

**KNOWING OUR LASALLIAN HERITAGE
PRAYING for OUR LASALLIAN FAMILY**

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Let us remember that "God is not far from any of us,
since we do not have life or movement or being
except in God." Acts 17: 28

We praise You, O God;

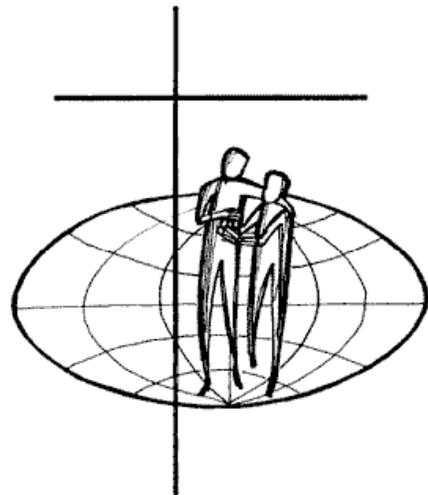
We give You thanks

for Your great goodness to us.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

"Together and by association"

For De La Salle and the early Brothers,
association was a strategy in view of
succeeding in conducting Christian schools.
It was a means of assuring energy and
efficiency for that mission. Today, a variety
of groups share Saint John Baptist de La Salle's
dream and follow his ideals or spirituality.
They strive to live in the presence of God,
have a love for Sacred Scripture, live in a spirit
of faith and are filled with zeal to make God
known through the Christian education of
youth and service to the poor. We call these
people, our LASALLIAN FAMILY.



Br. Joseph Hiep, FSC

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THE DE LA SALLE CHRISTIAN BROTHERS or THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS, founded in France in 1681 by De La Salle to educate the children of the working class and the poor. Now located in 85 countries around the world collaborating with their partners in ministry in conducting schools of all kinds.

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LASALLIAN PARTNERS consist of approximately 73,000 colleagues who minister in our schools as teachers, coaches, moderators, support staff and over 900,000 students around the world. This does not include the huge number of alumni of Lasallian schools.

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LASALLIAN SISTERS is a religious congregation founded in Vietnam in the early 1970's to assist the LaSallian Brothers in teaching of the young, and whatever needed done. They now have sisters located in Vietnam, Thailand, and in the United States.

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THE HERMANAS GUADALUPANAS DE LA SALLE or THE GUADALUPAN SISTERS OF DE LA SALLE were founded by a Brother in Mexico in 1946. These Lasallian Sisters minister in Mexico, the United States, the Philippines, Bolivia, Brazil, Columbia, and Madagascar in Africa.

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THE UNION OF CATECHISTS OF JESUS CRUCIFIED AND MARY IMMACULATE, founded by a Brother in Italy in 1933, and enriched with Lasallian spirituality is a secular institute in which men and women consecrate themselves to the work of the Church but live as regular people and not as members of a religious congregation. They work in Italy, Brazil, Eritrea, Peru, and the Congo.

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SIGNUM FIDEI (SIGN OF FAITH) is a group of lay people who follow the spirituality of De La Salle in their own unique ways and meet regularly for prayer and discussion of their work in helping provide a Christian education for youth.

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LASALLIAN VOLUNTEERS are college graduates who give one or two years of their lives, usually living in a Brothers' community and working along side the Brothers in their ministry of education. Both spiritual and practical training is provided.

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LASALLIAN COLLEGIANS AND HIGH SCHOOL LASALLIANS are men and women on the high school and college levels who try to live out De La Salle's ideals and gather together from time to time for prayer, recreation and service to the poor. They try to incorporate De La Salle's spirituality in their lives as fits.

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AFFILIATED MEMBERS are people who have received a special honor by the Brothers and incorporated into the Society and benefit from the good works and God's blessings because they have promoted the works of the Brothers or sustained the Brothers in furthering the Christian education of youth.

READING: PHILEMON 1: 4 – 6

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always, remembering you in my prayers, as I hear of the love and the faith you have in the Lord Jesus and for all God's people, so that your partnership in the faith may become effective in recognizing every good there is in us that leads to Christ.

READING: EPHESIANS 3: 14 – 21

I kneel before the Father from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that He may grant you in accord with the riches of His glory to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner self, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the holy ones what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to Him who is able to accomplish far more than all we ask or imagine, by the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

READING: JOHN 15: 1 – 9

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower.

He takes away every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does He prunes so that it bears more fruit.

You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you.

Remain in Me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in Me.

I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in Me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without Me you can do nothing.

Anyone who does not remain in Me will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned. If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you.

By this is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become My disciples. As the Father loves Me, so I also love you. Remain in My love.



Br. Joseph Hiep, FSC

REFLECTION

Sometimes we would like to do something or get a project off the ground but very often as individuals we lack the energy or motivation needed to succeed. It seems like it might be easier and more successful if we have others who have the same dreams and are united in a common goal. There is strength in numbers and especially when the numbers are faith-filled people who rely on prayer. With God all things are possible.

Let us unite ourselves with other like-minded people (Lasallians) to graft ourselves to Christ and find our strength and energy in Him. We are called to be Christ for others helping them to know the Lord better, and to help them in their times of need.

THOUGHTS FROM THE RULE of the DE LA SALLE BROTHERS:

The distinctive character or sign of the Lasallian Family is to be a community of faith where the experience of God is shared. Lasallians find inspiration in the prayer of Christ: "Father, that they all may be one as You and I are one so that the world may believe that You have sent Me."

The Spirit of Love which dwells in each member of the Lasallian Family enables its members to give the joyful gift of themselves for others as they grow closer to the Lord and His Gospel message.

HYMN: THEY WILL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

We are ONE in the Spirit; we are ONE in the Lord
We are ONE in the Spirit; we are ONE in the Lord
And we pray that unity may one day be restored,

Refrain

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land, (refrain)

We will work with each other; we will work side by side,
We will work with each other; we will work side by side,
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride, (refrain)

All praise to the Father, From whom all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit, Who makes us ONE, (refrain)

REFLECTION: BROTHER ALVERO, SUPERIOR GENERAL

You are Lasallians and you have become a part of this family which is characterized by a life of **faith**, a commitment to **service**, and the search for **community**. These are three dimensions which are essential in the life of a Christian, and which also characterize Lasallians, the heirs and disciples of St John Baptist de La Salle, who served God and poor children.

**Pray often for the members of the Lasallian Family
throughout the world.**

Read more about Saint John Baptist de La Salle and the Brothers.

Be proud to be a LASALLIAN.

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INTERCESSIONS: Response: Make us one in the heart of Jesus.
That as daughters and sons of God and brothers and sisters of Jesus, we may always remember the giftedness we have. For this we pray:

That we always and everywhere give thanks for the gift of Jesus in our lives and the directions Saint John Baptist de La Salle gave us in being “salt and light” for ours. We pray:

That united with the various segments of the Lasallian Family we may be aware of our call to bring Christ to others in a variety of ways. We pray:

That more men and women will answer the call to be Lasallians in our world, working to alleviate ignorance and build-up the dignity of all peoples especially the poor. We pray:

That You, O God, will bless all the members of the Lasallian Family throughout the world and have them remain faithful to the ideals of Saint John Baptist de La Salle. We pray:

That in whatever segment of the Lasallian Family we find ourselves, we may always remember the presence of God, have a love for Sacred Scripture, live in a spirit of faith and be filled with zeal in making Jesus known to others. We pray:

Prayer

O God, in a spirit of faith and confidence and with a profound sense of humility, we earnestly ask You to give us the grace necessary to be one in mind and heart with all in the Lasallian Family and to inspire in others a deep and sincere love of You. We beg You to make our hearts and those of our brothers and sisters in our world-wide Lasallian Family, one in the heart of our Brother, Jesus. Amen.



Saint John Baptist de La Salle
and all you holy Brothers and partners who have gone before us,
Help us to realize the important contributions we can make by working
together in educating others to know Jesus.

Live Jesus in our hearts. Forever!

