



LASALLIANS WITHOUT LIMITS, WORKING FOR A HOPEFUL FUTURE



Brother Visitor, Brother David Hawke



Dear Colleagues,

During the past couple of months, two significant events occurred in the Sector of Papua New Guinea which were a cause for celebration and joy across the entire District.

In January, **Br John Francis Gari professed Perpetual Vows** in Sacred Heart Church, Hohola in the presence of his own extended family, the Lasallian Family and many others. The Rule of the Brothers reminds us: "By his perpetual profession, the Brother expresses his commitment to unite himself and to remain in society for his whole life with the Brothers of the Christian Schools." (Rule #100). The impressive liturgy and ritual of commitment blended the traditions of the Church and the cultural context of

Papua New Guinea. The ceremony in addition to witnessing to Br John Francis' definitive commitment, reminded all that to be Lasallian is inclusive of all cultures.

Equally impressive was the **Affiliation Ceremony for Fr John Glynn, Ms Joan Eoe and Mrs Bernadette Ove** also held in Sacred Heart Church, Hohola. Affiliation is the Brothers' way of recognising and acknowledging people who have not only supported them in their work through outstanding gifts and services but who have also supported them through the personal and fraternal relationship they have shown. The names of Affiliates are inscribed in the official archives at the international centre in Rome. Affiliates share in all the prayers, good works, and in the general treasury of the Institute.

As I write, the District has granted **Affiliations for Tracy Adams and Trish Carroll in Australia and Madeleine Fakepo in Papua New Guinea.**

As we look ahead, 8 September will mark the beginning of the next four years' District Administration. Both the **District Mission Assembly** in April and the **District Chapter** in July, will develop a strategic plan for the incoming administration. Both the **District Council** and the **Lasallian Mission Council** will be the bodies responsible for the implementation of the strategic

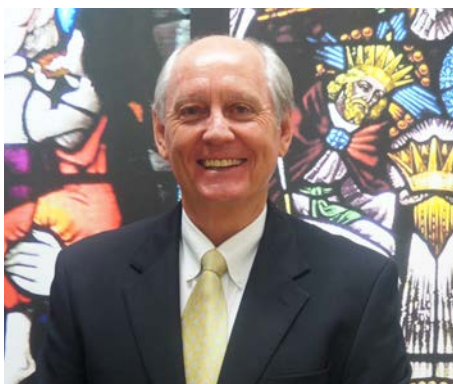
plan. Under the leadership of **Tracy Adams assisted by Chris Barrett, Facilitator**, the District has embarked on an extensive consultation process in preparation for both key events. Your interest and involvement is very much appreciated. Keep the intentions of the Mission Assembly and the Chapter in your prayers.

On the international scene, **the Visitors, Auxiliary Visitors and Presidents of Delegations** met for two weeks during March in Rome for the **Inter-Capitular Meeting** which is usually held in between two General Chapters. This meeting reviewed the past few years taking a glimpse into the future of the Institute, its mission and the life of its members. The outcomes of this meeting will serve also to inform the delegates to our own Mission Assembly and District Chapter.

In the latter part of the year, we will launch the **Tercentenary of the Death of St John Baptist de La Salle celebrations**. On the first Sunday of Advent the Institute will embark on a series of events around the theme '**One Heart One Commitment One Life**' with a focus also on **Lasallian Vocations in 2019**. I encourage your involvement at local, Sector, District and international levels. Let's continue to be proud of our heritage and the vitality of the Lasallian educational mission in the District.

David Hawke FSC
Visitor

Executive Director of LMC, Merv McCormack



A very warm welcome to all Lasallians throughout the District of Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan and Papua New Guinea. As we are all well and truly on a roll with 2018, I trust that the year will be a happy and successful year for all engaged in the work of the Lasallian Mission.

The sole purpose of Lasallian Mission Services (LMS), as the operational arm of the Lasallian Mission Council (LMC), is to assist colleagues in our schools and works to develop and deliver high quality Formation programs, Retreats and Reflection days. The LMS team has expanded its services this year. Br Garry Coyte, as the Director of Professional Development, joins Br Adrian Watson, in his role as Tercentenary Project Officer. Damian Khoury joins LMS as one of our two Youth Ministry Facilitators, while Sebastian Duhau is in the newly created position of Retreats and Programming Coordinator.

All of us at LMS look forward to working with you.

Welcome again colleagues.
Merv

LASALLIAN MISSION SERVICES



Julie Alibrandi
Operations Manager (LMC)



Br John Cantwell
Director of Formation



Br Garry Coyte
Director of Professional Development



Marcela Cuevas
Communications Manager



Sebastian Duhau
Retreats & Programs Coordinator



Philippe Dulawan
Senior Youth Ministry Coordinator



Damian Khoury
Youth Ministry Coordinator



Merv McCormack
Executive Director (LMC)



Joanne Nehme
Project Manager



Amanda Proulx
Assistant Director of Formation
(Young Lasallians)



Br Adrian Watson
Tercentenary Project Officer



Kate Westhead
Lasallian Volunteers

AFFILIATED MEMBERS

Affiliation is the Brothers' way of recognising and acknowledging people who not only have supported them through outstanding service of the Mission, but who have also supported them through their personal and fraternal relationship. The names of Affiliates are inscribed in the official archives of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools in Rome. 2017 marked a momentous year of Affiliation announcements by Robert Scheiler, Superior General for key individuals across the District of ANZPPNG.

The following people were welcomed as Affiliated Members in 2017, Kane Raukura, Lasallian Facilitator and Head of Science at De La Salle Mangere East, New Zealand and Fr Brian Prendeville, Chaplain of De La Salle Mangere. Early in 2018 Affiliation ceremonies were held for Tracy Adams, CEO of yourtown; and in Papua New Guinea, Fr John Glynn, Mrs Bernadette Ove, Principal of Jubilee Catholic Secondary School and Ms Joan Eoe.



PNG Sector Affiliation Ceremonies

Reaching out to those in need

By Br Raymond Khan

Over 140 people gathered in the Sacred Heart Parish Church, Hohola in Papua New Guinea (PNG) on 5 February to witness the granting of Affiliation to three outstanding Lasallians - **Fr John Glynn, Bernadette Ove and Joan Eoe.**

Fr Peter Silong was the main celebrant at the celebration of the Eucharist. The choir, musicians from Jubilee Catholic Secondary School, led the congregation in both English and Pidgin. In his welcome speech, Br Rick Gaffney, Sector Coordinator for Papua New Guinea and Principal of La Salle Technical College, set the tone for the occasion, expressing deep gratitude to Bernadette, Joan and Fr John for their individual contributions to the Lasallian Mission in Papua New Guinea.

At the commencement of the Affiliation ceremony, Br Phillip Elwin, Br Denis Loft and Br Bede Mackrell read the citations in support of Fr John, Bernadette and Joan. The three Brothers travelled from Australia for the event and each one had ministered for many years in PNG.

Br David Hawke, Visitor, representing Br Robert Schieler, Superior General of the De La Salle Brothers, presented the Letters of Affiliation to Fr John, Joan and Bernadette. In part, the Letter reads that the Brothers "acknowledge with joy and gratitude their outstanding collaboration with the Institute, the quality of their personal life inspired by Lasallian spirituality, and their active and long-lasting participation towards the work of education."

In responding to the presentation, Joan, Bernadette and Fr John expressed their heartfelt thanks to the Brothers for granting them this honour. Whilst each Lasallian story is different, there was a common thread in their responses; their deep love of God, their desire that every person deserves the best education possible and their passion for reaching out to those most in need.



Brothers welcome Tracy Adams Affiliated Member



The De La Salle Brothers and Tracy Adams celebrate her Affiliation: Photo courtesy of **yourtown**, 2018.

On Tuesday 27 February, CEO of **yourtown** Tracy Adams was granted her Affiliation in front of colleagues, DLS Brothers and family members in Milton, Brisbane.

Tracy was recognised for her many years as a dedicated, Lasallian lay partner within the District of ANZPPNG, and her ongoing representation of the District in the wider Lasallian world. Br David Hawke, Visitor and Member of the ANZPPNG District Council, who put forward the Affiliation proposal to the Br Superior and General Council, was there to grant Tracy her Affiliation.

“Tracy walks the talk and models and champions **yourtown** values authentically linked to the Lasallian Values of faith, zeal, brother/sister relationships and concern for the poor. She is a person of unquestioned integrity, with deeply embedded Christian values and a strong

spirit of faith. Her generosity in giving of her time and in using her many skills for the benefit of the Lasallian District of Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan and Papua New Guinea is extraordinary,” said Br David Hawke.

Tracy said of her Affiliation: “I took a job within this organisation [**yourtown**] almost 28 years ago, for what was meant to be two days. I knew nothing about it, certainly knew nothing about the De La Salle Brothers, and Brent and I really had no plans other than seeing if we liked Brisbane enough to stay. But I guess that’s the beauty of finding your place... it simply happens when you don’t always expect it. People come into your life who strengthen you, challenge you, enrich you and above all drive you to be better tomorrow than what you were today. I’m humbled by the words spoken about me, but I feel that I have been the recipient of the gifts. I

would never have imagined when I set foot in the door all those years ago that I would have the opportunities afforded to me. Dorothy Day said ‘You will know your vocation, by the joy that it brings you. You will know. You will know when it’s right.’ There have been highs and sometimes lows but I am blessed by joy to have found my vocation,” concluded Tracy.

Tracy has made and continues to make an exceptional contribution to the Lasallian mission in the District of ANZPPNG, the PARC region and the Institute. She has a clear understanding of association for the Lasallian Mission, combined with a strong sense of service. She is a true leader within our District Lasallian community.

Congratulations to Tracy Adams AFSC.

The Affiliation of Madeleine Fakepo will take place on Saturday 19 May in Mainohana, PNG.

Newly Affiliated Member Trish Carroll

On Friday 23 March, **Trish Carroll** was granted the honour of **Affiliation** for her years of dedication and service to the Lasallian Mission and management of the Global Lasallian Women’s Symposium held in 2017 in Auckland.

Surrounded by family and friends, the ceremony was held in Melbourne and was attended by Brother Visitor Br David Hawke, Sector Head of Pakistan and Auxiliary Visitor Br Shahzad Gill, CEO of **yourtown** and Affiliated Member Tracy Adams, were all present to commemorate the special occasion and acknowledgement of Trish’s contribution.



BECOMING BROTHERS



Beginning in 1694, to provide a Christian education for the children of the poor and the working class, De La Salle planned to create a society of Brothers who would consecrate themselves by vow to announce the Gospel and at the same time, provide in association a solid education in the fields of human learning and culture.

The De La Salle Brothers are ordinary men leading extraordinary lives and through their faith and Mission, they strive to provide education, guidance and inspiration to meet the needs of young people. The Brothers are committed to helping the marginalised and the underprivileged, regardless of their religion or race. Throughout their various placements and Districts, the Brothers endeavour to offer the younger generations hope and a positive vision for the future.

When the Brothers first began more than 300 years ago, they were mostly teachers based in schools. Today there are over 3695 Brothers working in **79** countries throughout the world in innovative roles that extend far beyond the classroom. In the Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan and Papua New Guinea (ANZPPNG) District, the Brothers' work stretches from poor

communities in Pakistan to the coast of Papua New Guinea and to rural and urban communities in Australia and New Zealand. They perform a diverse range of roles in schools, welfare, employment agencies, universities, education offices and government departments.

Today Vocations seem to come in different guises, with Lay Partners and Brothers working together for the good of the Mission, however, the Brothers themselves do face certain challenges, such as the ageing of the Brothers and the uptake of Vocations (Brother and other Lasallian Vocations) across Districts and Regions.

In the District of ANZPPNG, statistics from The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools ('Brothers by Age 31.12.2017') depicts the reality of ageing Brothers, with a higher number of Brothers (32) aged between 70-79 with

only (10) Brothers aged between 20-29. These numbers do vary depending on the Region and life expectancy, for example RELAF, the Lasallian Region of Africa has (44) Brothers aged between 20 -29 in comparison to (22) Brothers aged between 70-79. The Institute's highest number of Brothers aged between 70-79 is a total of (886).

With these realities in mind, it is always humbling to hear about the individuals who have made a personal decision to profess their vows and make a lifelong commitment.

These Brothers now join all the Brothers who have come before them to continue the work and live their Catholic faith through the values of love, compassion, justice and belief in the human dignity of each person.

PERPETUAL PROFESSION

Br John Francis Gari PNG



Br John Francis Gari professed his Perpetual Vows at the Sacred Heart Church in Hohola, Papua New Guinea in early January in front of family, friends and Brothers. Throughout 2018, the De La Salle Brothers will have six Perpetual Vows ceremonies in Pakistan and PNG, a significant occasion not only for the Brothers but for the entire Lasallian Family.

The first born and only son with three "lovely sisters", Br John Gari grew up in a remote part of Rigo inland Port Moresby raised by devote Catholic parents while attending a De La Salle school. Br John prides his simple upbringing and parents on gifting him with the spiritual enrichment and the support to live and grow up with faith.

When asked what inspired his commitment to become a Brother, Br John explained.

"I know it might seem like a simple answer, but I chose this life to serve God and to love him through a different Ministry. I wanted to express my love to others through the Ministry of education, and that is teaching. Being a former De La Salle student, I was immensely touched by the work of the Brothers who taught me throughout my school years."

It was also through his humble and supportive upbringing, his faith, schooling and life experiences, that influenced and led Br John to his decision.

"To be a Brother is to be faithful to God, to myself and others. Being a De La Salle Brother is to be a bridge between God and the children entrusted in our care within the classrooms."

Recently elected as Chairman of the Federation of Religious the Archdiocese of Mt Hagen, Br John also acknowledges the world-wide Lasallian family. "I belong to a global family within the Lasallian world and I am proud to belong and serve this wonderful teaching Ministry, Institute, Sector, community, Parish and my family," said Br John.

The next Professions to take place are:

★ Br Luke Warvanuk in Papua New Guinea, May 2018.

★ Br Saddique Gill and Br Waseem Shaoun, Pakistan, April 2018.



LASALLIAN LEADERS GATHERING 2018

"Lasallians without limits, working for a hopeful future"



Over February 25-27, over 60 delegates consisting of Principals and other school leaders, Chief Executives, Board Chairs, Lasallian Mission Council Directors, District Councillors and the Lasallian Mission Services Team (LMS), gathered in Brisbane for the annual Lasallian Leaders Gathering (LLG).

There were many familiar faces along with the introduction of new Principals and Board Directors who have recently joined the Lasallian fold. LLG is always a great opportunity for District-wide delegates, from the most experienced to the newest members, to gather and discuss matters pertinent to the Mission.

Commencing on Sunday evening, Br Visitor, David Hawke, and Executive Director of LMC, Merv McCormack, commenced proceedings with their combined 'State of the Union' address. Br David focused on the successes and challenges facing Pakistan and PNG, while Merv addressed Australia and New Zealand. Soon after, delegates gathered to celebrate the Eucharist, which was followed by dinner.

A meeting for Board Chairs and Directors then took place, while elsewhere a meeting was held for Principals, senior school colleagues, and LMS staff. Among the topics covered at the Principals' meeting were presentations by Br John Cantwell and Amanda Proulx around formation; outlines by Brs Garry Coyte and Adrian Watson about their new roles; while Lasallian Volunteers (LV) Program Facilitator, Kate Westhead presented relevant information about the various volunteer placements on offer.

On Monday 26 February, the conference program offered delegates the opportunity to gather, network, learn and explore the Lasallian principles and

practices of yourtown in action. Tracy Adams, CEO of **yourtown**, along with her dedicated staff, ensured that everyone enjoyed a tremendous **yourtown** experience at either Deception Bay or Kingston.

The visits enabled delegates to witness numerous examples of **yourtown's** service offerings such as Kids Helpline; school retention and re-engagement program; job training and employment; social enterprise opportunities; counselling, mentoring and support for families and communities.

These services run collaboratively with various **yourtown** partners, government agencies, business and organisations geared to helping young people who need such support.

Lasallian Facilitator Bernadette Fredricksen from John Paul College Rotorua said, "I was amazed by the work of **yourtown** and by the staff who are so committed to the cause." Delegates were variously impressed or inspired by the passion, dedication and commitment of **yourtown** employees.

The site visits were followed by an opportunity to attend the **yourtown** Head Office in Milton, where further workshops provided insight into a wide variety of **yourtown's** services, including child safe and child friendly workplaces; suicide and self-harm prevention; Kids Helpline (online classroom counselling); pornography and young people/online safety.

Phillip Scollard, Principal of Holy Spirit Catholic College Lakemba said of his **yourtown** site visit, "It was such a great experience to see the execution of the **yourtown** business model.

The simplicity of the vision and of the Mission is very much a lived reality at **yourtown** and can be seen in action through the person-centred approach."

The final day of LLG was given to workshoping, evaluation and feedback around the draft District Strategic Plan, which has been developed by the Preparatory Committee, informed by extensive consultations across the District.

Executive Director, Merv McCormack concluded the conference with some key points and observations. "There is so much heart and passion evident here, and in the leadership that you bring daily to your schools and works". He congratulated colleagues for making a genuine difference in the lives of those students and clients under our care.

A brief consultation and feedback session followed. Appreciation was expressed to Julie Alibrandi LMC Operations Manager, who spearheaded the event planning and logistics for the program, supported by Kate Mason, Executive Assistant.

Thanks, are extended to all delegates who attended the gathering, taking time out from their Principalship, workplace and busy schedules.

We hope LLG serves as a reminder of the Lasallian values in your own Lasallian settings.

The next significant District gathering is the Mission Assembly 15-18 April.

Let us envision a brighter future.

LASALLIAN LEADERS GATHERING 2018

"Lasallians without limits, working for a hopeful future"



COMMITTED LASALLIAN

Kane Raukura

De La Salle Catholic College, Mangere East,
Auckland Head of Faculty Science and Lasallian Facilitator



In 2017, Kane Raukura was named as an Affiliated Member of the De La Salle Brothers for his outstanding contribution to the Lasallian Mission and support of the Brothers, especially his 20 years of service to the College in Aotearoa New Zealand. Kane is known as a leader and innovator in his community, and acknowledged for his dedication to all things Lasallian.

★ **How do you feel knowing that your name is now inscribed in the official archives of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, in Rome?**

As someone who attended De La Salle College Mangere as a student, and now teaches there, this is something extremely humbling. I continue to be involved in the Mission at all levels, and believe what we do as a community is just and right. To know that my name has been recorded down as someone who made a difference and as someone that is recognised fraternally by the Brothers is definitely one of my proudest moments. My Affiliation is something I will value every day and I thank the Brothers for their belief and trust in me.

★ **What are some of the things that inspires you as a Lasallian Facilitator?**

Firstly, the never-ending love and good will that people give to the young people entrusted to our care. Teaching is a demanding and often thankless job and in the complexity of our modern society, teaching seems to be growing ever more challenging. But the light that still burns brightly is the personal faith and value that our Lasallian teachers place on each student and the commitment they have towards ensuring they successfully

achieve. Secondly, every day I attempt to distribute 'Walking Daily with SJBDS' and post it around the world. As I choose quotes from the Founder, I am continually inspired by his wisdom and how applicable it remains in the context of today.

★ **As a teacher and Affiliated Member of the Brothers, how important is the work of the Founder to you and for the future of Lasallian Formation in NZ?**

In 17th century France there was this need that called out to Jean Baptiste De La Salle and his early Brothers. In today's 21st century, we have young people that are still in need of our help. Quality education, understanding and acceptance, Christian values, inclusion and social justice, are all Lasallian concepts that the world needs now more than ever. As an Affiliated Member of the Brothers and a committed Lasallian educator, Formation is crucial in ensuring that students and staff clearly know 'Our Story' and how important it is; how it is still relevant; how it is something to cherish and be proud of. These are teachings which have come before and are still inspiring new generations to carry into the future and share with others.

★ **What makes you most proud of the students and College?**

After 20 years working at the school and as a past student, I am always so proud of the achievements of our young men and of the College. As an all-boys school in a low socio-economic area and with mainly Pasifika boys, we continue to buck national trends in performance and we have many students that excel at the highest level. I am honoured to work with such caring colleagues that I can call my friends and family, people who help create an atmosphere of learning and a culture of excellence that is based on strong Lasallian principles.

★ **If you could change one thing in the world, what might it be?**

As a passionate science teacher and environmentalist, we need to wake up now to our Earth. It is hurting badly and this beautiful gift that God bestowed upon is crying out to all humanity - 'You had better listen up, can't you see, there is no you, without me!'

As a person of faith, I wish people would be more kind and compassionate.

ST BEDE'S COLLEGE CELEBRATING 80 YEARS

By Ria Greene

Deputy Principal, St Bede's College Mentone



On 8 February 1938, St Bede's College opened with nine De La Salle Brothers and 110 students. Eighty years later, to the very day and on the very same site, our rich history and tradition was celebrated with an 80th Anniversary Mass and the Commissioning of the College's first lay Principal, Mr John Finn.

We were honoured with the presence of Archbishop Denis Hart as principal celebrant, who was accompanied by concelebrating priests, Fathers Michael McEntee, Peter Matheson, Andrew Jekot, Anthony Denton and Justel Callos – all chaplains of the College.

During the Commissioning Rite, John Finn, who was accompanied by his wife Mary, son Edward and daughter Matilda, was presented to the community by Board Chair Mr Anthony Brinkley and handed a Lasallian candle representing the light of Christ by Br David Hawke, Brother Visitor of the District. During the Rite, Archbishop Hart questioned John about his willingness to be a true Christian leader at St Bede's College. John declared his commitment to lead St Bede's College community with Christian values, embodying the Lasallian characteristics of faith, service and community.

Following the Mass, supper was enjoyed by the several hundred who attended. Among them were a great number of De La Salle Brothers, including former Principals of St Bede's College, numerous Old Collegians, current students, families and staff.

Many wise words, prayers, memories and updates were shared that evening but by far the most challenging words came to us from St Paul:

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you, and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins.

The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful. (Colossians 3:12-17)

From humble yet earnest beginnings, St Bede's College's rich history and tradition is still growing and thriving with 1532 students and more than 170 staff.

In 2018, may we continue to be a centre of life, love and learning as we 'Celebrate the Tradition and Live the Gospel.'



Together and by Association



Lasallian Volunteers Matt Murrie, Rodwill Joe, Hamish Dykstra and Desma Kombe pictured with Ezra in PNG. Photo courtesy of Dagia Mai.



Students from Casimir Catholic College Open Day, 23 March.



Lasallian Volunteers Lachlan Stewart, Hamish Dykstra, Jackson Stafford, Cameron Streeter, Program Manager, Kate Westhead, Franco De Joya, Matt Murrie and Scott Lealaisalanoa.



The Intercapital Assembly held in Rome 5-17 March, at the Christian Brothers Generalate.



The Intercapital Assembly held in Rome 5-17 March, at the Christian Brothers Generalate.



Young Lasallians Life Retreat held in Orange.



Brothers Gathering, Oakhill College



Orientation Week for Lasallian Volunteers and Youth Ministers, January 2018.



Teacher Investiture Ceremony at De La Salle College Caringbah, Thursday 8 February.



De La Salle Caringbah Opening Mass, after the blessing of the House badges for 2018

ADULT FORMATION

By Br John Cantwell and Amanda Proulx



Lasallian Adult Formation offers a variety of personal and professional development opportunities for the staff of Lasallian schools and works. We recognise that some schools are blessed with more than one heritage, and we acknowledge other charisms in our programs.

Our Formation programs take as their fundamental stance that 'Formation is for Mission'. It is not essentially for the promotion of the charism. We draw on our rich heritage, including the life and works of John Baptist de La Salle, and those of other Founders, to the extent that they are both inspiring, and encourage best practice in our own very different contexts.

Our Adult Formation programs are accredited by the Gerard Rummery Institute on behalf of the Lasallian Mission Council, and are recognised by BBI - The Australian Institute of Theological Education. BBI is accredited as a Higher Education Provider (HEP) by the Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency (TEQSA), Australia's independent national regulator of the higher education sector.

Our programs have also been registered with diocesan Catholic Schools Offices, and may be helpful in fulfilling some requirements related to Australian Professional Standards for Teachers.

PNG Formation

Throughout the course of the year, more Formation programs to take place in Port Moresby and the Highland areas.

Australia

Ongoing induction programs to continue in Sydney and Melbourne for all new staff new to a Lasallian school or works.

For more information about any of the Adult Formation courses available please contact

Br John Cantwell:
johncantwell@delsalle.org.au

Collaboration between BBI and LMC

BBI The Australian Institute of Theological Education (BBI-TAITE), has designed a higher education award with a focus on Youth Ministry due to be available at the commencement of Trimester 2, with classes commencing on Monday 23 July, 2018.

Director of Formation Br John Cantwell and Assistant Director of Formation (Young Lasallians) Amanda Proulx, who were announced as part of BBI Faculty and Teaching Staff in 2017, are honoured to be involved in teaching some of the units available.

This is an exciting development as result of the ongoing collaboration between Dr Gerard Goldman, CEO and Principal of BBI - The Australian Institute of Theological Education; and the Gerard Rummery Institute (GRI), which acts as an accrediting body for Lasallian Formation and professional development programs in the District.

Visit the BBI-TAITE website for an overview of the Graduate Certificate in Leadership & Theology (Youth Ministry)
www.bbi.catholic.edu.au/youth-ministry



YOUNG LASALLIANS

By Amanda Proulx



Young Lasallians Team: Philippe Dulawan, Amanda Proulx, Damian Khoury and Sebastian Duhau.

The Youth Ministry Team kicked off their ministry for 2018 in early January with the very first combined Formation and Induction Program for Lasallian Mission Council's latest group of Youth Ministers and Lasallian Volunteers.

The event, held in Collaroy, New South Wales, included a Commissioning Mass and opportunities for the two groups to build community together.

Both the Youth Ministers and the Lasallian Volunteers then assisted in facilitating the annual Lasallian Student Leaders Seminar, which brings together Year 12/13 student leaders from Lasallian schools and colleges across the District.

Exemplary teamwork on the part of Lasallian Mission Services' Young Lasallians Team (Philippe Dulawan, Sebastian Duhau, Damian Khoury and Amanda Proulx) and Lasallian Volunteers Program Manager, Kate Westhead, made this busy start to the year a big success.

The Young Lasallians Team will engage in a record number of retreats, Young Lasallian Evenings and other key events across the District throughout this year. 2018 has seen the expansion of the Team with four new full-time Lasallian Youth Minister positions in schools taking the number to 19 Youth Ministers. Sebastian Duhau and Damian Khoury, who have both begun full-time roles within the LMS team this year, have each made successful transitions to their new roles, establishing themselves in the Provincial Office and within the broader Lasallian network.



Map of Lasallian Youth Ministers 2018 - District of ANZPPNG

COMMITTED LASALLIAN

Stefanie Breda

Youth Minister at La Salle Catholic College Bankstown



Amanda Proulx, Assistant Director of Formation for the Young Lasallians, fondly refers to Stef as the “definition of a pocket rocket”.

Described as energetic, methodical and calm under pressure, she might be teeny tiny but don't be fooled by her size, this Youth Minister has the muscles of a cross-fit devotee and the Lasallian zeal in spades.

★ What inspired you to become a Youth Minister?

When I was in Year 10 I was trained to become a Lasallian Youth Leader. This allowed me to further explore the legacy of St John Baptist De La Salle and meet students from other Lasallian schools as well as Lasallian Youth Ministers who I came to admire. This also sparked my interest in youth ministry. After graduating, I remained in contact with the Lasallian Office and I volunteered my time for Spirituality Days, Retreat Days and Camp La Salle. From this, I was also inspired to attend Lasallian missionary trips in Balgo and recently in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. I had the realisation that if I wanted to do more, I should work towards becoming a Lasallian Youth Minister and broaden my horizons. In due course, and at the right time, I became a Lasallian Youth Minister. This has been a wonderful opportunity filled with amazing experiences and life-long friendships formed from around the District.

★ What are some of your responsibilities as a Youth Minister at La Salle Bankstown?

Some of my responsibilities are small tasks such as writing for the Lasallian weekly and school daily notices. As of last year, I took on the responsibility for making short presentations for Year 7 and 8 religion classes on a religious topic, such as a prayer or the importance of the Bible. This is a great way for the younger students to get to know me and understand what my role is about. Working with the older students, I train Lasallian Youth Leaders (LYL) in understanding the life and role of De La Salle. I encourage them to understand how they are seen as older siblings to the younger students. I also encourage students to participate in Reflection Days and 'Faith in Action' meetings and to get involved in new initiatives such as a LYL stall for Mission Action Day. These small responsibilities provide opportunities to engage students and to ensure a balance of faith, service and community is present at La Salle.

★ What have been some of your highlights as a Lasallian Youth Minister?

My favourite part of being a Lasallian Youth Minister is all the Holy Spirit moments! It's also a pretty special to be able to remain connected with students after school retreats and special events such as, Reflection Days and Camp La Salle or the District-wide Lasallian Youth Gathering which was held in 2016. A simple 'hello' from these students in the playground always makes my day. Seeing students enrich their faith and confidence over time reminds me of the importance of this role. From these small moments through to seeing students become Lasallian Youth Leaders are all rewarding. I enjoy seeing people break out of their shells and form a sense of confidence that they can accomplish anything. I enjoy the chance of being able to work with students in developing their relationship with God by sharing my faith, my journey and provide them with opportunities to be a part of 'Faith in Action' group sessions.

★ What are some of the challenges of your role?

Remembering names can be a challenge, especially when students have the benefit of only remembering one name or simply calling me 'Miss' instead. Another would be wanting to approach or encourage students to attend or be a part of religious events but being unsure of their faith affiliations. This makes it a challenge in offering initiatives such as prayer on Friday lunchtimes. Some students might even hold back out of fear of what their friends might think. I also work two days per week and that can make wanting to implement new initiatives a challenge.

★ If you could influence or make a change to better the world, what would it be?

If I could influence or make a change in the world, it would be to advocate that actions speak louder than words. However big or small the gesture, a small action could do wonders for one individual. It can be as simple as saying 'hello' to a stranger on the train, or to volunteering your time to those who are underprivileged. I enjoy travelling and I love going on missionary trips where I can bring along my camera to capture the landscapes, the environment and the community. I love viewing life by encountering and capturing the lives of people who in the face of adversity or hardship can display so much happiness. From this, I would see myself as making an influence in acknowledging these individuals and environments by showcasing these images positively on social media, allowing viewers to hopefully encounter the same feelings from the experience. I use this an opportunity to show others that happiness comes in all shapes and sizes and that we should be thankful for all we have.

★ What are the most rewarding parts of your role?

The most rewarding parts of being a Lasallian Youth Minister is being recognised by staff and students as someone they can come to in a time of need or simply just to have a chat. It's rewarding to encourage people to participate and to see how they join in on Reflection Days or Friday lunchtime rosary group of their own free will. Students are always really impressed after they encounter the Young Lasallians Team on retreats or at key events. Hearing students want to volunteer with Lasallian events after school as a result of this, gives me immense pride in being part of an amazing group of Young Lasallians. Overall, the role is very rewarding when working with inspiring Youth Ministers, coordinators and Brothers who all share faith.



LASALLIAN VOLUNTEERS

By Kate Westhead



Our Lasallian Volunteer (LVs) placements for 2018 in South Auckland, Perth, Sydney and Hohola PNG are well and truly off to a flying start. The LVs are being a great source of encouragement, support and service to young people, especially those who are disadvantaged and marginalised. The Volunteers are often found helping out at school retreats, sharing knowledge about St John Baptist De La Salle, and offering positive words of support when needed. The Volunteers never shy away from getting involved in playing sport at lunchtime or even trying their hand in the kitchen, experimenting with new menu items from eggs to sausage stew. And only a few months in, the positive feedback hasn't stopped about our Lasallian Volunteers from across the District of ANZPPNG.

I look forward to bringing you further updates about each Volunteer throughout 2018.

Join us on the Lasallian Volunteer journey on Facebook: www.facebook.com/LasallianVolunteersAus/

About Larry a committed Lasallian

By Matt Murrie, Lasallian Volunteer

"Larry is such an amazing bloke with a fun nature and many talents. Straight away he took us "white men" under his wing and has always looked out for us. He is a ball of energy and is always dancing and making jokes and is always so much fun to be around. He's a great singer and guitar player which is great for us, because we get to learn from him. He is often the first person to arrive at school and last one to leave. He is incredibly hard working and the school wouldn't be the same without him. He is the definition of what it means to be a 'Lasallian' and has a heart of gold. He is our brother".

Scott Lealaisalanoa and Matt Murrie (LVs in Hohola, PNG 2017).



Scott, Larry and Matt in PNG 2017.



Mr Daffy Larry Aua is the Lasallian Volunteer at La Salle Technical College Hohola (LTCH). He is loved by students and teachers alike and is an integral part of the devoted Lasallian culture that resides at LTCH.

Mr Larry started his Lasallian association when he attended De La Salle Bomana in 2006-2007 and after a 12 month break from school, he enrolled at LTCH as a carpentry student. In his final year of schooling he held the position of Lasallian Youth President.

"After graduating, I applied for Lasallian youth voluntary work. I had an interview with Br Leo Scollen who had been my Principal for the past two years and after the interview, myself and two other former students were asked to come back and we were offered two-year contracts," explained Larry.

Along with the first Youth Minister of PNG, Ms Desma Kombe, they formed the first Lasallian Youth Ministry Team at LTCH. After a successful completion of his initial two-year contract, Larry was offered a new contract and has been at LTCH ever since.

"I was inspired to return because of the Founder and the Life of the Founder. St John Baptist De La Salle sacrificed so much and dedicated himself to everything. I was inspired by the Brothers and how they live in a community and relate to the younger people."

Mr Larry helps to facilitate Year 9 Encounter Camps, retreats for Year 10 and 11 students and is a member of the Spiritual and Events Committee and managed the 'Share the Mission Volunteers' throughout 2017. Under his direction and guidance, the school band 'The La Salle Spiders,' came second in the Don Bosco Technical School Battle of the Bands competition. Larry is also the coach of the school rugby league team, who last year won the National Capital District Schoolboys Competition. If there is any kind of school event, you are sure to see him running around, setting things up and making sure everything is running smoothly.

He also helps the 'WeCare Foundation' who support young children and women in need and undertakes visitations to WeCare schools. For Christmas he often plays Santa Claus and leads the kids in a variety of icebreakers and games before delivering their presents.

"In 2017, I was lucky enough to go to the Lasallian Youth Gathering (LYG) and also the Asia Pacific Lasallian Youth Congress (APLYC11). I love meeting other Lasallians and especially sharing jokes and stories with them. LYG was just awesome, awesome, awesome."

Since 2011 Mr Larry has been the Coordinator of the Lasallian Breakfast Club, a position he still holds. In those seven years he has spent countless hours in the school kitchen preparing, cooking and serving breakfast for hundreds of students.

"Breakfast Club is for students who don't have anything to eat in the morning and come to school. For many of them this can be their only meal of the day. We feed around 100 students."

At LTCH many of the students come from shanty settlements. In the settlements, there is no running water, no electricity, they are plagued by overcrowding and there are high levels of violence and disease. There are many family problems that these students face. Many families struggle to pay school fees due to unemployment, so there are large numbers of student dropouts throughout the year.

Mr Larry is not only able to fill a room with laughter and happiness, but is also considered a dear and close friend and confidante by many of the students. It is through his fun, vibrant and energetic nature that he is able to make the students forget the troubles and worries they face at home. When former students visit, their first stop is generally his office. "Working at this school I hear these kids' stories and the hardships they go through and they inspire me to help. I just love serving others," said Larry.

"Life can be challenging but no matter what life brings, the very best part of life is doing something for others, and as De La Salle said, 'touching a heart is the greatest miracle that you can perform.'"



1. De La Salle, Mangere - Franco De Joya & Lachlan Stewart
2. LaSalle Catholic College, Bankstown - Scott Lealaisalanoa & Jackson Stafford
3. La Salle College, Middle Swan - Matthew Apuda, Pearl Bartlett & Rodwill Joe
4. La Salle Technical College, Hohola - Matthew Murrie, Hamish Dykstra & Cameron Streeter
5. yourtown, St Marys - Scott Lealaisalanoa & Jackson Stafford

NEW ZEALAND

By Sir Br Patrick Lynch KNZM, QSO Head of New Zealand

I am pleased to report that our two Lasallian Volunteers, Lachlan Stewart and Franco De Joya have settled in well within the College and the community. Lachlan is a former Southern Cross Catholic College, Scarborough School Captain, and a very keen sportsman. Franco De Joya received amazing year 12 results in Extension English and we look forward to Franco's upcoming podcast about his volunteer experience to be released soon. Lachlan and Franco's presence is very welcome.

Kane Raukura, Head of Faculty Science and Lasallian Facilitator from De La Salle Catholic College, Mangere East created an attractive mosaic billboard which has been placed in a prominent position alongside the College drive, with a very clear Lasallian message "where ever you go, you will find God." This is a poignant message for anyone coming in and out of the College and makes a clear statement of the Lasallian nature of De La Salle.

Our two Pakistani Brothers, Waseem and Saddique are in the process of completing a language school course and are finding it very inspiring. They are also assisting at the College in various ways, including coaching prospective Black Cap cricketers.

For the past two years I have been working on a book which focuses on the 40 years New Zealand has experienced with Integrated Schools becoming part of the State School system. The book has a strong political theme and will be launched by the Speaker of Parliament, The Honourable Trevor Mallard, on 2 May, in the Grand Hall of Parliament. A second book launch will take place at De La Salle College on 14 May and will be officiated by the Former Prime Minister, Jim Bolger ONZ. Two forwards to the book have been written by former Prime Ministers, The Right Honourable Jim Bolger and The Right Honourable Helen Clark.



Br Waseem, Franco De Joya (Lasallian Volunteer), Br Lewis Hardwood, Br Mark McKeon, Lachlan Stewart (Volunteer/Far back), Br Saddique and Sir Br Patrick Lynch.

PAKISTAN

From LaSalle Higher Secondary School Multan



Principal
Br Shahzad George Gill.

End of the Academic Year 2017-18

LaSalle Higher Secondary School, Multan has again completed a very successful academic year for 2017-2018, with several highlights throughout the year. At the end of the year, all the teachers and students were busy with exam preparations.

The students of Year 9 and 10 classes are appearing in the board exams, while the rest of the school has finished their local house exams.

Graduation Ceremony for Play Group, Nursery and Prep Classes

On 1 March 2018, the graduation ceremony for the students of nursery section was held at the school. The achievements of the young graduates were celebrated and their successes acknowledged as an important phase of their learning, laying the foundations for their future education.

Annual Prize distribution for Academic Year 2017-18

On 2 March 2018, family and special guests gathered for the annual awards ceremony held to acknowledge student achievements. Many preparations were made by the teachers and students to ensure the event was a success. The ceremony commenced with some excellent performances showcased by the students. Special guests included the Controller Examination Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Multan, Dr M Zafar Iqbal, Executive Secretary of the Catholic Board of Education, Multan, Ms Gulnaz Alfred.



PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Lasallian Youth Ministry in PNG

By Dagia Mai, Lasallian Youth Minister



LASALLIAN STUDENT LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

Since 2009, the Lasallian Youth Ministry team in PNG run its own leadership seminar as a follow-up activity based on the annual District-wide seminar held in Sydney.

This year was no exception, as 125 Lasallians ranging from student leaders, teachers and volunteers participated and gathered together from all four Schools, De la Salle Bomana, Jubilee Catholic Secondary School, La Salle Technical College and Sacred Heart Teachers College, during 23-25 February at La Salle Technical College. This year also marked the 10-year Anniversary since the inauguration of the first Student Leadership seminar held in PNG.

LASALLIAN ENCOUNTER CAMPS JUBILEE

At the end of February, Youth Ministry kicked off its annual Lasallian Encounter Camps at Jubilee Catholic Secondary School. The Encounter Camps are for all new Year 9 students, introducing them to the school and the Lasallian values and the life of the Founder. The Camp is facilitated by the Youth Minister and a team of volunteers who are in Year 10, 11 and 12.

Each camp runs from Friday through to Sunday. All Jubilee Year 9 camps will be completed by the end of Term and we look forward to starting the La Salle Technical College Encounter Camps. I also hope we can introduce the camp at De la Salle Bomana sometime this year.

Key Dates For PNG

- Port Moresby Brothers Retreat March 28 to April 2
- Hohola Lasallian Volunteers reflection day April 3
- East Sepik Lasallian Family Retreat April 6-7
- Southern regional Meeting Lasallian Family April 9-12
- Lasallian Youth Ministry Inservice Mt Hagen April 9-10
- Southern Region Lasallian Family Regional Gathering April 9-11
- Hagen Brothers Retreat in Madang April 9-13
- Highlands Regional Gathering April 11-13
- La Salle Technical College Visitation of the Federation of the Catholic Bishops of Oceania April 16
- New Guinea Islands Regional West New Britain Gathering May 10-11
- PNG MAC West New Britain May 11
- Br Luke Warvanuk Perpetual Profession West New Britain May 12
- PNG Sector Meeting May 14
- Madeleine Fakepo Affiliation May 19 Mainohana
- Lasallian Foundation PNG visit June 2-9
- Mamose Lasallian Family Youth Ministry and Governance Inservice June 25-29
- Mamose Lasallian Family Regional Gathering September 24-26
- PNG Sector Brothers Gathering Port Moresby August 25
- Lasallian Volunteers depart Dec 4





yourtown

let's create brighter futures

Yourtown is known for tackling the issues that matter most, working with young people to find jobs, learn skills, become great parents and live safe happy lives.

While many Lasallians know a lot about **yourtown**, some may not be aware of the services we offer young people in the different regions of Australia and that we operate in 36 nationally. Here's a brief overview of what we do.

In the last financial year, **yourtown** received close to 230,000 contacts from those reaching out for help. Over 19,000 young people were helped to gain vital skills to get a job. More than 178,000 contacts were made with Kids Helpline and Parentline counsellors, and thousands more took part in other training and wellbeing services.

What we do where

Kids Helpline and Kids Helpline @ School are national services while Parentline operates in Queensland and the Northern Territory.

In Queensland we operate job training and employment services, education and engagement services that support young people to remain in school as well as family and community services that help young families learn positive parenting and strengthen connections with the community.

We offer similar programs in South Australia in Northern Adelaide and the mid north based in Port Pirie.

In New South Wales we offer job training and employment services and the homelessness family accommodation service the San Miguel Family Centre is also based there.

We recently began work in Tasmania, with employment services offered in both north and south Tasmania, and job training through our Enterprises.

Services specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples designed to create job options and education opportunities are based in

Queensland. Our family and domestic violence accommodation service is at an undisclosed location.

How do we help?

At the heart of our services is the desire to give young people the opportunity to find their place.

A place to call home

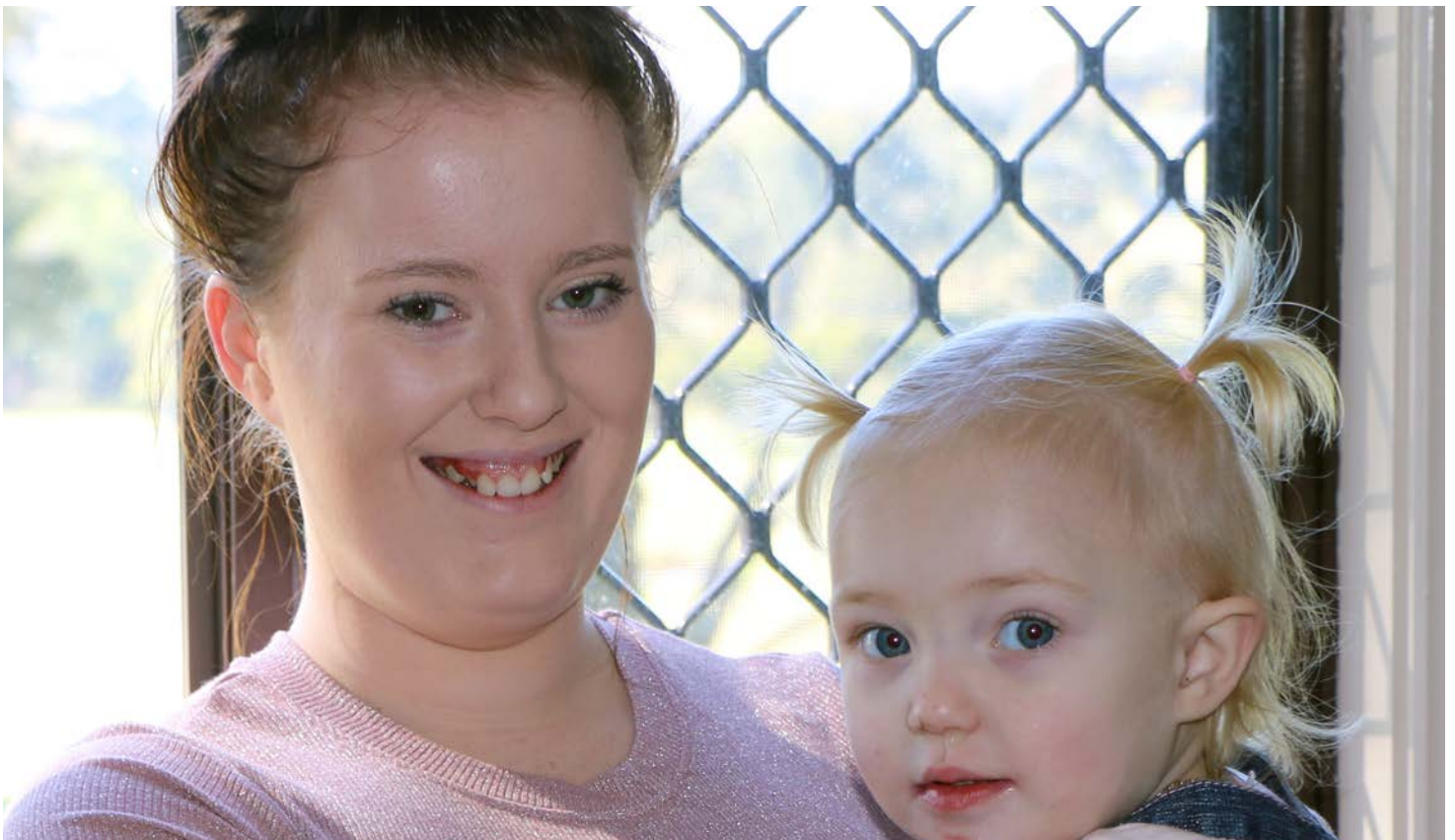
It can be hard to escape homelessness in Sydney. Not only are there so many people competing for rentals, for a young person with two children to support it can be nearly impossible.

When Sarah was unable to stay with her mother, she and her daughters couch surfed with friends until she found out about the San Miguel Family Centre.

"I was just bouncing around from house to house, just trying to get by with two kids and didn't know what was going to happen tomorrow... I'd lie on the couch with one child at my feet and my other child in my arms," she said.

"I found out about **yourtown** from a friend. As soon as I rang them they were giving me phone numbers and helping me out. I had a week until I moved in."

The centre provided her with a place to stay, daily support, counselling and help in finding accommodation. Great news! The family has secured their own rental property and Sarah is now studying education support and real estate at TAFE. San Miguel helped create a brighter future for Sarah's family and she's planning to do the same for others.





University of Sydney's Dr Brad Ridout and Dr Andrew Campbell with **yourtown** researcher Brian Collyer working on KHL Circles.

World first e-mental health social network

To continue to remain relevant to those that we help we are constantly innovating and evolving. Kids Helpline (KHL) Circles was recently launched as a world-first, national social networking platform for the group counselling of 13-25 year old young people experiencing mental health issues.

Created in partnership with The University of Sydney and the Future Generation Investment Company (FGX), the 'Circles' platform is unique. It provides a safe and private networking opportunity that operates 24/7, offers a counsellor-led series of education modules about mental health, whilst also encouraging group members to share their experiences with each other and seek support.

While still in its early stages, feedback shows young people have benefitted from this unique platform. Some young people have disclosed to the group risks not disclosed to their counsellors, enabling Kids Helpline to take action to protect these young people from physical and sexual abuse, and suicide.

The project will produce new knowledge of e-mental health services that mental health organisations can use globally.

To find out more about **yourtown** check out www.yourtown.com.au



 Kids Helpline is a service of **yourtown**



TERCENTENARY

ONE HEART. ONE COMMITMENT. ONE LIFE.



DE LA SALLE
1719 - 2019
ONE HEART.
ONE COMMITMENT.
ONE LIFE.



Please keep an eye out for upcoming Tercentenary Event information

★ APLEC - Asia Pacific Lasallian Educators Conference 2019

★ LYG - Lasallian Youth Gathering 2019

MAJOR DISTRICT EVENTS

Mission Assembly

April 15 - 18, 2018

Mittagong: Marist Hermitage

District Chapter

July 8 - 11, 2018

Mittagong: Marist Hermitage



DE LA SALLE BROTHERS PROVINCIAL OFFICE

PO Box 3485, Bankstown Square,
NSW 2200, Australia

E: admin@delasalle.org.au

To contribute to the newsletter, please contact: Marcela Cuevas
Communication Manager

Email : MarcelaCuevas@delasalle.org.au