

Dear Lasallians,

As we approach the end of Term III, Spring is in the air. At this time our schools, colleges and organisations look forward to the future in 2016 with a sense of hope that longer sunshine-filled days and flourishing plants invoke. Within this hope, there is also a measured sense of planning with many of our organisations celebrating people's contributions to the Lasallian mission and welcoming those who will be new to the team – for us, affectionately known as the “Lasallian Dream Team”.

### **New Appointment: Luurnpa Catholic School, Balgo Hills**

It is with my pleasure to announce that the new **Lasallian Youth Minister for Luurnpa Catholic School, Balgo Hills** in 2016 is **Seamus Linehan**. Seamus is an outstanding Oakhill College graduate who is currently serving on ‘Share The Mission’ at De La Salle, Mangere East, New Zealand. At the age of 16, Seamus lived abroad in Spain independently, he has trekked Kokoda as part of a local government leadership council and has been a vital member of the Lasallian community in Auckland this year. Seamus will divide his time as a Lasallian Youth Minister, mentoring the ‘Share The Mission’ volunteers, organising Lasallian professional development opportunities for staff and as a Teacher's Assistant in the primary school classes throughout the school term. Additionally, Seamus will also join in the new Lasallian Community that will be formed in Balgo. I would like to thank Br. Rick, Robert Ninkama and Br. Tony for their pivotal roles in recruiting for this position. Seamus begins in the middle of January, 2016.

### **Honouring those on Mission**

As we look forward into the future, we also honour those who have gone before us, who have laid strong foundations for the Lasallian Mission to continue to flourish. In doing so I want to acknowledge the work that three Lasallian Youth Ministers have done and each will conclude their roles at the end of the year:

#### **1. Dom Ascoli: St Michael's College, Henley Beach, SA**

Dom has been a key contributor in all things Lasallian since graduating from St Michael's College six years ago. Since leaving school he initially took up service in the ‘Share The Mission’ Program at Balgo Hills. Here he walked closely with the local indigenous people who have greatly influenced his outlook on life and on his beliefs. From this experience at Balgo, he has gone on to become the longest serving Lasallian Youth Minister, engaging in this role for the last 5 years. In this time Dom has impacted thousands of student's lives, travelling to many retreats, driving troopies to and from Balgo for summer camps, running Camp La Salle and engaging Lasallians to join SALT – the South Australian Lasallian Team. He is an accomplished facilitator and humorous speaker. Not only is he recognised as a great Lasallian, he has also been recognised in the local community as his AFL clubs winner of the ‘Best and Fairest Sports person’ for the 2015 season. Dom is graduating from university this year and hopes to take up a position as a teacher in his home town of Adelaide.

#### **2. Ruby Crowe: De La Salle College, Cronulla and De La Salle College Caringbah, NSW**

Ruby Crowe has been a leading example of what it is to be Lasallian having graduated from De La Salle College, Cronulla, after moving from a Years 7-10 Mercy school. Initially she assisted as a volunteer to the former Lasallian Youth Minister and was so good at volunteering that she took up the position when it became available. Ruby has been a thoughtful, organised and cheerful member of the team for the last three years. She has

taken the opportunity to join in the Volunteer La Salle: Balgo trips twice in her time and has travelled interstate and internationally to lead retreats and formation programs. One memorable moment included a joyous and impactful silent retreat with Year 11 students from De La Salle College, Mangere East, during which Ruby used her artful presence to provide a lasting, positive impact for the students and staff who attended. Simultaneously she has grown the Lasallian Youth Leader program at De La Salle College, Cronulla, which has seen a number of graduates volunteer their time and stay connected in alumni networks. She is currently finishing her undergraduate degree and is looking to do a Masters of Psychology from 2016.

### **3. Patrick Callanan, St Bede's College, Mentone, VIC**

Pat Callanan has served as the Lasallian Youth Minister at St Bede's College this year, making the jump from former student to staff member look quite easy. Whilst he was in school he took every Lasallian opportunity available by becoming a Lasallian Youth Leader, attending the Lasallian Student Leaders' Seminar, the Lasallian Youth Gathering and being elected the College Vice-Captain. Through this heart of service, Pat took up the position of Lasallian Youth Minister this year impressing many with maturity beyond his years and his ability to captivate audiences with his obvious passion for social justice and the Lasallian Mission. It has been a joy to experience Pat's presence on the team and the obvious growth that he has shown, especially after running 18 individual Year 7 retreat days as one of his achievements. He too took the opportunity to join the Volunteer La Salle: Balgo program earlier this year and is currently completing and Arts degree.

It is with deep respect and admiration that I want to offer my deepest gratitude on behalf of all our Lasallian family to these three Lasallian Youth Ministers: Dom, Ruby and Pat. I know that each will continue to stay connected with the Lasallian family remembering that wherever they go, they will always be in the Holy Presence of God and of each other. Their actions will continue to be guided by their Lasallian education and heritage, and will be displayed in the next phase of their lives as they "Live Jesus in their hearts, forever".

As these three Lasallians move on, our team has been actively advertising, planning for and interviewing to fill these positions. I look forward to sharing the good news on who will be joining our Lasallian Dream Team in 2016.

Sincerely,

Philippe Dulawan