

21 January 2014

New Year greetings and special Lunar New Year greetings to those celebrating the Year of the Horse.

Social Networking and Vocations Contacts in Vietnam: In a conversation with Bro Peter Phat, Visitor he informed me that the District this year, has 28 Aspirants. He mentioned that most of the candidates make their initial contact with the Brothers on Facebook. This year Vietnam has 7 Postulants and 7 Novices (2 first year, 5 second year). There are 10 Scholastics. Four Brothers are preparing for Perpetual Profession.

Other News from Vietnam: Those who have visited the Provincialate in HCM city will be familiar with the building which has now been tastefully renovated and decorated with the addition of more bedroom space, a new dining room/kitchen and meeting room. There are 3 Brothers and 2 Aspirants in the community.

Several Brothers have worked on translating Circulars 461 and 466 into Vietnamese. It is the practice of the District to have a monthly recollection. During these recollections the Brothers have been reflecting and sharing on Circular 466.

The school at Pleiku continues to expand with a Technical School opening in Dalat next year and a school in Dak Mil to follow.

De La Salle Philippines Corporation Meeting: Last week I attended the annual meeting of DLSP Corporation which brings together the Presidents, Chairs and Trustees of all the schools in the country along with the National Mission Council members. The report of Bro JJ Jiminez, President of DLSP could not help but impress upon all the vitality of the Lasallian educational mission in the country. Bro Victor Franco facilitated a formation session on "Governance in Lasallian Schools". His presentation was the first in a series of formative modules for Boards of Trustees in the Sector. The meeting reflected so well "together and by association."

Lasallian Services Committee Meeting: Bro John Pill convened this meeting here in Singapore on Sunday 12 January. The committee considered the implications of the role of the PARC Office given the restructuring that has occurred in the Region in recent years and also the recall of Bro John Pill to his District. Feedback on the survey on formation was discussed with recommendations prepared for the Visitors' conference (February). The outcomes of IA 13 prompted a valuable discussion as did the approaching international symposium of Young Lasallians.

Director of Lasallian Services: Bro John Pill spent a few days in Cronulla, Sydney last week for orientation as he assumes the responsibilities of Director. He will finish officially in Singapore on 30 April.

Best wishes and prayers. Bro David Hawke FSC, General Councillor PARC Region