were playing championship games to win the De La Salle Cup. On this day, three divisions played to claim the title in three sports for intramural sport competition which started in February 2016.

Different entertainment and sales of food and drinks were offered for students by the Lasallian Charity club which uses this occasion to raise funds for students it support at Meki Catholic School.



The day of festivity was concluded after Brothe Belayneh awarded teams which won the sports competition. This year's award was a De La sale T-shirt made in different colors.



# Graduation Party Dinner

Following their graduation Class of 2016 hosted a dinner party at St Joseph School on July 23, 2016. The dinner party was the first in kind to be organized in the school premises. Parents and family of the graduating students attended the event. Live band performance entertained the guests while a traditional and international buffet dinner was enjoyed by all who were present.

On this occasion the school honored Yabsera Wolde for his leadership of the graduating class and school sport teams he captained.



## Student's Lasallian Work

### Recognition

St Joseph School gave recognition to two dedicated Lasallian campus ministry leaders who graduated this year for their outstanding work to the campus ministry and Lasallian youth Movement . Michael Alemayeh and Natneal Gebreselasse were

members of the campus ministry since grade 9 and leaders of the ministry for the past two years as president and vice president. Their work as leaders include organizing daily lunch break prayers, special prayer sessions on special school days and organizing spiritual activity for students and community. They also help the Lasallian charity club raise funds as members of Lasallian Youth Movement of St Joseph which they served as Chairperson and Vice Chairman.

Michael and Natneal worked hard to be mentors and role models for young lasallians in the school by giving their time and energy to their peers and younger students at St Joseph. They were awarded St Joseph's pin and De Lasalle T-Shirts by Brother Belayneh Principal of St Joseph at the end of mass they organized on De Lasalle Day on May 18, 2016 which was one of the last events they helped organize at St Joseph. They were also recognized again in front of their classmates during this year's graduation ceremony on July 17, 2016. The school will miss them a lot but they have produced many young dedicated Lasallians who will be filling their shoes.



# Scholarship at St. Joseph

Class of 1991 became the youngest batch to sponsor 2 students to study at St. Joseph for a four year scholarship. The scholarship program at St Joseph covers tuitions, books and uniforms for outstanding students whose family cannot afford to send their kids to St. Joseph.

The program started in 2004 by class of 1971 with the help of Ato Demisse wolde Aregay who was the head master of the school at that time. Since then classes' of 70, 71, 80, 83, 85, 86 and 88 have sponsored 92 students up to the end of 2015-2016 academic year. Class of 1971 sponsored 45 students alone by sponsoring 4 students every year since 2005. From the 92 students who were sponsored so far 59 had graduated from St Joseph joining Universities in Ethiopia and abroad. Some even have completed their first degrees. 31 students are currently studying at St Joseph from grade 10-12.

In the next academic year the school, with help of different classes will give 12 outstanding students a four year scholarship starting from grade 9. The 104th scholarship student will be admitted to St Joseph after passing a challenging exam and an interview.

In the next academic year the school has plans to expand the scholarship program by establishing a scholarship fund where individual donors can contribute to support stu-

dents in need. The school will use the fund obtained to give more opportunity for financially challenged families to send their kids to St. Joseph.



## Lwanga District Chapter Meeting

I have been fortunate to be one of the lay associate delegates to attend Lwanga District Chapter held in Nairobi from January 4-8. The Chapter is held every 4 years and it precedes the regions RELAF meeting which was held after the district chapter.

Only one other lay associate from Kenya Jane Wambui Mainah from Mwangaza Collage were present during the meeting where Brothers representing all Sectors and communities within the district. Brother Pierre from the French speaking Region was also present to share his experience and as representative of the Institute.

As lay associates Jane and I took an active part in the Chapter from discussing and proposing issues regarding Lasallian activities within the district. We presented a well-received presentation on our Lasallian activities within our ministry and our sector. On these

presentations we tried to show what we have done and what is lacking in our missions but would have to be improved based on our experience working with the Christian Brothers for many years.

The Chapter gave an opportunity to the lay associate to put forward a proposal and we came up the following proposals for discussion and approval.

1. Training within sector and district level
2. Empower Lay Associates
3. Support to Lasallian Animators
4. Regular Meeting within the sector and district level

After discussing the proposals from the lay associates the Chapter agreed to do more regarding participation of lay associate in each mission. It also decided to notify administrators to allocate budget for Lasallian animators and help them to meet with other animators within the sector.

We were also involved in a group working on amendments and improvements on the District's guideline on Lasallian Education Mission. The draft amendments were presented to the Chapter for discussion and approval. Other important changes on rules and

regulations were also discussed on the Chapter and amendments were made accordingly.

Attending the District Chapter was a valuable experience for me. It gave me a good understanding how the Lasallian organization adapt rules and regulations at a district level. I hope our active participation as lay associates will result on more lay associates attending the next District Chapter.

## Homecoming 2015

Saint Joseph School celebrated its 56th anniversary and its annual homecoming on December 26, 2015.

Different recreational games and events were organized by graduating class of 2016. Parents, students and Alumni came in large numbers to be part of the celebration. Proceeds from the event will be used by class of 2016 for their year book and graduation ceremony.



## Career Day

The Interact Club of Saint Joseph School organized a career day at St Joseph School for grade 10 students on March 18, 2016. Grade 10 students have to choose the stream that they are going to study when they join the preparatory stage in grade 11.

Former students and motivational speakers from different professions mentored the students to choose wisely and according to their passion and ability. At the end of the presentation students asked questions on how to choose this career.

## Space Science Club

Saint Joseph's and Nazareth Schools space science clubs held a joint event at St Joseph School on February 5, 2015. On these event students from both schools made presentation on different space science and physics topics. Following the presentation discussion was held on different topics moderated by invited guests who also mentored the students in the study of space science.

The event was concluded after students had an opportunity to star gaze using telescopes brought by the Ethiopian Space science society.

## Public Speech Competition

The English department of Saint Joseph organized a public speaking competition for grade 11 and 12 students on December 31, 2015. In the competition students made their speech on chosen topics to fellow students and to a panel of judges who are made up English language teachers of the school. After the judge's decision was made students who won the competition were awarded prizes by Brother Belayneh who praised all participants for their eloquence and substance of their speeches.

## De La Salle Cup

Students of Saint Joseph have participated in the annual intramural sport competition named after the founder from the beginning of the second semester on February 16, 2016 to May 13, 2016. The competition ended on De Lalle day on May 13, 2016 with a grand festive atmosphere. In this competition about 60% of the student body in middle school and high school participated in three sports.

The intermural sport competition is governed and organized by the Students Sport Counsel elected by the students every academic year in October.



# MUN Meeting at Saint Joseph School

**S**tudent of Saint Joseph school held an Model United Nations (MUN) meeting at St Joseph on March 12,2016. The meeting was organized by the school's MUN club which participates in the Inter School MUN session organized by the International Community School of Addis Ababa.

In this meeting girls from Nativity Girls School participated after accepting an invitation from St Joseph MUN club. The activities were moderated by Ato Alemu Asfaw assistant principal of the school.



# LA SALLE DISCOVERY

South Africa

## Building Project

The news is good. Our building project is well and truly underway three classrooms a laboratory and a multipurpose Auditorium. From the start the weather has been kind to us – no day lost because of rain. We hope and pray the builder will be able to meet the very tight schedule set by the Board of Governors. There will be a regular progress report on the College website to keep all of us informed.

## La Sallian Youth

The group meets once a week. We greatly appreciate the work of Br Thomas and a devoted group of teachers who organise our students in collecting food and clothing to be brought and distributed to the informal settlements. Long may this great work continue? This group of students come together for prayer and sharing once a week.

## Ook La Salle

This was a Concert produced by the pupils and teachers of La Salle College. This was surely the highlight of the year. The script was written by a last year

Matric student assisted by a few teachers. It was a celebratory performance of the College since it was founded.(2016 is the 50th Jubilee of its foundation). It was to reveal the heart of the founder, the work of the Brothers and teachers to provide a good CHRISTIAN EDUCATION down the years. The purpose was to include as many pupils as possible to appear on the stage. There were numerous rehearsals. The Primary School classes dazzled and danced through musical renditions of the years and the Matrics took the audience to a Grease style Matric dance. There were two evening performance and a matinee for the old age home. The highlight was the Grade R rendition of Under the Pool.the informal settlements. Long may this great work continue? This group of students come together for prayer and sharing once a week.

# De La Salle Holy Cross College

South Africa

## Outreach in Limpopo

**V**ICTORY PARK – De La Salle Holy Cross College High School pupils do great things for a school in Limpopo.

Pupils of De La Salle Holy Cross College High School were welcomed back with a prayer from their outreach project success.

The pupils embarked on an outreach project to Limpopo that spanned a week during the August holidays. The project was called, the Nthabalala-Thusanani Project, which was formed to assist Nthabalala Primary School pupils.

The group participated in various projects to assist the school in its everyday runnings. The project was initiated by former pupil, Boitumelo Masipa, five years ago. She explained that she started the group with two fellow pupils and after they all matriculated she decided to carry on the legacy.

“I was compelled to carry on the project because pupils of De La Salle love giving back and the pupils of Nthabalala always look forward to our visit,” said Masipa.

**S**he added that this would be the second year of the project for her, outside of school. “The excitement of the project never dies out; each year, pupils are more excited than the last,” she enthused.

Every year the group that would head to Limpopo would have already set out objectives to achieve. This

year the group’s objective was to build a play area for the pupils of Nthabalala to enjoy.

“In the space of two weeks, the pupils managed to get R10 000 through fundraising and we were also donated an old jungle gym,” explained Masipa.

A fellow volunteer, Jordan Bulger, said this was his second year participating in the project. “I loved the interaction with the children and this is something I could see doing for the rest of my life,” said Bulger.

He said the best thing about the project is knowing that you have changed someone’s life and the worst part is, saying goodbye to all the people he helped.

**A**long with erecting the play area, the group also held classes where they taught, put up boards for notices and made sure they interacted with all the pupils.



*Pupils of Nthabalala Primary School along with De La Salle Holy Cross College volunteers on their way to meet the Village Chief.*



*Nthabalala Primary school pupils were given stationery packs by the De La Salle Holy Cross College pupils.*



*De La Salle Holy Cross College pupils painting and carrying out maintenance at Nthabalala Primary school.*

## De La Salle doesn't pipe down for a competition

**V**ICTORY PARK – De La Salle Holy Cross College hosted another successful regional pipe band and highland dancing competition on 28 May.

The De La Salle Pipe Band proudly presented their 2016 regional Highland Gathering pipe band and highland dancing competition on their school field.

The event was attended by pipe bands and pipe band lovers alike. A food and craft market, beer and tea gardens and a host of children's activities drew the crowds for a fun family day.

Despite a power failure, which lasted most of the day, the show went on without a hitch. Once the senior bands had completed their competition, the drum majors took over before it was time for the massed bands performance.

**O**ver 200 musicians assembled and played songs such as Amazing Grace and Flower of Scotland. They were then accompanied by the Highland dancers for Wilt thou come to the Barracks, Johnnie.

"It really was a wonderful day," said Rosemary Atwell, organiser of the event. "We appreciate all the support we receive and are delighted that our event grows bigger every year."



## College Pupils 'rough it' for the night

**V**ICTORY PARK – De La Salle pupils leave their warm beds to face the cold.

Pupils of De La Salle Holy Cross College braved the cold winter weather to host their own School Sleepout.

Along with the pupils were a few teachers, parents and the principal of the school Debbie Harris.

The sleepout started promptly at 6pm on 28 July,



when the group gathered and were ready to rough it out for the evening. Everyone spent the evening sleeping on the school grounds to raise empathy for the homeless. They also collected items for those in need. Items such as blankets, tinned food and they also made sandwiches to give to the St Vincent de Paul Society.

**H**arris expressed that this initiative was in solidarity with everyone who 'sleeps rough' every night. She added that this was an optional event that pupils and staff could join in on. "We made sandwiches and soup for the St Vincent de Paul Society, who

are our churches charity wing, and they will collect all the sandwiches and soup, which will be given to the various feeding schemes around Joburg," said Harris.

**S**he added that they ate some of the soup as they wanted to live as the homeless would by eating and living with very basic utilities. "After tonight we will all have a new sense of awareness for those living without the luxuries we have on a daily basis," said Harris.

To keep warm the pupils made a fire using wood and they gathered around the fire and talked about how they thought the evening would pan out.

"My hope is that after the sleepout we leave being better people," said Harris.

Pupils in attendance felt that spending the night without all their privileges was a great way to understand the plight of those less fortunate than them.

Emma Knight, a matric pupil at the school said that she wanted to do the sleepout not only because it was a great way to get a better understanding of other people's realities but it encouraged her to go without her luxuries for a night. "It is important to know this and just get a better understanding of what the homeless go through on a daily basis," said Knight.

## 'Night of the Stars'

**O**n 23 June, the much anticipated annual 'Night of the Stars' Talent Show took place at De La Salle Holy Cross College High School.

Every year it is a huge success and this year was no different. The learners showed incredible determination and courage, displaying a diverse range of talents, including dancing, singing, acting - and even some

traditional highland piping and Irish dancing!

The audience was extremely enthusiastic and supportive, creating a brilliant atmosphere and a wonderful entertaining evening was had by all!

“I would like to commend all those who participated and special thanks to Mrs Judy Werth, the evening’s co-ordinator, and all the other members of staff, who made this event possible” said Debbie Harris, College Principal, “We are very proud of our talented learners and it was a real pleasure to see them showcase their abilities”.



## 2016 Matric Valediction and Mass

At the Grade 12 Valediction on Friday 14 October we celebrated the achievements and successes of the 2016 Grade 12 group.

After the grade 12 Mass the Matrics, their parents, staff members and special guests assembled in the hall for the prize giving.

The guest speaker, Mr Patrick Munyembate inspired the Matrics to follow their dreams and to be proud of the DLSHCC Brand.

Various activity awards were made. This year many more Grade 12s qualified for diligence scrolls, and half and full colours for academics, which bodes well for the upcoming IEB external examinations.

The top achievers in the different subjects were announced, as well as the winners of various donated trophies.

The Dux Scholar for 2016 is Elizabeth Stone, with Sofia Gouveia as Dux Proxime.

Three Praesis ut Prosis service awards were handed out to: Daniella Zoghby, Robert Kay and Makanatsa Mafukidze.

Aimee McShane was the recipient of a red honours blazer.



*The 2016 Head Boy and Head Girl address their fellow learners at the Valediction ceremony.*

## Learners prove their eloquence!

Sinead Mahony and Adam Gear of De La Salle Holy Cross College, both in Grade 7, competed in the Northcliff Rotary Public Speaking Competition on 28 September.

This is the 35th year that the competition has been run. Primary schools from the area are invited to participate in a prepared speech section and an impromptu section. This year Northcliff Primary, Greenside Primary, Bryandale Primary, Constantia Primary, Franklin D Roosevelt, Sacred Heart College, St Teresa's and De La Salle Holy Cross College participated.



*De La Salle Holy Cross Junior College pupils, Adam Gear and head girl, Sinead Mahony hold the winning trophy.*

Sinead Mahony of De La Salle Holy Cross College won the prepared section with Jenna Epstein of St Teresa's as Runner-up. The impromptu section was won by Tanacity Douglas of Northcliff Primary with Glenn McKenzie of Bryandale as the Runner-up. The overall winner of the evening was De La Salle Holy Cross College, who will once again host the compe-

tition in 2017.

“It was a really fun evening! Thank you to Rotary who organises this competition every year - and well done to all of the speakers who participated in the event.” said Sinead Mahony, Head Girl of De La Salle Holy Cross College Junior School.



*Pupils from various schools participated in the Northcliff Rotary Public Speaking Competition.*

## 30th Anniversary of the Amalgamation of De La Salle College and Holy Cross Convent

On 5 August, De La Salle Holy Cross College held a Mass and Breakfast to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the amalgamation of De La Salle College and Holy Cross Convent in 1987.

We heard from past pupil Richard Southey (Class of 87), former staff member & parent Allison Southey,

and former staff member Sybil Barrow (Sr. Winifred).

Some of the 1966 Matric class from Holy Cross College also attended ahead of their Reunion on Saturday 6 August.



## Community Services by Lasallian Youth

Some of the De La Salle Holy Cross College High School members visited the JPCCC (JHB parent & child counselling centre), painting, cleaning and making the offices look prettier and more welcoming.

This was a great outreach initiative for everyone – and much fun was had by all.

The JPCCC offices looked beautiful after the Lasallian Youth members had worked their magic!



## The Lasallian Month of Peace – Junior School

The teachers and pupils of De La Salle Holy Cross College Junior School wore traditional clothing on 23 September to celebrate Heritage Day.

The children had a special assembly, where the staff and teachers told them about the various tribal costumes they were wearing, the traditions and customs and the different languages everyone spoke. Everyone said the ‘Prayer for Peace’ and then sang some traditional songs. The Grade 3 pupils also celebrated the day with a boerewors braai.

ning photographer covered most of the major political events that shaped the tumultuous struggle years, such as the Soweto student uprising. A copy of his triumphant photo of Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the late President Nelson Mandela after uTata’s release from prison in 1990 hangs outside our library.

Mr Bizos is a prominent human rights lawyer who fought against apartheid. At the infamous Rivonia Trial, he represented Walter Sisulu and Nelson Mandela, and he appeared at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission on behalf of the families of murdered struggle heroes such as Steve Biko and Chris Hani. He spoke to the children at assembly about “South Africa – Our Heritage”.



*Friday 7 October was the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. In the Catholic tradition, the rosary is a powerful prayer for peace. The learners wore different coloured t-shirts and gathered on the school field to form a human rosary and recite the Joyful Mysteries.*

During Heritage Month itself, the College was honoured to be visited by two South African greats: Mr Peter Magubane and Mr George Bizos.

Mr Magubane is one of South Africa’s most distinguished and iconic photojournalists. This award-win-



*The Grade 3s decorated a tree with peace doves as part of their peace project.*



## The Lasallian Month of Peace – High School

**D**uring the Lasallian Month of Peace the Teachers prayed the Lasallian Peace Prayer as the morning prayer in classes at the start of the day and the reason for this was explained to the school at the assembly on the 15 September.

In South Africa, we celebrate Heritage Day on the 24th September and this year we chose to emphasise our unity in our diversity, rather than placing the em-



phasis on the diversity of our cultures and languages. However, we chose to honour the various cultural backgrounds by asking staff and pupils to wear National costumes to school on the 23rd September and then holding a joint celebration of music and dance on our main field. This proved to be a very enjoyable experience for all serving to highlight the need for unity and the need to embrace and understand the beauty and value of all cultures in order to promote peace and harmony.



As it is the Jubilee Year of Mercy each Grade prepared a “station” depicting aspects of God’s forgiveness and mercy which, practised in our own lives, leads to peace within ourselves and in our relationships with others. We then arranged an afternoon Pilgrimage Walk to visit each station and read the displayed reflections. This was followed by the opportunity for receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation and attendance at the parish evening Mass, passing through one of the designated Jubilee Year Doors of Mercy.

The Lasallian Youth camp was held from 14th to 16th October at Heronbridge Retreat Centre, with 80 pupils in attendance. The theme of the weekend was “Who am I?” focussing on the pupils’

identity and assisting them in getting to know themselves through God’s eyes. The youth group prayed the Rosary together on Saturday afternoon, to unite with other South Africans in praying for peace in our country. It was an incredible camp with different experiences for the pupils who attended. One of the pupils gave a talk on the canonisation of Br Solomon and the weekend concluded with Holy Mass and a picnic with the parents.



## Game, Set and Match to De La Salle Holy Cross

On Saturday 15th October De La Salle Holy Cross College participated in the Junior Inter-High for girls, and the Annual Inter-Catholic Tennis Tournaments, held at Brescia House School. There were 5 teams competing: Veritas, Sacred Heart, Saint Davids, Saint Benedicts and De La Salle Holy Cross College.

The Inter-High team of Katherine Brislin, Sasha-Lee Doyle, Dayna Woolls and Gemma Woolls were placed 8th out of 27 Schools. This is a fantastic achievement as all the top schools were competing.

Roberto da Silva, Mufaro Nduku, Nicholas Joannou and Chad Martin finished 1st overall in the Boys Inter-Catholic Tournament. Octavia Rajchl, Klaudia Kozuchowska, Shervval Ozkan and Lauren Walter finished 6th overall in the Girls Inter-Catholic.

“The De La Salle Holy Cross College teams played with great enthusiasm and passion - and were delighted to be placed first in both sections of the Inter-Catholic Tournament and ultimately took first place overall. It was a proud day for all of us!” said Nicholas Joannou, newly appointed Tennis Captain for 2017. “All the learners had an amazing day playing tennis and it gave our team a great an opportunity to test its depth against the other excellent school teams.” he said.



*L to R: Chad Martin, Nicholas Joannou, Roberto da Silva and Mufaro Nduku - the winning team who were placed 1st overall in the Boys Inter-Catholic Tournament.*

## Giving love - and a Cheque - to the Reach For A Dream Foundation

De La Salle Holy Cross College handed over a cheque to Kitty Mothei from Reach for A Dream last week. Money was collected from the sale of gift bags in aid of the charity, with both the Junior School and High School participating in the campaign.

The College also supports the Reach for A Dream ‘Slipper Day’ where learners and teachers pay R10 to wear their slippers to school and all proceeds go to the Foundation.

“We are so delighted that we are able to help the Reach For A Dream Foundation in any way we can” said Liz van der Westhuizen, one of the teachers who organised the campaign. “Once again, we had such amazing support from all of the staff, parents and

learners”.



*Tayla Vester, Kitty Mothei from Reach For A Dream and Courtney Davies*

## Soap Box Extravaganza

**V**ICTORY PARK – De La Salle Holy Cross College Junior School hosted their annual Soap Box Derby where a portion of the proceeds will be donated to their sister school.

Youngsters raced their soap boxes around the track on the school field with great energy and excitement at a thrilling Soap Box Derby.

The grades each represented an Olympic sport, such as weightlifting, swimming, boxing and cycling, and were divided into three houses: Francis, Charles and Benildas.

**E**ach house had one sturdy soap box that was strong enough to take the children around the track at high speeds while pupils cheered on joyfully from the safety of the sidelines. Many different races were held, and all enjoyed a day of fun.

De La Salle Holy Cross deputy principal, Martin Nolte, said that the derby is in its fifth year running and is also an opportunity to raise funds for a good cause.

“This is a great way to get the community together where outside vendors and organisers also contribute on the day. There were fun activities at the derby such as sports, leisure, skydivers, food stalls and a raffle where the winners won a two-night stay at a game lodge. There were also inflatables for children to keep them entertained,” said Nolte.

He added that this year, 10 percent of the proceeds will be donated to their sister school, Holy Cross RC Primary School in Cape Town. The school has 500 pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds who will benefit from the donation.



Nolte also acknowledged the role that was played by the school’s sub-committee which consists of teachers and parents. The committee helped with the food stalls and the admin and logistics.

**J**unior School headmistress, Mary Hyam, said that pupils made their own costumes and practised during their PT lesson once a week before the derby.

“We have an incredibly supportive parent body and the derby has grown tremendously throughout the years. It is the main social event of the year,” concluded Hyam.



## Struggle Veteran Motivates Youth

De La Salle Holy Cross College was privileged to have Seth Mazibuko - a Struggle veteran and the chief executive of the June 16th 1976 Foundation - speak to the students, parents, staff and past students on Tuesday, 14 June. He made many important points and the students had lots of questions for him.

“The tree of liberation must now be nourished with sweat not blood. We (1976 youth) bought freedom with our blood, you (today’s youth) must buy it with your books. In the future I would love to see 3 things: One - A woman president, two - people being judged on their performance not pigmentation, and three - a country driven by hard-working leadership with values and ethics.” said Mr Mazibuko.

The College learners then watched the movie, Sarafina.

“It was a very inspirational and an emotional evening for all of us” said Emma Orsmond, a Grade 11 learner. “Mr Mazibuko brought one of the most important days in our History to life for all of us by sharing his powerful first-hand experiences and feelings.”



*Seth Mazibuko leads the De La Salle Holy Cross College learners in a minute of silence to remember those who lost their lives during the 1976 student uprising.*

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# College Drama - House Plays

**V**ICTORY PARK – Pupils of De La Salle Holy Cross College bring their house plays to an enthused audience.

Parents and pupils gathered together to witness the amazing talents of pupils who were on a mission to entertain them.

House plays have been an age-old tradition at the school since the 60s. Pupils write, produce and direct the plays. The evening saw three houses go against each other in the hopes to be the house with the best play.

The night started off with a play presented by Charles House, *Fallen Starr* which followed the story of Martha Starr, a once-famous movie star whose career had come to an end. After word gets out that she is in the process of writing her will, all of her friends from the past go see her in the hopes to get their cut.



**T**shiamo Mawer won best cameo performance and Cole Reeder won most promising actor.

**B**enildus House kept the audience engaged and exercising their right to have fun. The play hilariously portrayed how an arrest and an investigation goes terribly wrong.

This house also took home some great awards with Julia Tuson and Lauren Walter winning best ensemble performance while Michael Tuson took home the award for best actor.

The final play was by Francis House titled 'The socialising academy'. It followed a class of social misfits trying to lose their awkwardness. The laugh-a-minute play had the audience in stitches.

Francis House ended the night with a grand win of four awards, which made them the winning house. Nina Chase, Amy Bernhardt, Jeanne-Nicole Theron and Jordan Bulger won the award for best direction and script. Michaela Gerber won best-supporting actress, Philani Mpofu won best-supporting actor and Jacqueline Ribeiro won best actress.

