

8th September 2018

De La Salle Brothers
District of ANZPPNG

Dear Brothers

Greetings. Four years ago, I wrote to you on the 8th September 2014 when I commenced my mandate as Visitor of the District. As the next four years begins I share with you once again in this post Mission Assembly and District Chapter period. I write also on the Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary and pray through her intercession today for all Lasallians in the four Sectors of the District.



During the District Chapter Br Ricky Laguda, General Councillor presented the Visitor and Auxiliary Visitor with their Obedience from Br Superior. Welcome Br Timothy Peter as the incoming Auxiliary Visitor. His responsibilities are outlined elsewhere in this letter.

Appreciation

In my report to the District Chapter I expressed my deep gratitude for our two outgoing Auxiliary Visitors; Brothers Christopher Gorringe and Br Shahzad George Gill. I quote from the report:

"In the past four years the District has had two Auxiliary Visitors; Br Chris Gorringe and Br Shahzad George Gill. Both continued from their previous appointments with Br Chris being Acting Visitor during that period and Br Shahzad holding leadership positions in the Sector of Pakistan prior to it formally becoming a Sector of the District. Come 7 September both conclude their appointments with Br Timothy Peter becoming the sole Auxiliary Visitor with Sector Coordinators in Papua New Guinea, New Zealand and Pakistan."

Having been away from the District for 10 years to have the experience of both Brothers as Auxiliaries assisted me greatly in the transition back to the District. Br Chris also continued as District Bursar. I valued his capacity for work and expertise in educational, financial and legal matters. His particular focus on PNG contributed greatly to the mission there and the support of the Brothers. As Chair of the Lasallian Mission Council he guided this body as it developed into an incorporated entity. Likewise, his membership of various Boards represented not only their interests but also the interests of the Trustees. He chaired the Economic Council. He also represented the Visitor on a number of bodies such as the CRA Taskforce on Redress and the SAACS Board in Adelaide. Various requests were asked of him often and he was always ready to oblige.

As the Sector of Pakistan eased into the District Br Shahzad's experience and membership of the District Council assisted not only the Visitor but also others to empathise with the unique characteristics of the Institute in a multi-faith society. Br Shahzad endeared himself to many people across the District by his visits to various places. The solidarity of the three other Sectors with Pakistan must be attributed to Br Shahzad's presence and involvement. Under his leadership the Sector of Pakistan has grown with a steady number of young men joining the Institute. His support of sending Brothers from Pakistan to Papua New Guinea and New Zealand has been a blessing for those Sectors and contributed to that District identity to which I referred earlier."

Br Timothy Peter, Auxiliary Visitor

Br Tim's responsibilities are outlined in his Position Statement as follows:

Duties

- Member of the District Council by right.
- Determine with the Br Visitor and in consultation with current employer ministry at yourtown in addition to Auxiliary Visitor duties.
- Visit works in the District not familiar with in first 4 months of 2019.
- Post appointment on 8th September 2018, visit all communities of the District prior to Christmas. During this visit meet with each Brother individually.
- During September 2018 meet with the Br Visitor to determine a schedule for Canonical and Pastoral Visits to communities in 2019.

- During September 2018 meet with the Br Visitor to determine a schedule and location for monthly meetings with the Br Visitor.
- During 2018/2019 attend at least one MAC meeting and one Sector Council meeting in each of the Sectors.
- Attend PARC meetings annually. (1-4 August 2018 in Kuala Lumpur)
- Assist Br Visitor in the implementation of the District Strategic Plan "Brothers Today" section.
- Attend "New Visitors" meeting in Rome 28 May to 8 June 2019
- Determine with the Br Visitor Tercentenary events local, Sector, District and international each will attend.

These responsibilities fulfil the requirements of the Rule;

144.2 The Brother Visitor can be assisted by one or several Auxiliary Visitors. These are appointed by the Brother Superior General following a submission of the names of candidates according to a procedure determined by the District Chapter.

District Council



The District Council elected or appointed at the District Chapter will meet on 21-22 September for a formation and induction programme to be followed by a business meeting.

Sector Council

By District statute there are Sector Councils in Papua New Guinea, New Zealand and Pakistan.

After a consultation with the Brothers resident in each Sector I announce the following appointments of Sector Coordinators:

- Papua New Guinea, Br Thomas Mabol Yapo
- New Zealand, Br Sir Patrick Lynch
- Pakistan, Br Shahzad George Gill

The District Chapter proposal that the Sector Councils and Mission Action Committees combine into one body in each Sector is a work in progress. The context of each Sector needs to be taken into account, along with the human and financial resources available given that we have some District challenges.

Lasallian Mission Council

I have amended the Constitution of the Lasallian Mission Council. Its membership now consists of a majority of eight Directors, the majority of whom must be lay people. The Br Visitor if he so chooses can now appoint the Executive Director as a Director of LMC. I have appointed Merv McCormack as a Director.

Tercentenary Year of Lasallian Vocations



Mindful of the theme **"300 One Heart One Commitment One Life"** let's enter wholeheartedly into this year and focus on the goals outlined by Br Robert Schieler, Superior General and the General Council:

- Celebrate and give thanks for our common heritage and our vitality through our association for the transformative human and Christian education of the young especially the poor.

- Renew our commitment to respond to the reality and needs of today through promoting our mission, charism, and Founding story.
- Share our hope for the future within the unity and diversity of Lasallian vocations by witnessing the movement of the Spirit in our lives and ministries.

As a District community I urge each and every Brother to play his part in promoting Brothers' and other Lasallian Vocations.

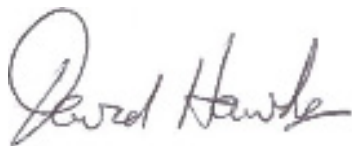
Towards 2019

In my usual January letter, I will outline the programme of the Visitor and Auxiliary Visitor with respect to the Canonical Visit of each community in 2019 with the responsibility to be shared. However, I will arrange to meet each Brother in the District during the year.

The former District Council, the current District Council and the Lasallian Mission Council met on 27th August to progress the work of the five priorities of the Mission Assembly and District Chapter. It is important that the whole District owns the District Plan and engages in its implementation over the next four years. More information will be available on the District Plan around 20th September.

Let us continue to work together and by association with our Lasallian Partners in mission for the ongoing viability and vitality of the District.

Yours fraternally,



David Hawke FSC
Visitor