

RELAF NEWSLETTER





June 2012













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Editorial



Somehow, our Newsletter continues its path. We are pleased that some become loyal to send some information to share with other Lasallians what they experience every day. They are gratefully acknowledged. This is the way forward for those wondering what to send. We always have something to share. The hardest part is to sit down and put it in writing. In informal conversations, some do not hesitate to voice out their thoughts on the presentation and composition of the Newsletter. It would be more helpful that these reflections be put in writing to be published. As we made it clear in the previous issues, our wish is to have many articles in the newsletter. Therefore do not hesitate to send us as many as possible articles.

n this issue, we discover interesting educational experiences and formation. Despite the challenges encountered, the Novitiate in Eritrea is doing well: four young Brothers just completed their formation and pronounced their first vows. Thank God for His wonderful works. In Ethiopia, we discover a new Lasallian school which is to welcome children with HIV / AIDS. A good opportunity to give chance to these children who seemed abandoned by fate. We are also amazed by what is happening or is planned in CELAF-Institute: the two formation workshops on Child Protection and the Lasallian Pedagogy. These workshops should result in training modules in CELAF who is currently diversifying both its formation and its target audience: after the introduction of Masters program, CELAF prepares to open new courses which will be effective next September: This is among others a Professional Master in Law which consists of four entries: Master in social Law, Master in Law of Contracts, Master in Business Law and Taxation and Master in Legal and Financial Management . These courses give a large place to Lay people, especially those who cannot be free for day classes. We encourage all those who have spared no effort to contribute to innovation in Education and Formation for the benefit of the youth.

Let us make a special mention to the work of Lasallian Volunteers of Cameroon. Former Lasallian Students wanted to share their experience with those who have not had the chance to enjoy the same formation as they did. Little by little, a determined group of volunteers was formed and today have launched their brand new training center with funding from PROYDE. They had to put their thoughts on it and have the courage to complete this project that some people found unrealistic in the beginning. Congratulations to the Lasallian Volunteers of Cameroon and that your example will inspire others for the development of the Lasallian Mission in the world.

Bilingualism in RELAF is on the way. Immersion is an effective way to learn new languages. In many school systems, an important place is given to foreign languages. Several hours are often spent on learning these languages. Ultimately it often leads to the same conclusion: enormous difficulties to communicate in these languages. The secret is in the practice. Courses only serve as support. But the courses without the support of continuous practice do not lead very far. The experience of the French Speaking Scholastics in Anglophone zone is quite significant. In a short time and in an environment that speaks mainly English, these young people have passed their test to fully study in this new language. Yet, how many years had they spent trying to learn this language? To make the experience complete, English speaking Scholastics should also do their formation in Francophone zone and within a short time, the language barrier will only be a memory.

> Br. Gabriel SOME General Councillor for RELAF

The New Centre Mutien Marie

After spending more than a decade "squatting" from Douala to Mbalmayo, the Centre Mutien Marie of the Lasallian Volunteer of Cameroon was finally installed in their own and definitive site in Mbokoulou, a suburb of Mbalmayo, a town about 50 km from Yaounde, the political capital of Cameroon.

ndeed, the long evenings of prayer and fasting for the completion of a project with PROYDE eventually bore fruit in abundance: the new Centre Mutien Marie brand new: nine classrooms, a workshop block, an administrative block, a computer block, library and toilets, all with a magnificent panoramic view.

.It was precisely in 2005 that the Coordinator for Lasallian Volunteers of Cameroon initiated the project of the new Centre Mutien Marie. This project being supported by the District of Douala has finally found a favorable response from PROYDE, a development and supporting organization to the Lasallian Educational Mission of the De La Salle Brothers in Spain.

PROYDE found the project relevant, agreed with the approach of the Lasallian Volunteers and decided to fully support the project by giwork.

foundation stone in January 2010, followed a few months later by a the real construction work.



Br General Councillor's Visit to the Lasallian Volunteers of Cameroon in April 2012

And it is precisely to celebrate these architectural treasures that the entire political, traditional, religious and administrative elite of Mbalmayo has focused on the new centre on December 20, 2011 for the official inauguration of new buildings. Many consecutive speeches to magnify the success of the project and emphasize the imporving a substantial grant to cover the cost of all tance of such an educational work that reinforces the educational supply and training, particu-It all began with the symbolic laying of the larly Lasallian, in this part of the country. Several Brothers including Brother Visitor were present. No one can quantify the overwhelming joy that animated the students, the primary beneficiaries of these brand new buildings. (continued page 5)



Three Lasallians Volunteers at the inauguration of the Centre



Br. Blaise DJEUKAM, Visitor of Douala District giving speech at the inauguration of the centre

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Before

After

The old barrack which served as classrooms for these students is but a memory. The volunteers themselves are not the least, very proud to carry out this project successfully. They were urged by Brother Visitor to remain faithful to the Lasallian charism, Educational Service of young people, especially the most disadvantaged, to cultivate this spirit, the same that drew the Lasallian Volunteers of Cameroon. The generous donor was represented by Brother Angel, who came directly from Spain for the occasion. There remains only the last component of the project, at least with regard to buildings, it is the community residence Marie Mère de l'Espérance whose construction is also underway.

Well done to the Lasallian Volunteers of Cameroon for the development of the Lasallian Education Mission in the District of Douala.

Br. Anatole DIRETENADJI





Relaf Newsletter Nº04

Golden Jubilee

Two significant apostolates have celebrated their Golden Jubilee, 50th anniversary to the service of Lasallian Educational Mission. These include CETI (Industrial College of Technical Education) or Saint Joseph College of Diang, in the District of Douala (Cameroon) and the Private School Stella Maris, in Tamatave, in the District of Antananarivo. Fifty years is not given to anyone, it's an anniversary that worth noting

What is a Jubilee?

or those who would be interested in the word, the French dictionary, *Le Nouveau Petit Robert* defines this word as "*a public solemnity celebrated once every fifty years among the Jews*." It brought the remission of all debts, the restitution of all 'heritage' to the previous owners, land redistribution and release of all slaves.

The word Jubilee is a biblical word that the Church uses to describe the celebration of a period of 25, 50, 75 or 100 years. In everyday language, we speak of birthday, fiftieth or hundredth anniversary.

Regarding the Bible, we have chosen two books that evoke the celebration of the jubilee: in the book of Leviticus 25, 8 said that every fiftieth year is called "Jubilee". It is a year dedicated to God. This is a year of the Lord and each returned to his "heritage": debts, sins, sentences were handed. The slaves were freed, the earth must rest: working in the fields was suspended (fallow lands). In Luke 4, 16-19, Jesus presents himself as one who gives meaning to the ancient Jubilee. He came to proclaim the year of grace of the Lord, proclaim the Good News to the poor, free the oppressed, restore peace in the world.



For the other meaning, let us remember that the years 2010 and 2011 saw the celebration of the golden jubilee of independence of African countries. Thus, it is called Silver Jubilee for 25 years of age; Golden Jubilee for 50 years and the Diamond Jubilee for 75 years. It is therefore a religious celebration that became a secular one. [...]

Thus, any Jubilee is an occasion to pray for peace, justice, reconciliation and forgiveness. In the Catholic Church, the Jubilee has taken the form of the Holy Year instituted by Pope Boniface VIII in 1300.

> Br. Pascal MBABY Douala District

CETI: Collège Saint Joseph de Diang «Foi – Fraternité –Service»

From 1962 to 2012: 50 years of Excellence in the Service of the Youth

The Industrial College of Technical Education (CETI), Saint Joseph of Diang is located to the east of Cameroon. It was established two years after Cameroon's independence under the leadership of Archbishop Lambert Van HEHGUEN who had care for the education of the Cameroonian youth.



The delicate educational mission was entrusted to the Congregation of Brothers of the Christian Schools specialist in this area in 1962. It is now 50 years that the Brothers are present there. Some have already been called to God, others are still living with the burden of age. We are grateful for their generosity and the missionary impulse that led them into the forests of eastern Cameroon. They trained young people, some have become religious Brothers in the Institute founded by Saint John Baptist de La Salle.

Since its foundation until date, the CETI St. Joseph which includes the lower and upper secondary has known 13 Brothers who successively served with dedication as Directors of the School.

| N° | Name and Firstname | Year |
|----|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 01 | Brother Jan Van MOOK | 1962-1969 |
| 02 | Brother Léonard TOOMEN | 1969-1970 |
| 03 | Brother Frédéric HUYSMAN | 1970-1975 |
| 04 | Brother Albert CLAES | 1975-1981 |
| 05 | Brother Ambroise DOBBELAR | 1981-1987 1994-2000 |
| 06 | Brother Marek SITKIEWITC | 1987-1988 |
| 07 | Brother Daniel CROTEAU | 1988-1993 |
| 08 | Brother Elie POULIOT | 1993-1994 |
| 09 | Brother Blaise DJEUKAM | 2000-2001 |
| 10 | Brother Léon FOGUEM | 2001-2004 |
| 11 | Brother Anatole DIRETENADJI | 2004-2007 |
| 12 | Brother Stéphane FOKA | 2007-2011 |
| 13 | Brother Gilbert OUILABEGUE | 2011 |



Brother Girlbert OUILABEGUE Actual Director of CETI Saint Joseph ofDiang

Launch of activities for the Jubilee year

On 5 May 2012, the day chosen for the launch of festivities celebrating the golden jubilee of CETI Diang. From 7 o'clock in the camps were unusually busy. A human tide came to live the big event, this historical moment of this institution located in the forest, in the Sunrise Region of Cameroon, is rushing to the field arranged for the occasion.

Of this huge crowd from all parts of Cameroon and neighboring countries (Chad, Central Africa), there were students, former students, teachers, parents, administrative and civil authorities, priests, nuns and religious, youth, children, friends, then the curious.

On the menu of the day, there was Mass in the morning with fraternal agape available to students and children, and in the evening, the launch of the selected activities for the Jubilee followed by an evening gala.



A partial view of the participants during the Mass

The Eucharistic celebration was presided by the Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Bertoua. A triple thanksgiving marked the celebration: the workers of CETI Diang gave thanks to God for the day May 1, Labour Day and patronal Feast of CETI.

The official opening of the Jubilee year was punctuated with speeches by the Alumni representative of CTIE Diang, the Director, the Director of the College St. Jean Baptiste of

Doumé, the Mayor of Diang, Brother Visitor of the District of Douala (Cameroon-Chad), the Deputy Prefect Diang.



From the various interventions of each other, we found essentially the tribute to the Brothers of the Christian Schools for the Educational Mission carried out in this part of Cameroon.

Since 1962, CETI has trained Government officers of the past and today. The majority of the elite in this town have gone through this school. The word of Brother Gilbert, the Director, while praising the work done so far, deplores the considerable decrease in numbers. In 1994, the boarding school had 300 inmates. Today, the total number of students does not reach that figure. He issued an invitation to stakeholders in the education system of Cameroon in general and Diang in particular that CETI, the pride of the citizens of today and yesterday, may not die 50 years after its foundation.

After these interventions, the guests enjoyed special dishes taken directly from the forest. They were also quick to show some dancing steps before leaving the place.

> Br. Pascal MBABY Douala District

Presentation of Medals to the CETI Teachers on the occasion of Golden Jubilee

the long-awaited event by all valiant workers comes to be real for the six Teachers of CETI on May 20, 2012 : these are YAMA Messok Mr. Casimir, and Mrs. Emmanuel MBIDA AKONO born MBALLA Lucia, Ms. Irene Madari, with all three Medal of Honor work (Silver, Gold Vermeil and service for 25an) Bedzigui Gallus Desire with two Medals (20 years) and EFFOUDOU Floribert with a medal for his 10 years of loyalty to CETI. The State honored these courageous workers for their love in the Education of Young Cameroonians. May 20, 2012 also marks the 40th anniversary of the unity of CAME-ROON (English and French). The ceremony was held at the festival ground of Diang and brought together many people: students, parents, officials, teachers and religious ... surrounding the Sub-Prefect Jean MABDOU who was the master of ceremonies representing the President of the Republic in this District.

After the solemn ceremony of Medals, time for popular festivities where we saw scenes of jubilation among the families of our Medalists. These were moments of conviviality and sharing across the Campus of CETI. Administrative authorities, priests, religious, employees, family members came from far and near, and many guests who wanted to encourage and support the Medalists on this day. The latter did not hide their pleasure to let forth their joy for having been rewarded by the Nation. The atmosphere and the decibels throughout the CETI bore witness to the joy that we experienced at St. Joseph CETI Diang on this day May 20 until late at night before the holiday departure for the students.

We really hope to live such a beautiful festive atmosphere in the coming months to mark the climax of the Jubilee, and celebrating other medals for the years to come. Congratulations to the Medalists for the joy shared with this general noticeable feeling of duty well done and rewarded for its value HAPPY FEAST DAY to CETI, to the Staff and the Alumni.

> Br. Marc NDOUBA District de Douala

STELLA MARIS: Golden Jubilee

(1962 - 2012)



Stella Maris Private School is located in Tamatave, a town in the eastern part of Madagascar, about 350 km from the capital Antananarivo. It is the second school founded by the De La Salle Brothers after St Joseph Primary School in the same town. At its fiftieth anniversary, Stella Maris continues to take up the challenge of providing a better human and religious education to approximately 3250 students.

Historical Overview

In 1962, the first four Missionary French Brothers to undertake the then new college, welcomed their first students in the three pavilions (classrooms for 6th, 5th, 4th grade today). Gradually, as the number of students increased, the Brothers continued to develop the place to build new classrooms, a laboratory , a large hall and football pitches and basketball-Ball.

Ten years later (1972), due to the socio-political crisis in the Great Island, there only remained Brother Louis AGNELLET, The School Director at the time. The number of students was so small that the school could no longer function properly for five years. So it was the most difficult moment for Stella Maris, but with the help of parents, Brother AGNELLET launched the challenge that drives us until today: "TSY MISY MA-FY TSY LAITRY ZOTO," which literally means : « *nothing is difficult if one is willing.* »

It was after this relaunch that the upper secondary was opened; Stella Maris School gradually developed and made its reputation for excellent results in academics and sports.

From the year 1995, the Director, Brother Xavier RA-JAOFERSON opened a Tachnical Section for Management (currently FTG). He also took the initiative to build the wall around the School and other classrooms for students whose total number reached 2000. At the time when Brother Juan SALLA COLL was the Director (1998-2003), Stella Maris underwent great transformation and development in terms of infrastructure (auditorium, chapel, toilets etc ...) and environment: tree planting and the creation of the nature club, Makako English Club and the creation of Young Lasallian group whose presence is significant to this day by their various activities based on the three Lasallian pillars: *FAITH FRA-TERNITY and SERVICE*.

Since its 40th anniversary in 2003 until 2009, many projects were completed and made available to 2900 students at the time and teachers. These include a school cafeteria, three new classrooms, paving the ground for Basketball, Internet connection, web site, general map of the School, an evidence of its openness to globalization as the Director of that time, Brother Etienne RAZAFINDRAIBE said: "Stella Maris is a school of the third millennium"

Today, Stella Maris demonstrates a long journey in the service of the Malagasy young people throughout the 50 years of history. Thanks to the efforts of all educators and Brothers, the administration and management of the School are improving.

The Golden Jubilee Celebration began on May 8, 2011 and was closed in May 19, 2012 by the various festive activities. Reasons to celebrate!

Mr. Jean Noel RODOLPH Lycée Privé Stella Maris



Brother Visitor, Désisé RASAMISON and Bishop Désiré T. inaugurating the new classrooms of Stella Maris

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Ten Brothers have served successively as Directors of the School

| N° | Name and Firstname | Year |
|----|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 01 | Brother Paul DEQUIN | 1962-1964 |
| 02 | Brother Miguel CRUCHANGAZ | 1964 - 1967 |
| 03 | Brother Louis AGNELLET | 1967 - 1977 |
| 04 | Brother Anselme RAZAFIMAHERY | 1977-1982 |
| 05 | Brother Octave R. | 1982 -1986 |
| 06 | Brother Elie RAKOTOMANGA | 1986-1992 |
| 07 | Brother Xavier RAJAOFERSON | 1992-1998 |
| 08 | Brother Juan SALA COLL | 1998-2003 |
| 09 | Brother Etienne RAZAFINDRAIBE | 2003-2009 |
| 10 | Brother Florent RAZAKARINIVO | 2009– |



The Medalists Lycée Privé Stella Maris

Celebration of the Golden Jubilee

The organizing committee for the 50th anniversary decided to celebrate this Golden Jubilee within the period of one year during which many cultural and sports activities were organized.

We have just closed the Jubilee Year on May 19. Almost all the Brothers'Communities in the District were represented at the celebration. The closing ceremony of the Jubilee year was mainly characterized by the inauguration of five classrooms.

May 15: like every year, the association of parents gives students what we call "*goûter De La Salle*", a big cake for each class offered after lunch per class. The afternoon is marked by a festive atmosphere with a party masks

On May 19, in the morning 29 teachers and workers were awarded with Medals in a solemn ceremony.



Au milieu: Mgr Désiré T. préside la messe du 19 mai.



Brother Florent RAZAKARINIVO Actual Director of Lycée Privé Stella Maris

We must remember that this is also the day when the Universal Church commemorates Blessed Brother Raphael Louis Rafiringa. Thus in the afternoon, a Solemn Mass took place in Stella Maris courtyard, not only to celebrate the end of the Jubilee Year but also to celebrate our beloved Blessed. It was presided by His Excellency Bishop Desiré TSARAHAZANA, Archbishop of Tamatave.

Currently, we move towards the 75th anniversary and *Lycée Privé Stella Maris* will change its designation in the near future. It will be called *Lycée Privé Catholique Lasallien Stella Maris*

> Br. Florent RAZAKARINIVO District of Antananarivo

Lasallian Family and Association

From the Sector of South Africa - Association of Brothers and Lay Colleagues

n January, Brother Charles Kitson, the Institute Coordinator of the Lasallian Family and Association animated workshops for teachers, students and parents in Johannesburg. At the moment the concept of Association is still in its infancy here but following Brother Charles' visit we hope to build on the foundation he has laid.

To further develop and promote Association, two Lay Colleagues were sent to the Lasallian Women's Symposium in Thailand that was organized by PARC from April 30th to May 2nd, 2012.

Others have already finished successfully the Buttimar Program on Lasallian Studies in the USA.



From the Sector of Kenya - Lasallian Youth

⁽⁾ he Lasallian Youth Group in Nyeri is nurturing Faith, Fraternity and Service among its members. The service finds its expression in visiting the mentally and physically challenged as well as elderly and sick people, in offering moral support to HIV/Aids victims. Promoting a clean and friendly environment was not left out.

The administrator of a children home appreciated them by his positive remark at the end of their visit saying: *"You have done marvellous work by touching the hearts of these children"*

Br. Marc HOFER Charles Lwanga District



A group of Young Lasallians at St Mary's Boy Secondary School, Nyeri-Kenya

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Lasallian Family and Association

International Lasallian Days for Peace (ILDP) September 21 to Octobre 21, 2012

Dear Lasallians,

We are very pleased to write to launch the 6th edition of the International Lasallian Days for Peace (ILDP) 2012.

As has been our custom in recent years, this year too we are calling on Lasallian Institutions and Lasallian Groups to spread the word that starting on September 21, 2012 the United Nations' sanctioned International Day of Peace - and ending on October 21st, we Lasallians will be fostering peace in our world through prayer, study and action.



Each Regional/District/Local Educational Center will provide its own personal touch to the four weeks of the program. Some will have programs that span the entire month; others will select certain days to plan their activities. No matter what your local response may be, we are asking that where possible you organize some activity (either a culminating finale or a single experience) **on Friday, October 21st 2012** so that all Lasal-lians around the world will be united in prayer/study/action for peace.

We encourage you to forward to us any relevant resources and materials related to the theme of 'Peace' you might have and which could be useful to other groups in preparation for this event.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could forward us the contact details of Lasallians in your District who would be interested and willing to participate in or coordinate such an activity within their local educational center or apostolate.

The initiatives in the different Districts and Regions could take the form of, but are not limited to, the following:

- Volunteer work experiences both within and outside your own district
- Commitment to live a simpler, less consumerist life-style, to promote justice & peace
- Assembly activities in schools
- Prayer services
- Workshops / Campaigns / Art Exhibitions
- Peaceful marches
- Sending of letters to local authorities calling for Peace in specific areas of conflict
- Intercultural or Inter-religious activities
- Others

International Council of Young Lasallians <u>icyl@lasalle.org</u>



CIELLAIF INSTITUTIE

TWO SEMINARS SIMULTANEOUSLY

From 16 to 22 April 2012, two formation seminars were held in CELAF Institute. One focuses on Child Protection and another on Lasallian pedagogy.

It was an initiative of the Secretariat for Solidarity and Development and RELEM (Lasallian Region of Europe and Middle East) in agreement with the Director of CELAF and in accordance with the initiative C4, 2 of the Strategic Plan for RELAF, I quote: "*Ensuring continuing formation for the Brothers and Lay partners in the development and Child Protection*"

he first seminar was led by Miss Angela MU-TUALLI, who came from Rome for the occasion and Ms. Koumba BAMA, an Ivorian Lawyer expert on Children's Rights. During the session, a rereading of international, regional and national tools relating to the protection of children was done. Major emphasis was given to the various forms of abuse, maltreatment and exploitation of children.

The purpose of the seminar is to sensitize participants to the knowledge of Children's Rights, knowledge that will enable them to adopt prevention strategies wherever they are in protecting Children's Rights. The many denunciations of the Children's Right violation throughout the world in recent years have motivated all development organizations (Donors) to put particular emphasis on Child Protection. So that for all development projects, especially projects related to Education and human development, these donors always require as master piece, the presentation of a protocol on the protection of Children's Rights. This protocol is nothing more than the policy implementation or should be implemented by local Educational Institutions to prevent any abuse or violation of Children's Rights. And since everything is not always obvious, it is necessary and essential to raise awareness today among the Brothers and their partners through training sessions and seminars.



CAFOP Students in session with Br. Josean



Some of the participants in the session on Children's Right

The pilot experience began with CELAF-Institute. It involved all students of CERP (Centre d'Education Religieuse et Pédagogique) and ISSPR (Institut Supérieur de Science Pédagogique et Religieuse), the first two training structures of CELAF-Institute based in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire . The same formation will also be held in CTIE (Christ the Teacher Institute for Education) in Nairobi. If these various pilot experiences would prove successful, we shall introduce and consider this subject as part of the training program of scholastics. The same seminar is planned for the Sector of Ethiopia in October, this time for the benefit of teachers.

The second seminar on the other hand, is designed for Students-Teachers, that is the Students of CA-FOP (*Centre d'Animation et de Formation Pédagogique*) and was led by Brother Josean VILLALABEITA from Madrid, Spain . The latter has rolled out the red carpet of the Lasallian pedagogy for Students conquered a tricentenary pedagogy that did not stop to seduce and that will seduce more. Truly speaking, the "Cafopians" have been convinced by that other so-called Lasallian Pedagogy. A plus and a novelty in the process of their Formation.

June 2012

CELAF-Institute wants to broaden its audience

audience. The announcement of the introduction of a new Masters was made by Brother Emmanuel Mboua, the Director at the closing Mass of the festivities marking the 20th anniversary of this renowned Lasallian Institute in Africa.



Logo of the 20th Anniversary of CELAF Institute source: http://www.celafinstitut.org

In fact, before this announcement, a case study related to the opening of new Masters has been presented to the Brother Visitors' Conference of the French Speaking zone which approved it. This is a Professional Master in Law which has four entities: Master in Social Law, Master in Law of Contracts, Master in Business Law and Taxation in the evening, from 18 hours. and Master in Legal and Financial Management.

An authorization was given by the Conference to carry out this project, the Director of CELAF-Institute brought together potential stakeholders in the process to a first workshop on May 25, 2012. Apart from the executive team members of CELAF, this workshop was attended by distinguished guests, mostly PhDs, Researchers, all Educators in the country's two main Universities namely the University of Cocody and that of Bouake.

Was discussed during the workshop: to compare the curriculum and the objectives of courses offered, present models, the major and minor academic units and the proposed names of lecturers likely to provide the various branches considered.

CELAF-Institute has just celebrated its 20 years of From the discussion that followed, it was noted that excellence at the service of the Church mission in there was a great interest shown by all participants as Africa. Building on its reputation and confidence in to the relevance of the three areas, the profile and the future, this young Lasallian Institution seeks to conditions of recruitment of candidates, not to mendiversify its formation program to reach a wide tion the sensitive issue of the post training opportunities. Implicitly, it also seeks to expand the record for the application for accreditation with the Ministry, a kind of mandatory permission before opening.

> Generally, the discussions were constructive. All participants were willing to do things right. This resulted in programming other meetings where we shall specify the number of hours per unit and appropriate titles to be assigned to each Masters. Participants unanimously agreed that it must involve professionals in the validation of the program and models for it is they who are able to define the profile of future skills required for business needs. Because there is no reason of forming for the sake of of forming, but we must train candidates ready to use, and to do this and training in line with employment is the sine qua non. Are they not also the innovations brought by the LMD? It should be noted that CELAF-Institute recently adopted the LMD system and will soon have its first graduates in Masters: Professional Masters in **Business Administration and School Management**

> NB: What you should know, reassures the Director, the introduction of new branches will not affect conventional branches of study, ISSPR, CERP and CA-FOP because the new Masters courses will take place

> > Br. Anatole DIRETENADJI



Staff Members at the Seminar on LMD system

Restructuring: Strategic Plan

The Regional Conference of Brother Visitors that was held in Addis Ababa from November 7 to 9, 2011 adopted a Strategic Plan for RELAF. What is it all about? First, what is a Strategic Plan of an organization or entity?



Strategic Plan of an organization is a plan that outlines and defines clearly the vision of that organization, this vision that comes in objectives and results (with the appropriate means) that the organization hopes to achieve during x coming year.

Thus defined, RELAF has since November 2011 its strategic plan which shows clearly as vision the unity of RELAF. The objectives identified as part of this three-year plan (2011-2013) in three areas: towards the unity of the Region (A), towards achieving a coherent plan of Formation (B) and towads Self-sufficiency (C). Are assigned to each domain (objective) four levels of outcomes as well as in Management, Communication, Pastoral and Educational Mission and Lasallian Association. Each level of result in turn is transformed into several actions and initiatives to be implemented. A careful reading of this plan you own will help you better familiar with the contents.

The purpose of these few lines, is simply to remind all the Brothers of the Strategic Plan for the Region and invite them to appropriate it. It is of paramount importance and its effective implementation will result into a bright future for our Region. In the various publications of the Newsletter, the Regional Office will offer you between the lines what is done, what is being done in each domain. But you should to know that, the Strategic Plan for the Region concerns all the Brothers, there are things to put in place in each District, which means that all the Brothers are concerned by the plan and everyone is invited, where he is concerned, to contribute .

Br. Anatole DIRETENADJI



Since the RELAF assembly held in Nairobi from 8th to 13th January 2010, RELAF Region has made tremendous efforts towards its unity and restructuration. One of the very important aspects of Unity and Restructuring is Language. The Strategic plan for RELAF A2, 2 (Towards the Unity of the Region) clearly states an expected result at the level of communication: "achieve a reasonable level of bilingualism among Brothers in RELAF". This simply means that we ought to promote bilingualism among Brothers in RELAF.



Br. Abel SEKONE

Br. Pierre BAKO

eing French speaking De La Salle Brothers in De La Salle Centre (Scholasticate Community), we wish to share our personal experience in Language learning Center and in Christ the Teacher Institute for Education (CTIE), an Institute of Saint Mary's University of Minnesota/USA.

We were welcomed in Nairobi at De La Salle Centre which is the International Scholasticate community of Charles Lwanga District. The warm and friendly welcome of both formators and Scholastic Brothers helped us to be quickly integrated in our new family. The language i.e. English was not overly a barrier to affect our openness to communicate. We realize that the Lasallian spirit and the brotherhood in De La Salle are strongly lived in various ways with regard to the socio-cultural and religious factors of the milieu.

Relaf Newsletter N°04

The support and attention to one another are felt among the Brothers in the Scholasticate and that enable us to improve our English and to enter in the process of both human and spiritual formation.

Sport activities and evening social every Friday is an opportunity to relax after a stressful week and this allows Brothers to socialize. Given the fact that we all come from different countries, we learn from one another and enrich each other. Some Brothers saw in our presence an opportunity to improve their French learned in the Postulancy or Novitiate and for few in secondary school. They are happy to practice French songs during community prayers and masses we are teaching them. Some are thinking about going to French speaking District/ Sector in the future for their apostolate.



Before joining Christ The Teacher Institute for Education (CTIE) at Tangaza College, we passed through Hekima Language Services LTD, a Language Centre and culture instruction and whose syllabus is tailored to cater for language for both communication and academic purposes. It greatly helped us to improve our English. Reading, writing, speaking and listening were the main activities involved in classes under the guide of an instructor. The tea-break was a great moment of interaction amongst multicultural students and with the staff members. At the end of the program at Hekima Language Services, we can say that our experience was a fruitful one.

When we joined CTIE, the challenges were mainly the fluency of the language and the fact that we have been introduced to a new academic system; i.e. American. However, both the support of the Brothers in community and the heartfelt welcome of the CTIE community encouraged us to be quickly integrated and actively participate in the life of the Institute and the overall Tangaza College of which CTIE is also a constituent part. Sports, community services and other socio-cultural activities are opportunities given to the students to interact and enrich each other.

Before joining Christ The Teacher Institute for We acknowledge that the various opportunities Education (CTIE) at Tangaza College, we being offered in CTIE and the openness of the passed through Hekima Language Services students to share their knowledge make learning LTD, a Language Centre and culture instruction easier and beneficial.



We experience that the language barrier could be overcome by Brothers in order to enhance the unity of the RELAF Region but this could only be achieved through the promotion of bilingualism. Let us ask the One God to pour out his Spirit of Wisdom and Openness on all the Brothers of RELAF in their tireless efforts towards the Unity of the Region.

> Br. Abel SEKONE and Br. Pierre BAKO (District of West Africa) First year Scholastics in Nairobi



Tangaza College known today as Tangaza Consolata University Nairobi, Kenya

Communication in RELAF

To communicate is to share...

In the Strategic Plan for RELAF "TOWARDS THE UNITY OF THE REGION", there are initiatives to enhance communication: having a Newsletter and get to set up a common system of communication between the regional office and the Visitors, not to mention many other measures adopted such as bilingualism etc... Where are we now?

at the last Conference of the Brother Visitors for the French Speaking zone, we noted that communication has improved pretty well between the Regional Office and Districts through the Brother Visitors and the District communication heads. However, with regard to our Newsletter, we have noticed and certainly you, the readers too, that now reaching the fourth issue, some Districts are still missing in our pages. That is to say, no item or information about them in the previous issues. Have they really nothing to share? For the convenience of those who have difficulty, please take as model those short articles that we receive from the District of Lwanga. These are brief but interesting information to share.

Still in the Strategic Plan for RELAF, it is expected that the District and Educational Center publications serve as resources for our Regional Newsletter. Some items reach us through the District periodical publications such as : Newsclip of Lwanga, Douala Flash-Info, SA-LAMA of Antananarivo, Union of Gulf of Benin, La plûme de l'Educateur of CELAF-Institute and websites of Districts and other Regions. Thank you for sharing!

To move forward, apart from articles and information we receive from Communication heads in the Districts, we would like for our RELAF-Newsletter, that other Brothers and Lasallians get involved so as to densify the content and to vary the information . We thank those who sent us their reflections and experiences on the Lasallian Educational Mission and we hope they continue to do so.



In short, communication is vital to the unity of RELAF and to strengthen that unity to which we all aspire, we must always cultivate *a sense of sharing because communicating means sharing, a value basically African.*

Br. Michel Zo TOLOJANAHARY

Initial Formation

First Profession in Inter-African Noviciate, Bobo Dioulasso

God is so good, having created Men," he wants them to come to the knowledge of truth and that they may be saved." By so doing He ives them the means. "So he chooses men and women to help in this work. He laid down his eyes upon his eight children of St. Maximilian Kolbe group, namely: Jerome of West Africa, Rado, Olivier and Joseph of Antananarivo, Clement and Bertrand of Douala, Jean Marie Vianney and John Paul of the Delegation of Rwanda, to be of service to this plan of salvation.



June 14, 2012, these Novices pronounced their First vows at the Interafrican Noviciate Bobo Dioulasso, during a Mass celebrated by Father AMHED Diallo, Religious of St. Vincent de Paul.

Brother Janvier DEMBELE, Visitor for the District of West Africa received their Vows on behalf of the Superior General.



Brs. Michel M., Valère A. and Janvier D. renewing their Vows



The Eight Novices pronoucing their First Vows in The Congregation of De La Salle Brothers

... Celebrating Silver Jubilee

In the same celebration, Br. Janvier DEMBELE Visitor forthe District of West Africa, and two other Brothers of the District of the Gulf of Benin, Michel MESSAN, in Koungoussi community (Burkina Faso), and Valère ADONSOU, Director of Interafrican Novitiate community, renewed their vows on the occasion of their 25 years of Religious Life (June 14, 1987 in Kinshasa - June 14, 2012).

Our three Brothers belong to the Blessed Sister Anuarite group. In the same group were Brother Desire BALTHAZAR of the Delegation of Rwanda; Felix KABATA, Alexis BODO and Firmin THOTO of the District of Congo Kinshasa. They have experienced a life given totally to the Lord, and they would like to say to the eight young Brothers that God is always faithful and that He must be trusted to remain in his love, time and against time.

> Br Jean Palmier, Staff Member Interafrican Noviciate of Bobo Dioulasso

Interafrican Noviciate of Nairobi

7 t the end of April, the two second year novices from Nigeria and Ethiopia concluded successfully a three month immersion experience in Rongai and Nyeri. They returned with very positive evaluation from Schools and Communities. In addition the Novices found the experience enriching and encouraging. During the month of May, the four novices have been busy with the inter-novitiate courses at the Chemchemi Religious Centre. The courses that are offered this time include: Religious Life in the Light of the African Tradition, Prayer and Spirituality, Mariology and

Becoming Peacemakers/ Reconciliation. During the month of February the courses were about Religious Life, Formation of personality and character, the Gospel of Saint John and Christian Ethics.

The Founder's Day Celebration was shared with youngsters of the Kilty Primary School, Nairobi, where the

St. John Baptist De La Salle. Then they learnt a little bit games, sport activities. about the Founder's life and work thanks to a movie.



The Chemichemi Religieous Center Nairobi, Kenya

Novices have been carrying After lunch they discovered a little out their apostolate. The cele- the self-sufficiency projects of the bration started with a Eucha- Novitiate that include cows, rabristic Celebration in honour of bits, geese, ducks, goats, sheep and chickens and the wonderful property that provides ample space for

Noviciate in the Sector of Eritrea: First Vows Celebration

On February 18th, 4 Eritrean Novices celebrated their first profession in the much appreciated presence of Brothers, religious men and women, students, relatives and parents. What a moment of encouragement for the Brothers of the Eritrean Sector! These Novices could not join the Novices from the other Sectors of the Charles Lwanga District of Africa at the international Novitiate in Nairobi due to some obstacles.

De La Salle Centre : International Scholasticate in Nairobi

On April 28th, 4 Kenyan Brother Scholastics obtained the Diploma in Education after having completed successfully their 3 year study program at CTIE (Christ the Teacher Institute for Education). In addition 3 Brother Scholastics from Nigeria, Ethiopia and Kenya obtained the Bachelor Degree in Education after having completed successfully their 4 year study program at CTIE. On May 19th, one Kenyan Scholastic Brother obtained the Diploma in Spirituality after having completed successfully his 2 year studies at Tangaza College. What an encouragement for the Brothers of the Charles Lwanga District of Africa!



Br. Marcos B.

Br. Oscar O.

А few them are following courses at very positively. the Christ the Teacher Institute for Education after having

months ago the successfully finished their Eng-Charles Lwanga District of lish courses at a private English Africa welcomed 2 Brother School in Nairobi. All of them Scholastics from Burkina are very well integrated in the Faso and 3 Brother Scholas- community and study life at the tics from Rwanda to its inter- Scholasticate. Their inspiring national Scholasticate. All of and encouraging presence is felt

> Br. Marc HOFER Charles Lwanga District

Other Info

Educational Formation for the CEEEC



The Episcopal Commission for Education and Catholic Education (CEEEC) through the National Head of Catholic Education in Madagascar organized April last, a Training Formation at the Christian Brothers Center in Soavimbahoaka Antananarivo. Education for Life and Love (EVA), education of citizens, freeing the Malagasy school were the main focus of this formation: proposals for an informal pedagogy and curriculum of Catholic Schools.

Br. Jean de Dieu R.

bout forty six persons, all effectively involved in Education and Teaching from twenty one dioceses throughout the Island, attended the formation.

After two weeks of training and reflection, participants finally learned from a few teaching methods regarding EVA and Education of citizens on one hand, and on the other hand, they gave their critical analyzes and suggestions on their Teaching materials we have submitted. Finally, all participants had also the opportunity to share experiences, challenges and their visions. From the reports of our animators, the participants were able to reflect on some crucial issues in the world of Education in the country and took some important decisions. Indeed, such training and meeting promote solidarity and understandin amongst our Educational actors.



CEEEC Team with the Nuncio of Madagascar



Some pupils of a Catholic School Visited by the CEEEC Team

Some Experts on environmental and ecological issues of the Ministry of National Education (MEN / OEMC (Office of Mass and Civic Education) enhanced this Training as part of continuing Formation.

Having been appointed directly as responsible for this Formation of all Diocesan School Directors and RESPED (Academic Supervisor), having been actively involved in all interventions and group work, I am very optimistic about the future of Educational and Evangelizing Mission in Madagascar, even though our Educators, Teachers and school Managers at the grass roots encounter some difficulties. All these Leaders felt themselves attendants and guides becauser they realise that the future is already here and now, and that everyone should be actively involved in its construction.

> Br. Jean de Dieu RANDRIANASOLO District of Antananarivo June 2012

Other Info

The Regional Team is now in Cocody

It is since October 2011 that the Bon Pasteur Community hosted the present members of the Regional Team. Rehabilitation work being completed in Cocody, the team has moved there since May 6, 2012. For now, we still await Brother Gabriel ONWU from the District of Charles Lwanga whose arrival is scheduled for next September.

South Africa - Pastoral Vocation Ministry Bro Patrick LETSWALO, the only South African Brother in the Institute, and Bro Timothy from Ireland constituted a Formation Team that is involved in Pastoral Vocation Ministry and in the preparation of the opening a Postulancy in Johannesburg. They are accompanying a few candidates from various origins such as South Africa, Democratic Republic of Congo and Nigeria. They have been visiting Parishes, Youth Groups and Schools.

Conferrence of Brother Visitors and Bursars of RELAF

It will be held from 5 to 12 November 2012 in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. All District Bursars of RELAF are invited. In anticipation to this conference, indications on working documents have been sent to them so that they may prepare in advance. The Secretariat for Solidarity and Development is sending a delegation from Rome to faciliatate the session on some topics related to self sufficiency, formation projects, with future plans of Districts ...

From the Sector of Ethiopia – Opening of Saint John Baptist de La Salle School

The Ethiopian Sector has opened a new Lasallian Education Institution that welcomes in particular children with HIV which are cared for in a home run by Missionary Sisters of Charity (Mother Theresa). In this way we give these children the opportunity to study together with other children of their neighbourhood as well as to be better integrated later in today's society. What a wonderful and inspiring apostolate

From the Sector of Nigeria – Cultural Week at La Salle College Naka

In February 2012, a week long display of cultural dances, drama and poetry recitation at La Salle College Naka gave the opportunity to students to express and affirm themselves in so many ways. The students formed for groups which were competing with each other. Representatives of the Parents-Teachers Association and of the Old Students Association were prominently present. They took this opportunity to stir up the students to take up their studies seriously.

In the Father's Glory



.In rememberance of Brother Caesar PAN

St. Teresa made an exaltation of her journey on earth in these terms: "I do not die, I enter into life." Many men and women convinced of their personal experience with Christ, the Lord of life and death, come to say the same admirable aphorism as the virtuous Theresa. Br Cesar PAN, one of us certainly said it too.

On May 2, 2012, it has pleased to the Lord to call his servant PAN. The vigil ceremony of the late Brother was held on May 18, 2012 at St Miguel Scholasticate. Religious Brothers and Sisters of different Congregations, Parishioners, Brothers of Akwaba Children's home, staff, the Vicar of Bon Pasteur Parish, all came to pay their last tribute to Brother PAN. Br. Jose Manuel AGUIRREZABALAGA, a Former Visitor of the District of Spain and representing the Current Visitoe, Mr Servando PAN, an elder brother to Cesar paid tribute to Brother Cesar by their testimony.

Saturday 19th May at Our Lady of Cana Abobo Parish, a Mass of thanksgiving for the life of Br. Cesar PAN took place in the presence of his friends, his loved ones of the Akwaba Children's home. Then he was buried in a tomb dedicated to Religious and Priests at Williamsville Cemetery in Abidjan.

Brother Cesar! We, your Brothers here on earth, we always remain in the trust that you have found grace with the Father and that you contemplate Him already Give us the flame that burned your heart and maintained you to the service of young people until the last breath of your life! R.I.P

> Br. Jean Baptiste KOSSI, Scholastic in St Miguel



Br. Kevin MALINOVSKI 1940-2012

In remembrance of Brother Kevin Malinowski

In May 2012 Brother Kevin Malinowski has passed away to eternal glory. He has been ill for some time and until recently lived at De La Salle Hall in Lincroft, New Jersey. Brother Kevin, who has been a strong and dedicated missionary in the Easter African Region and South Africa returned to the United States, specifically the New York District, at the time, after he was seriously sick. I am sure that Br. Kevin would have preferred to die here in Africa, who spent almost all his missionary life moving from one ministry to another. It is important to remember, that Brother Kevin is one of the first Missionary Brothers who came to the Easter African Region. He started his first missionary work in Dire Dawa, Ethiopia, in 1968.

May God grant him joy and fulfilment in God's Reign where he continues experiencing universal Brotherhood that he cherished so much as a Missionary who was so dedicated to the educational service of youth in Tanzania, Ethiopia, Kenya and South Africa. – R.I.P.

> Br. Marc HOFER Charles Lwanga District

Relaf Newsletter N°04

In remembrance of Brother Yemanu Jehar



Brother Yemanu's Lasallian journey was very much marked by international experiences. The Institute of the De La Salle Brothers send him for studies, apostolic experiences and two CIL Sessions to Italy, as well as for further education to the USA. He also served as Novice Master at the International Novitiate in Nairobi, Kenya, and was elected as General Councillor for RELAF. This wide international experience made fraternal relations with him easy and a joy. He was aware of and empathetic with all kinds of human situations and could express himself in several local and international languages.

His relationships were marked by gentleness and patience. He was always opened to change and believed that positive changes might finally occur with more dialogue and understanding.

Unfortunately, at the end of his rich and inspiring Lasallian jour-

ney, having finished his term as General Councillor, he began to suffer from Alzheimer. In his final years his declining health prevented him from continuing to put his international experiences and all his numerous talents to the service of the Institute, particularly for the benefit of the Eritrean Sector. May God grant him joy and fulfilment in God's Reign where he continues experiencing the full and complete dimension of the human family, especially of the Institute of the De La Salle Brothers. - R.I.P.



In remembrance of Brother Dominic Jordan

At the funeral of Brother Dominic Jordan who died suddenly of a heart attack on February 8th, 2012, in Kenya one of the students of St Mary's College Child Rescue Centre gave an inspiring and touching witness about the impact on his life of this Missionary Brother who was so dedicated to the educational service of the poor.

Edwin WANYONYI is still a beneficiary of St Mary's Child Rescue Centre and expressed how he underwent a lot of problems as street kid sniffing glue, being involved in stealing, undergoing painful days of hunger, restlessness as well as mistreatments from the Police until he joined the educational program on December 12th, 2006. He narrated these events at the funeral as if they were still fresh in his mind. He appreciated very much what St. Mary's juniors program has done to him. He was proud

that he found a place in this world that he could comfortably call his home.

He described Bro. Dominic as a person of humility who never discriminated anyone and who never gave up on anything for the benefice of the poor and destitute. - R.I.P.

Br. Marc HOFER Charles Lwanga District

Br. General Councillor's Schedule

| June 18-27 | Delegation of Rwanda |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| June 27-7 July | Charles Lwanga District |
| July 7-16 | Abidjan |
| July 16-22 | District of West Africa |
| July 22-August 4 | District of Congo Kinshasa |
| August 4-17 | District of West Africa |
| August 17-22 | Douala District |
| August 27-September 28 | General Council in Rome |

Br. Regional Bursar's Schedule (Br. Anatole DIRETENADJI)

| June 12-19 | Charles Lwanga District (Nairobi) |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| June 20-26 | District of Congo Kinshasa |
| June 26-30 | Delegation of Rwanda |
| June 30-July 7 ? | Charles Lawanga District (Nairobi) ? |
| July 8-15 | Charles Lwanga District (Ethiopia) |
| September 3-12 | District of Antananarivo |
| September 17-23 | District of West Africa |
| September 23-29 | District of Gulf of Benin |
| September 29-October 08 | Douala District |

RELAF Visitors and Bursars' Conference

November 5-12, 2012

Abidjan

Adresses lasalle.org

A few months ago, we invited all the Brothers and Lasallians in RELAF to have a lasalle.org email account. Below is the list of new addresses of those who have registered for this initiative.

| Status | Name and Fistname | email@lasalle.org | District | Country | Position |
|---------|------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Brother | Abel SEKONE | luniqueabel@lasalle.org | West Africa | Burkina Faso | Scholastic in DLC |
| Brother | Ade Ologbenla | asesanmi@lasalle.org | Lwanga | Nigeria | Dir of Postulancy |
| Brother | Adega Emmanuel | adega@lasalle.org | Lwanga | Nigeria | Scholastic in DLC |
| Brother | Aimé Sanou Zezouma | azezouma@lasalle.org | West Africa | Burkina Faso | Scholastic in St Miguel |
| Mister | Amanuel Abraham | amanuel@lasalle.org | Lwanga | USA | Professor |
| Brother | An atole Direten adji | adiretenadji@lasalle.org | Douala | Tchad | Econome de la RELAF |
| Brother | Anicet Podah | apodah@lasalle.org | West Africa | Burkina Faso | CELAF Deputy Principal |
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| Brother | Antone Oloo | oloo@lasalle.org | Lwanga | Kenya | Headmaster |
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| Brother | Retta Gezmu | brgezmu@lasalle.org | Lwanga | Ethiopia | Headmaster/Director |
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| Brother | Weldehawariat Haile | weldehaile@lasalle.org | Lwanga | Eritrea | Director IRS |
| and the second sec | | | _ | | |
| Mister | Yonas Urbanos | yonasurbanos@lasalle.org | Lwanga | Ethiopia | Ass. Headmaster |

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Secretariat Bursar General Councillor

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