

LWANGA NEWS

Lwanga District of Africa Newsletter

April 2020

Prayer from Brother Superior

Dear Brothers, Students, Partners and all Members of the Lasallian Family

I Invite you to join me in prayer as together we respond to the Coronavirus crisis.

Lord Jesus Christ, in your mercy and compassion look kindly upon us. Bless our nurses, doctors, researchers and all health care personnel with courage and strength as they continue to care for our sick sisters and brothers.

May your Holy Spirit inspire in all Lasallian a sense of social responsibility and guide us to follow the directives of medical experts and governments so that together we can ensure the wellbeing of all, especially of those who are poor and have limited or no access to healthcare.

Grant to each of us, Lord, the eyes to see our relatives, neighbors and friends who are alone, who have lost loved ones, or who need a Good Samaritan to do their shopping or assist with other basic needs. Give us a compassionate heart that moves us to generously respond to those in the distress.

Lord Jesus Christ, in your mercy and Compassion look kindly upon all members of the Lasallian Family.

Bless all of us with peace and good health. May the angels lead those who have died into paradise.

Brother Robert Schieler, FSC

"If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us, but if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

- 1 John 1:8,9

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Christ Rose so that we might live

Easter Letter from Brother Visitor

1 John 1: 8, 9 “ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us, but if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” LET US RISE WITH CHRIST AND LIVE.

HAPPY ESTER TO ALL BROTHERS AND LASALLIANS.

Dear Brothers and Lasallians,

Sending my gratitude and greetings to all! Hoping that you are keeping well in the face of the Coronavirus Pandemic by taking all the necessary precautions needed to be safe!! I thank and praise God, that until this moment we have not recorded any infections among the Brother or Lay Lasallian in our District. We all have to thank God for His protection from this deadly Virus.

Brothers and Lasallians, we are all aware of what is happening in the world as thousands die in hospitals and homes. We had reports of some that are closed in their houses and no one can visit or assist them. Even their neighbors and relatives cannot visit them and help them. We can imagine the suffering and struggle they are going through to survive by themselves, with some eventually and tragically not being able to escape death. This terrible situation has to make us think, reflect, see the situation with eyes of Faith and ask ourselves why this is happening!! Why so many people are dying in a short time all over the world!!

We are all in a lockdown situation, closed in our Communities. This situation could

La Salle College

Lasallian Orientation

Our Grade 12 learners led the grade 8s in a Lasallian Orientation Day, on the 22nd of February, filled with fun activities and learning more about the Lasallian ways.



The Orientation

Easter Eggs

Our Lasallian children donated Easter eggs to the school, which the Young Lasallians proudly distributed to various charities.



Easter Eggs Donations

HC Junior

Grade 6 Bush Pigs Camp

Grade 6s once again had the opportunity of experiencing the great outdoors at Bush Pigs, the WESSA environmental camp near Modimolle. The theme of the camp this year was "Great Leaders Save the Planet".

Each class had the opportunity of visiting the three camps - Camp Baaboon, Camp Hedgehog and Camp Crocodile - where they learnt about how we can minimize our carbon footprint, work together to educate others on how to preserve the environment and the wildlife that relies on it and how to work as part of a team to ensure the best outcome in challenging situations.

"Why yeah, we care!!"



Holy Cross Junior Camp

help us to enter in our inner world and ask ourselves where am I? What Spirit is inside me? A good Spirit or Evil Spirit? Dear Brothers and Lasallians, on one hand if we feel we have the **good spirit** - we will be able to resurrect with Jesus Christ.; on the other hand, if we feel we have the **evil spirit** this is the time to repent and bow down, and bend our knees, and kneel before the Lord Jesus who is going to forgive us.

Let us Pray all of us in our Communities : God, Our Father, walk through our Institute, District, Sectors, Communities, our families, relatives, and take away all our worries, frustrations, distresses during this difficult time of the Corona-virus Pandemic. We also pray that the Lord will give his strength and protection for those in frontline: Doctors, Nurses, Social workers, Volunteers, who are fighting this pandemic to save lives of humanity all over the world.

Please stay home in your Communities well and safe, and **Pray, Pray, Pray** that the Lord will give His Mercy to all humanity.

Sincerely Yours in De La Salle,

Br. Ghebreyesus Habte, FSC

Visitor - Lwanga District of English Speaking Africa



Easter Eggs



Presentation by Br. Betre

The Feedback and Reflections of the CYL Holy Mass and Workshop

"I learned about the Lasallian principles which included: Faith in the presence of God, Concern for the poor and Social justice, Quality education, Respect for all persons and Inclusive community.

These principles are summarized into Faith, Service and Community (FSC) which is an extension of every Lasallian Brother. "

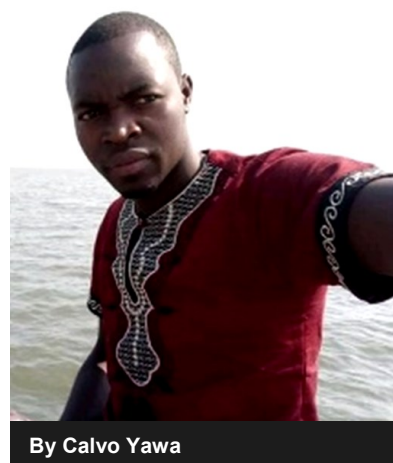
THE CTIE YOUNG LASALLIANS ASSOCIATION (CYL)

HOLY MASS AND WORKSHOP

On Sunday, 15th March 2020, the CTIE Young Lasallians Association (CYL) had a meeting at De La Salle Center, Nairobi – Kenya. The programme started at 9:00 a.m. with the Holy Mass in the Scholasticate Community Chapel, presided over by Fr. Henry who resides within the community. Brother Betre (Auxiliary Visitor of Lwanga District), Brother Peter Kombe (the new Director of La Salle Catholic School Nairobi), Br Paulos (Director at Christ the Teacher Institute of Education, CTIE – Tangaza University College), the CYLA members and the members of the scholasticate community graced the Sunday morning celebration.

A cup of tea with snacks were served to all participants just after Mass. Around 11 am, we had our first presentation by Br. Betre. He opened the presentation by introducing the theme: "Young Lasallians, Making Great Things Possible" and continued with the opening prayer. He further explained the life of St John Baptist De La Salle and what Young Lasallians is all about. Br. Betre finished his presentation at 12:00 noon with a health break by all participants.

Br Peter Kombe began the second part of the presentation talking on: "Mission together." Br Peter's presentation was very practical focusing more on what Lasallian Mission is and what we can do about it as full members and partakers in the Lasallian educational mission especially the education of the poor. To support his ideas and insights regarding this togetherness in one mission, he shared some realities and experiences of young people in Palestine and South Sudan where Lasallians have given and continue to give themselves for the sake of the others and their needs. After the presentation, Br Betre took the last part and gave some reflections to the participants.



By Calvo Yawa

The Feedback and Reflections of the CYL Holly Mass and Workshop

'I learnt that a lot. Even the meaning of FSC and its importance in the Lasallian life. I also learnt that one does not just wake up one day and become a Lasallian. It is a process. A process of learning the Lasallian principles. I was surprised that a lot of people are embracing the Lasallian values such as 'live Jesus in our hearts, forever.' from that day I felt that if one has to take a child to a catholic school, then it has to be a Lasallian school! I also empathized with the hard work Lasallian put through for things to go through. A good example is brother peter from St Mary's Nyeri.'

Br. Paulos, gave the vote of thanks to the facilitators and the CYLA members at the end of the presentation. After his speech, lunch was served to all the participants. The Young Lasallians extended their commitment by combined efforts in cleaning the area and washing the dishes collectively. Later in the afternoon, the Young Lasallians had socials together where they had drinks alongside showing their skills in playing various games such as snooker, table tennis, and scrabble.



During Workshop Session



By Michael Onyango



Brother Getachew

The New Sector Leader of Ethiopia

BROTHER GETACHEW ALEMAYO, FSC

I am a product of the Brothers or what others might refer to as "Brothers Boy". From an early age, I was educated by the De La Salle Christian Brothers. Perhaps that experience, at the Brothers' school, in and of itself must have had a strong influence on me which finally led to the decision of joining the Brothers after my senior year in high school.

Subsequently, I traveled all the way to Nigeria, shortly after my high school to join six other postulants from three different countries. So, my early formative years took place in Ondo, Nigeria in early 2000 and my training in the postulancy ended in December 2001. Having concluded, my postulancy, I moved to the novitiate in Nairobi, Kenya.

1. I was in the novitiate from January 2002-June, 2003 and thus made my first profession in 2003. Then, I went back to my country to teach for one year, or for an experience we then called "apostolic experience". Having taught at St. Joseph School in Nazareth for one year, I went back to Kenya to pursue my undergraduate studies at Tangaza College in 2004. Hence, I was part of the CTIE school community from August, 2004 until May 2008 and majored in English and CRE. While at Tangaza College, I also served as the President of Ethiopian and Eritrean Community.
2. Upon my return to Ethiopia, I was assigned to teach English and CRE in the high school for one year. The following year, I became a Unit-Leader for the high school section while at the same time teaching English and CRE. However, after my two year experience in Meki Catholic School, the Brothers asked me to serve as the principal of one of our oldest schools in Ethiopia and my own alma-mater, Bisrate Gabriel School, located in Dire Dawa town.

Holy Cross

Junior

Ukuleles

The Music Department is very excited to introduce Ukuleles as a new extramural and classroom activity for Grades 3 and 4.

There are 30 colorful ukuleles on the wall in the Music Room. It is a really easy, mellow sounding and fun instrument to learn. The Ukulele Club practices on Tuesday afternoons under Mr Bennett's guidance.

We learn strumming & picking techniques, how to play basic chords and sing along to our own accompaniments.

We are already preparing for our first performance in the future.



Ukuleles Class

Holy Cross College

Faith matters!

As a way of coming into line with the practices of most of the other Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Johannesburg, the decision was made this year for the College to prepare candidates for Confirmation in the Religious Education classes.

The time allocation for instruction has increased and **Mr Correa** has joined the RE team. Preparation will now take place during class time. The youth are still encouraged to attend the Life Teen Programmes that are run in their respective parishes.

Archbishop Buti Tlagale will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation in St Charles parish on Friday 2 October at 6pm. - *Mrs Hyam*.



Holy Cross College

So, I served BGS, as its principal from September 2010 until December 2013. I made my final vows in 2011. Having served for almost three and half years in Dire Dawa, I opted to pursue my Masters. Luckily, an opportunity presented itself to me and I went to the United States to start my post graduate studies in January 2014. So, Christian Brothers University in Memphis, Tennessee became my home community as a postgraduate student for one and half years and graduated with a Masters in Educational Leadership in May, 2015. Later on the same year, I got another scholarship which enabled me to pursue my doctoral studies at Lewis University in Romeoville, IL--about a 45 minute drive, away from the beautiful downtown, Chicago. Eventually, I graduated with my doctoral degree in Educational Leadership in May, 2019. Prior to my graduation I had the opportunity to conduct my research for about six months in both Frankfurt and Berlin, Germany through a grant from a German institution.

Currently, I serve as the Vice President and Provost of Ethiopian Catholic University-La Salle and was recently elected Sector Coordinator of Ethiopian Sector. Of course, serving the Brothers and their mission remains a greater privilege of my life and commitment, as a Lasallian Brother.

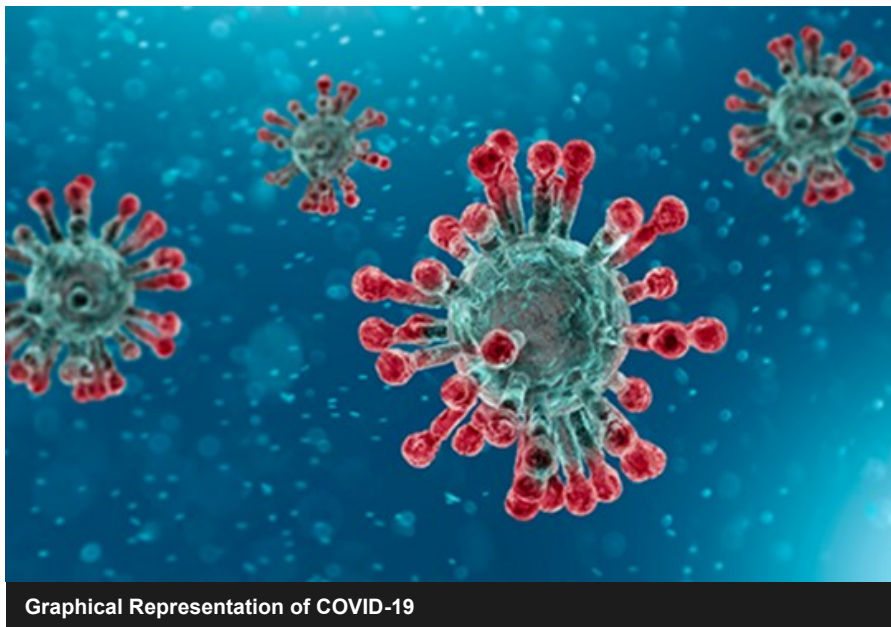
Getachew FSC

La Salle Catholic School Says Karibu to Br Peter Kombe

Brother Ghebreyesus Habte, the Brother Visitor, Lwanga District in January 2020 appointed Br Peter Kombe as the new director of La Salle Catholic School, Nairobi. Br Peter Kombe officially took office in March 25, 2020 from Br Antone Oloo. Brother Kombe has served in the Sector of Kenya as an educator, Sector Coordinator and principal. He participated in the 45th General Chapter, 2014. Brother has come with a wealth of experience having led St Mary's Secondary School and Child Rescue and Vocational Training Centre for 13 years. He views education as a lifelong process and emphasizes on learner at the center of all school-related decisions.



Karibu Br. Kombe



CORONA VIRUS

Lockdown, Self Isolation, Social-Distancing

New words with new meanings and new implications for life as we know it. One hears comments such as: "the world is changing", "things will never be the same again".....

What is changing and what has changed?

Teachers in well-resourced modern classrooms have up skilled and adapted their curriculum, their teaching methods and their approach to learning in order to keep their teaching going and their learners engaged in the process. Parents have resumed their role as primary caregivers as they work from home and supervise remote learning programmes for their children.

Streets are quiet, shops and businesses are closed, the fear of international recession/depression becomes more of a reality each day.

Governments and leaders are working tirelessly to lessen the effects of the virus, to increase medical care and attention, to make promises to their citizens that they may or may not be able to keep, to think of ways to lessen the devastating economic repercussions.

And what has changed for the poorest of the poor? A stark and cruel understanding of their reality. No food security; decreased opportunities to earn a living and feed their families; the realization of their vulnerability to the virus because of no access to clean, running water; no possibility of social-distancing or self-isolation in their crowded living conditions.....

How do we as Christians respond to the call to "harden not your hearts" during this time of upheaval and introspection?

Holy Cross College

Opening of the Gavan Ryan Aquatic Centre

29 November, under hot African skies, our Aquatic Centre was officially opened and blessed by **Mr Gavan Ryan** and **Father Tony Daniels**.

As the red ribbon was cut the swimmers from the Junior School and High School dived into the pool for the first swim.

Later on in the morning, there was a ladder relay between High School swimmers and an Alumni team.



Social media is abuzz with suggestions for self-help; social, physical and emotional well-being; newscasts tell us of outreach initiatives borne out of people's own experiences of the virus. But now and again we hear a story that humbles and touches us.

Here in South Africa, I have been inspired and touched by the work of the Tsholofelo Community in Rustenburg. They have opened their doors to a group of homeless men who have been living on the street in the town. The Government promised to find shelters for the homeless during our lockdown period, but that promise did not materialise for these men. The Tsholofelo community had a meeting and discerned that they felt called to invite them in, what a courageous and faith-filled act. This is a community that really does live out the gospel and witness to the word of God, a true example of "harden not your hearts."

Mary Hyam,
*Director of Religious Education and Formation,
Learner Support Therapist*

Holy Cross Junior

Flexible Learning Programme - Climate Change

The aim of flexible learning is to present our pupils with the opportunity to immerse themselves in learning that is of wider interest, that is research driven and that requires higher order skills of analysis, synthesis, evaluation and creativity. The theme for this term's FLP day was Climate Change. The driving questions listed below elicited deeper thinking and reasoning whilst pupils were actively engaged in their learning.

Grade RR & R	Why are all the glaciers melting?
Grade 1 and 2	What positive difference can we make to help save global warming?
Grade 3	How does global warming affect me?
Grade 4	What impact is climate change having on your chosen habitat?
Grade 5	Are we living on this planet as if we have another one to go to?

Grade 6 How can we, as twelve-year-old South Africans, lead by example to prevent climate change and its detrimental consequences to Earth?

The FLP methodology has certainly allowed for effective use of class time as pupils clarified concepts, collaborated, discussed and developed their own knowledge and solutions. As educators we were able to conclude that this mirrors problem-solving in the workplace and prepares the pupils for life in the information age. We are excited about refining and implementing our FLP pedagogy further for the future.

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Birthdays in May

Send a card or letter or an email; make a visit
or a phone call.

1. Brother Samson Yemane T celebrates his birthday on May 1
2. Brother Nued Sium celebrates his birthday on May 2
3. Brother Moses Muriuki celebrates his birthday on May 4
4. Brother Francis Kamanda celebrates his birthday on May 6
5. Brother Patrick Letswalo celebrates his birthday on May 8
6. Brother Joseph Kiely celebrates his birthday on May 9
7. Brother Antone Oloo celebrates his birthday on May 10
8. Brother Philip Ejiro Tialobi celebrates his birthday on May 14
9. Brother Luckymaria Oloboh celebrates his birthday on May 18
10. Brother Emmanuel Adega celebrates his birthday on May 23

Passing of Michel BROSSOLASCO

16 FEBRUARY 1930 - 23 APRIL 2020



Br. Michel Brossolasco

Brother Roger Michel Brossolasco died, on the morning of 23 April 2020. Brother Roger who was born on February 16, 1930 in Lausanne, Switzerland entered the novitiate of Thillois on September 14, 1947 and made his first vows on September 21, 1948.

He became a lifelong professional in Randa, Djibouti, on 2 September 1955. Brother Roger completed his scholasticate in Annappes, from September 1948 to July 1951. He then, from July 1951 to August 1952, and would be posted to Vesoul, teacher at Saint Georges College, from August 1952 to August 1953. He would later join the mission in Ethiopia (Dire Dawa, Addis Ababa) from 1953 to 1962. He later moved to Brooklyn (USA), as a teacher and student, from September 1962 to September 1965. He came back to Ethiopia in 1965 and served in different Ministries of the Sector (Addis Ababa, Dire Dawa, Nazareth, Meki) with different capacities for 56 years.

In 2011, Brother Roger left the Sector of Ethiopia and joined Besançon, retirement home, from August 2011 to November 2019 and arrived on November 18, 2019 in Notre-Dame de la Blache (Pont Saint Esprit). Brother Roger passed on 23rd of April 2020 at the age of 90.

Brother Roger was an exemplary zealous hardworking committed Brother and a Lasallian icon who was cherished and highly regarded by his students, Lasallians, Brothers and the Church at large. Though he has left us now but he will be always remembered with the heart scripted impact and legacy he has left us. May his gentle soul rest in God's perfect peace and serenity. Amen!!!

Recommended Readings

