

Brothers of the Christian Schools

RELAF NEWSLETTER

Nº 10



La  Salle

December 2013



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Editorial

« The great danger in today's world, pervaded as it is by consumerism, is the desolation and anguish born of a complacent yet covetous heart, the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures, and a blunted conscience. Whenever our interior life becomes caught up in its own interests and concerns, there is no longer room for others, no place for the poor. God's voice is no longer heard, the quiet joy of his love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good fades.

This is a very real danger for believers too. Many fall prey to it, and end up resentful, angry and listless. That is no way to live a dignified and fulfilled life; it is not God's will for us, nor is it the life in the Spirit which has its source in the heart of the risen Christ. »

(Apostolic Exhortation EVANGELII GAUDIUM the Holy Father Francis, 24 November 2013, page 3)

This exhortation is the closing of the Synod on the New Evangelization, which just took place in Rome. However, this closing is an invitation to move forward with renewed faith in Christ that overcomes fear. It is just a reminder that the Holy Father assures us despite the complexity of the world today passed over by several contradictory trends: « *The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness.* » With such a light that illuminates our path, there is no more than to move forward by abandoning ourselves into the hands of our Supreme Guide.

By closing the Year of Faith, the Holy Father teaches us that it is not moving on to something else but to learn from our reflection to improve our way of being and doing. The world is full of theories without showing best. The language that is now accessible is that which puts theory into practice. Those who followed the audiences of the Holy Father, who met him while he was traveling or just have read some stories of his life agree that the Pope preaches what he does. There is no contradiction between what he says and what he does, which made him more and more popular even beyond the limits of the Catholic Church.

In this issue of our Newsletter, a large emphasis is put on training/formation. However, without agreement, the different authors of the articles have focused primarily on what they have personally experienced. For those who wanted an editorial line, perhaps it is becoming apparent: that we share more of our various personal experiences to encourage young people to follow us. If we want to show them the way of salvation, show them that we ourselves are there. It is only thus that we remain credible in our mission.

May the coming of Christ the Savior illuminates our choices and especially in our witness of true disciples of the Son of God who comes to save us.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All.

*Brother Gabriel SOME,
General Councillor for RELAF.*

Antananarivo: a house for Aspirants

In the ninth line of action of the 16th District Chapter held in Soavimbahoaka on April 3-5, 2013 and June 28-30, 2013, it is stated that "*The Chapter decided to transfer the home of Blessed Louis Raphael Rafiringa of the Lycée Saint Louis de Gonzague Ambositra to Analabe, candidates without 'baccalauréat' continue to study there.*"

This line of action has already been implemented by the District this academic year 2013-2014. Nine aspirants without 'baccalauréat' are housed in the home and one that already has his 'baccalauréat' is on experience at the Lycée Saint Louis. Apart from his activities in the School, the latter is also studying French at the *Alliance Française* in Ambositra.

Given the significant number of aspirants, we are very grateful to Brother RAMBOA Fulbert, our vocation promoter, and all the Brothers who have financially and positively contributed to the Pastoral Ministry of Vocations in the District. Thanks to their efforts and real life testimonies, the District has received young people who are aspiring freely and voluntarily to our

vocation in religious life. It should be noted that the District has entrusted the direction of said fireplace Brother Fulbert. He is accompanied by the Analabe community and should we mention particularly the active participation and support of Brother Pierre RASON Irénée to the Aspirants.

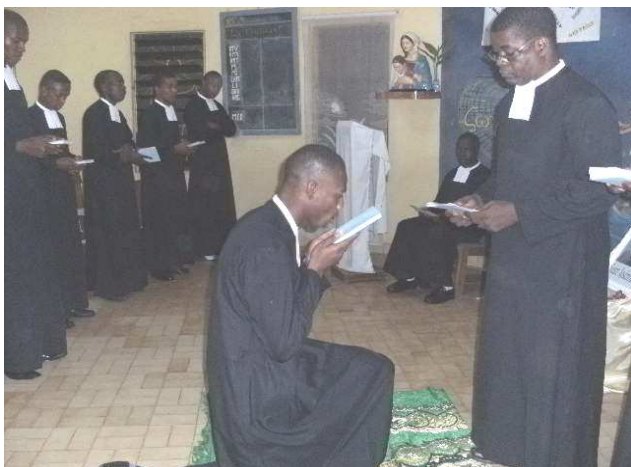
We hope that all our candidates will be successful at their 'baccalauréat' exams. Also, with God's blessings, we wish success to the staff members.

*Brother Jean de Dieu RANDRIANASOLO
District of Antananarivo*



Noviciat: Entry Rite

On November 1, 2013 the rite of entry of a new novices took place at the Novitiate in Bobo-Dioulasso (Burkina Faso), the "*land of honest men*".
Nine candidates made their official entry into the Novitiate.



The celebration took place in the chapel. It was well prepared by the eight novices of Blessed John Paul II group, prayerful and very well animated by all the novitiate community, surrounded by the Brothers of the Provincial House and the Brothers community of Tounouma, other Religious and Lay formators specially invited for the occasion. Everything went under the protection of Saint Josemaria Escriva, whom the new novices of the year 2013-2015 chose as their Patron Saint. Let us remember that this Saint is a Spanish National. He was the founder of Opus Dei Catholic Congregation "Work of God" (2 October 1928) and of the Priestly Society of the Holy Cross (1943).

An eloquent speaker, he was also interested in youth. For him, work is also a way of holiness: he sought to achieve holiness through the apostolate and personal work. He was canonized October 6, 2002 by Pope John Paul II. Under his protection, our new novices can become true son of Saint John Baptist de La Salle for whom the school is both a means for the salvation of youth a place of holiness for Brother and Lay.

Through this entry rite of novices, F. Sylvain Consimbo, the new director of the novitiate, had the great pleasure of inaugurating his new mission. Brother Janvier DEMBELE, Visitor of the District of West Africa, for the nth times received applications from candidates. He admitted and gave them a sign of abandon to Christ: the cross and two other signs of belonging to our Institute: the religious habit and the Rule.

The special touch of this rite at new technologies is the nomination of candidates from slides seriously prepared by one of the staff members and the 2nd year novices. What a creativity! Those who have seen these slides appreciated the use of ICT for such celebration.

There are better! The theme chosen by novices to define their novitiate itinerary "path of contemplation and communion for mission" (ICCM), made this entry rite so particular. This theme was inspired and came from the retreat that candidates have lived from 07 to 13 October, a full week retreat led by the new Director, known in his quality as a wise-Brother and well molded in religious life and the responsibilities he assumed.

This was a serious preparation during which novices chose to put themselves under the banner of the Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit to whom the Christian Brothers did their consecration from the beginning. This is the sign of a good start, rooted in the Lasallian Tradition.

The taking of the habit for the nine novices was also done during this celebration. Novices came to understand more and more. And our parishioners of Our Lady of the Cenacle experience it at all Masses (weekdays as on Sundays).

At the end of the celebration, the new novices were welcomed by fraternal accolades from Brothers. After the celebration, the novitiate community shared a fraternal meal with guests with great joy and happiness.



Novices (First year)
Saint Josemaria Escriva

Let's give voice to some novices of Saint Josemaria Escriva.

ANDRIAAMBELOSOAMANANA Louis Ernest, District d'Antananarivo, 21 year old. *«The entry rite was the greatest day of my life in the novitiate, as it is a once and for all. I was amazed when I took my habit. It had changed me psychologically, spiritually, and especially when I walked. I did not want to remove it before sleeping.»*

NDALUZA Braz Alberto, Sector of Mozambique, 22 years old: *« The entry rite to the novitiate which took place on 1st November marked a big change in my life, because during this ceremony, I received the religious habit of the Brothers of the Christian Schools. It made me feel that I was already consecrated to God.»*

TANWOUNE Namitien Sévérin, District of Golf of Benin, 24 years old.

« On November 1st was a great day, highly remarkable, because I have lived a unique event, once and for all in my life. The entry to the novitiate rite, waited so long, I was immersed in a euphoria that no one could deprive me. I was deeply struck when Brother Visitor Janvier called me Brother Severin and told me: Get this habit and this cross as a sign of total abandonment and belonging to God.»

VUVUKIETO Espoir, District of Congo Kinshasa, 26 years old: *« November 1, 2013 on the feast of All Saints, we made our entry rite. As any young, the question that comes to mind is "what God he called me today? "By accepting the black coat with white Rabat is an answer to the question:" Come and see. "I still remember the response of highly dear Brother Visitor:" If that is your desire, go to meet Him awaits you: the Lord Jesus Christ. "Certainly, the signs given: the habit, the cross and the Rule of the Brothers are only physical signs, symbols of belonging to a religious family. But the emotion which they brought about is stronger than the person I am, they made me aware of my responsibility before God and men. God help me in my journey. »*

NGUELENG NGUELENG Jean Pierre, District of Central Africa, 25 years old: *« November 1st was and remains an unforgettable day in my life. On that day, I felt the call to follow Christ in the poor. I felt the joy, the emotion listening to these words: "Brother ... get this habit and this cross as a sign of total abandonment and belonging to God. "May God accomplish what he started in me. Amen!«*

*Frère Jacques Monchébi
Formateur au Noviciat*

Noviciat: The Meaning of formation (continued...)

Dear readers of RELAF Newsletter, this article you are about to read is the continuation of the reflection by our Dear Brother Valère Adonsou, former Director of the Inter-African Novitiate in Bobo Dioulasso. Note that this article was written when he was still in that position.

[...] The novices were people marked by different experiences and influences, carrying a vision of existence. At the end of their novitiate, their new being must be that of persons who:

- * have been freed enough from their wounds of the past, emotional and psychological barriers, and therefore capable of revitalizing, liberating and harmonious relationship with others;
- * have a fair consideration of themselves by objectively recognizing their strengths and limitations;
- * have the inner freedom to think by themselves, think about values, prioritize them, appropriate and live by them.
- * are highly configured to Christ and whose vision of life is shaped, animated and guided by the Lasallian spirituality;
- * reflect the charisma of the Institute in a personal story.

In conclusion, at the end of the novitiate, the novices shall have worked enough on their representations about God, their persons, the determinants of religious life and the elements of the Brother's life. Only a quality result of this work, to meet the demands and challenges of the Brother's life, may authorize a total gift of their lives to God.

The true nature of the preparation for vows comes basically: a process of transformation of the whole person, and the conversion to a new universe of thought, values, action, that of spirituality and charisma. The definition of formation in Vita consecrata (VC, 68) shows the same elements.

The first religious profession is therefore the act by which the novice demonstrates his commitment to making visible and legible his new being. A new being that is the "**form**" of dedicated Lasallian Brother of the Christian Schools.

*Brother Valère Adonsou
District of Gulf of Benin*



Novice Brothers (1st and 2nd year of formation) - 2013-2014

Togo: University Young Lasallians

On Wednesday, November 13, 2013, the Young Lasallian Movement of Lomé University "JL-UL" decided to relaunch their activities for the 2013-2014 academic year.



The Provincial House of Lomé was the setting for the launch activities. Thus, this first meeting served as a review passage for the members of the Movement.

It was therefore to check the consistency, the dynamism of the Group. To see the need to revive the movement for this year. For this first meeting, 16 young lasallians were present, 04 were excused and 02 others were not yet back from their vacation. This is a good start for the future. It should be noted that the YL group welcomed four new graduates from high School.

In general the young people expressed their desire to continue with the movement and create space for more dynamism. Ideas were expressed to this effect.

Overall, the Young Lasallians expressed their desire to continue with the movement and create space for more dynamism. Ideas were expressed to this effect.

Br.Visitor on his part congratulated them, and encouraging them to work so that the movement may not be turned off over time.

This is why Brother Visitor brought up the idea of movement which brings us to progress and continuity. He urged the Young Lasallians that it is by being already immersed in Lassallian values and adequate sharing experience during meetings, exchange and discussion, that you will be able to represent the District in an international gathering. On their part, the Young Lasallians wished to be more accompanied by the Brothers.

Brother Francis GOZE has been mandated by the community to accompany the movement for this year. He will be assisted by the other Brothers of the community.

*Brother Francis Goze
District of Golfe du Bénin*

Ouagadougou: Training session

From November 17 to 23, 2013, a training session for persons in charge of accompanying vocation was held at the Jesuit center Paam Yoodo, in Ouagadougou. Brother Raoul Téfio Traore took part. It was attended by fifty participants including eleven religious and thirty nine nuns from various institutes and nationalities.



Br. Raoul Téfio TRAORE

Among them were several former students of Lasallian institutions. Topics covered during the training centered on the person who are accompanying vocations.

From this session, we may note that:

First, *the spiritual dimension of the life of the accompanying persons* developed by the Jesuit Father Jacques Ouedraogo. It allowed us to understand that these persons must have faith in God and in man able to grow and integrate into their own faith the dimension of the cross to allow young people to walk more confidently with the crucified Christ when the storm comes. Because very often we do not want to follow Jesus to the cross, preferring a messiah without suffering. It is therefore like the disciples of Emmaus that we have to move from triumphant messiah to a crucified Messiah.

Then, *the impact of mass media and ICT on the accompanying persons*, led by Mr. Alfred Tanguy DAH. He addressed the importance of the means of communication and the limited use we make of them by mistrust or ignorance. We were invited to invest the world by the media to give him healthy food.

This openness to the world of communication will also allow us to know what feeds the young people who come to us to help them better since they often do not have the resources to analyze very often oriented information. However, caution and vigilance have been recommended to prevent abuse.

Then *the African traditions and beliefs and their influence on the accompanying persons* which consisted of an anthropological study presented by Father Jacques Ouedraogo (sj). This study allowed us to understand the African conception of life and the universe. Indeed, to live for an African is to live vigorously without pain or sudden death. But the universe is created by a distant and indifferent God who abandons his creatures in an unstable and troubled world, governed by hostile forces. So there are people who can use evil spirits (powers, forces) against a person, or to use positive forces to improve his own life. In this context influences and various threats, the social bond becomes so vital that get cut from it can result in huge trouble. Understand the cultural background of young people is important to lead them to admit the difficulties in their lives without recourse to magic, divination, and other vendors maraboutage hope.



Participants at the trainin session of Accompanying persons.

And *the psychological dimension of the life of the accompanying persons* made us explore the multidimensionality of the human being, the importance of a just self-esteem, the need for good communication and good attitudes for successful accompaniment.

This theme was developed by Madame Gilberte ILBOUDO, former teacher at the De La Salle School (Ouagadougou).

Finally, *the relation between the accompanying persons and the local Church* has identified the causes of conflicts and tensions that often characterize this relationship. But the consciousness that we are working in the same field and only the Lord made these tensions disappear. It is the fraternity that will kill our rivalries, our devaluing discourses, our disrespect for others. Ensuring mutual understanding and nurture relationships improve this relation. Bishop Leopold Ouedraogo took us through this delicate subject.

In sum, we have been enriched by the content of the group work which were intended to

sharing experiences, films about Nelson Mandela, Mahatma Gandhi and Yaaba helped deepen the themes studied. In addition, all meals, services rendered, prayers in common, small time for informal talks helped to socialize and get to know the charismas. Glory be to the the Father who calls, consecrates and sends accompanying persons to plant and maintain in the hearts of young people the desire to serve.

Thank you to the organizers and to my community Kongoussi which allowed me to participate in this session despite constraints. God bless the sowing of this session.

Brother Téfio Raoul TRAORE
District of West Africa



Rwanda: Annual Retreat

The retreat took place from December 1 to 6 2013. At the end of the year dedicated to Faith and the beginning of the pastoral year, the Brothers chose to meditate on the theme "*Rooted in faith in Jesus Christ for a better apostolate.*"



Brothers of Rwanda Delegation with the retreat preacher.

As it is customary, the Brothers of the Delegation of Rwanda gathered for an annual retreat Kisaro. With the animation Bishop Kizito BAHUJIMIHIGO to be rooted in faith, we must first ask the question: "*what constitutes my faith?*"

This faith which causes jealousy in our invisible enemy also invites us to answer the question of Jesus: "For you who I am?" If we recognize who Jesus is who our faith is based, we avoid the idols of this world which are HAVE, KNOWLEDGE and POWER. For a better apostolate, maintaining spiritual health is important.

This involves a recognition of my state to be able out. How to get out of my sinfulness? Various sacraments such as reconciliation and the eucharist are required. For consecrated like Christian Brothers, we have the chance to recognize the power of prayer and have a special devotion to the Virgin Mary. This is the Mother of Christians who support us in our faith and help us to do our apostolate.

The retreat ended with the renewal of vows of our three Brothers: Emmanuel Muhayimana, Ernest TUGANEYEZU and Jean Paul Ruberanziza.

As an evaluation of 2013 which draws to a close and to welcome 2014, the Brothers organised a "*day of the Delegation.*" We took the opportunity to exchange information and ideas on projects in our different works.

To all the Brothers of the Christian Schools and the great Lasallian family, we, the Brothers of the delegation of Rwanda, you want to be rooted in faith in Jesus Christ for a better apostolate. Merry Christmas 2013 and the Best Card for 2014.

*Brother Ferdinand BIZIYAREMYE
Delegation of Rwanda*



Br. Jean Paul, Br. Emmanuel, Br. Maurice and Br. Ernest.

Lwanga: some echoes

A more unified draft of the Guide for Formation:

On the occasion of the 2nd yearly Meeting of the District Formation Commission that was held at the beginning of October 2013 a more unified draft of the Guide for Formation of the Charles Lwanga District of Africa was read, amended and approved. This Guide includes the Guidelines for all the stages of the initial formation of the De La Salle Brothers, the approved District Formation and Development Policies as well as the Job Description of the District Formation Coordinator. Bro Joseph Felix, the newly appointed Formation Secretary of the Institute who participated in the 2-day District Formation Commission Meeting commended very much this insightful, inspiring and integral Guide for Formation.

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CIL—Rome:

Brother Tsegay Worku, the newly appointed Sector Coordinator of Ethiopia, Brother Daniel Carlin, Irish missionary in Ethiopia, and Brother Damian Ikor, Sector Coordinator of Nigeria, are participating in the 5-week CIL-Session with its focus on Pastoral Vocation Ministry in today's

world. One of the participants wrote us that for him the ongoing CIL is as well a time of renewal, purification and transformation as a De La Salle Brother.

New Postulants:

We are grateful to all the Vocation Promoters who carried out their Pastoral Vocation Ministry in line with the Guide for Formation of the District. It bore wonderful fruits with God's grace and the fraternal support of Brothers of good will. It is our joy to announce that we have been able to welcome promising Candidates to our various Sector Postulancy Programmes: in Kenya (3), in Nigeria (5), in Eritrea (4), in South-Africa (0 because the vibrant Formation Community has not yet been opened in Johannesburg for a few candidates willing to join the De La Salle Brothers) and in Ethiopia (new intake will be in September 2014). The Sector Coordinators and their Councils guaranteed that all the Candidates fulfilled the requirements of admission to the Postulancy.



Act of Compassion and Solidarity:

Mindful of the fact that interior spiritual deepening precedes compassion and good works the Novices in Nairobi recently executed a House Project. They had saved money for it in the months of March and April (Lenten Campaign). The Novices celebrated the positive outcome of the planned project with a barbeque.



Br. Antone Oloo

Delegate appointed to the General Chapter:

We congratulate Bro Anton Oloo, Sector Coordinator of Kenya, who recently participated in the International Assembly of Young Brothers in the Philippines on his appointment as a participant in the next General Chapter by the Brother Superior General and his Council. He is one of those who will represent the Young Brothers of the Institute at this major event that will mainly read, amend and approve the revised Rule of the Institute of the De La Salle Brothers.

Nigeria: Renovation work undertaken:

On January 2nd 2013, one of the blocks in the Girls Hostel was reduced to ashes by some village children looking for “bush rats”. Our dream of rebuilding the burnt Girls Dormitory and of renovating one of the classroom Blocks became a reality thanks to the generosity from our Twinning Schools in the USA.



Ethiopia: Final Vows

On December 14th, 2013, we had the joy to celebrate the final vows of Brother Sheferaw Mekonen and Brother Taye Woldeesenbet in Nazareth, Ethiopia. We congratulate them wholeheartedly for their inspiring fidelity to God’s call and for their willingness to continue serving and promoting the Lasallian Educational Mission as generous and fully dedicated De La Salle Brothers.

This celebration could be considered as one of the signs that the perseverance in the Charles Lwanga District of Africa has improved thanks to God’s grace, to the fraternal support of so many Brothers and Lay Colleagues and to the better implementation of the Guide for Formation, especially regarding the Pastoral Vocation Ministry and the various stages of the initial Formation that includes as well the apostolic formation communities where young Brothers are welcomed and encouraged to carry out their first assignments as qualified and trained educators.

Antananarivo: Infocentre De La Salle

A solemn ceremony to welcome the new academic year and to celebrate Graduation of students « NI-AVO » of InfoCentre De La Salle took place on Friday, November 29, 2013, at "PIC VERT" Space - Ambatobe.



Clet El Tonatie R.

Were present at the ceremony, Christian Brothers from different Communities in Antananarivo headed by Brother Visitor, Provincial Superior of the Brothers of the Christian Schools of the District of Antananarivo.

We do not neglect the active presence of the winners of the day, the twentieth year group NI-AVO with their respective parents and other Lasallians.

The 20th year group NI-AVO is composed of 66 students of outstanding maturity and seriousness. Other students of INFOCENTRE DE LA SALLE, Soavimbahoaka performed a choreographic dance during the singing of Gloria "VONINAHITRA", "glory to God." It was beautiful.

Concerning this famous year group, students chose the name "NI-AVO" which meant "CLARITY - INTELLIGENCE - AUDACITY - VALUE - ORGANIZATION."

For the occasion, they wore a very distinctive and classy outfits: blue—white with their hairdressing



La 20ème Promotion "NI-AVO" - Infocentre De La Salle

that was with great intellectual nobility. It is an inspiration from the colors of the Lasallian flag all over the world since 1680. It was extraordinary.

All students took an active part in the liturgy, choir, "rakitra" "offertory" liturgical dancers, and other speakers for the occasion "kabary LASALLIAN."

At the thanksgiving, a whole dance all students allowed us to taste the folkloric knowledge of these young and friendly intellectuals .

The Holy Mass on the same courtyard of PIC VERT Space ended around 9:45. We prayed well together while remembering Saint John Baptist de La Salle, especially when singing the Hymn "Honneur à Toi"

The Official Ceremony began with the intonation of the National Anthem: "O RY TANINDRAZANAY MALALA! ". Then, the various speeches appear.

First, the representative, followed by the delegate of the parents of the group 'NI-AVO' students. Br.Visitor then spoke on behalf of the Brothers of the District and the entire Lasallian Family. He then passed to the Director of the Infocentre De La Salle a certificate of congratulations: "Ecclesia Prodeo" from His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI (Emeritus Pope): The Director is very excited shed a few drops of tears of joy.

The classification of these students ranged from "VERY GOOD" and « GOOD». A 'family meal' was offered to end the day in a very a good and harmonious way.

*RAMISIARIMIADANA Clet El Tonatie
Postulant, District of Antananarivo*

Burkina Faso: An award to Br. Somda Innocent

On December 11, 2013, the 53rd anniversary of the Independence Day of Burkina Faso, Brother Innocent SOMDA, Director of La Salle College was awarded « *Chevalier de l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques.* »



Brother Innocent Somda

The award follows the excellent results achieved in recent years by the De La Salle College. The state wanted to recognize, through this distinction given to Brother Director, the contribution of La Salle College in the training and education of citizens of Burkina Faso. Indeed, since its inception, the College is renowned for the quality of education that is provided and outstanding academic achievement. It promotes a holistic education: human, intellectual and religious.

Since the appointment of Brother Innocent SOMDA to the direction of the School in August 2010, the results of national exams (BEPC and BAC C and D) have typically averaged 100%. This is a sign of the good collaboration within the educational team and among all partners. It is therefore all the staff members that feel honored by the official recognition of their efforts through the first responsible of the School. [...]

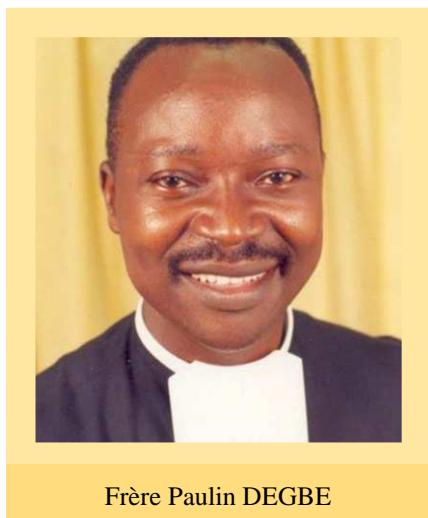
On the occasion (December 11) it was in the presence of his colleagues, students and parents who do not want to be told the event that Brother Innocent received his award at the *Place de la Nation*. After the ceremony, the community welcomed parents, friends, parents, staff representatives, students ...who came to congratulate Br. Innocent. Some did not come empty handed. It was an opportunity to realize how Lasallian are attentive to the life of their school and proud of such a recognition of good work.



Any award is a recognition of good efforts but also a challenge to maintain focus or even do better. And we believe that the Director, staff members and all partners are aware of this challenge to ever more address the educational needs of young people in their care. We hope that the award do not just remain as a reward. Therefore, let us redouble our efforts to ensure that the School continues to hold high the torch of education. Congratulations to Brother Innocent! All partners of the School (staff, students, parents, alumni and friends ...) were all invited to a ceremony on Thursday, December 19, 2013 at 18h 30 at the De La Salle School.

*Brother Venance KIENOU
District of West Africa*

Brief Info



Brother Álvaro Rodríguez, Superior General has appointed our Brother Paulin Degbe as new Visitor of the District of the Gulf of Benin. His appointment is effective from December 30, 2013. We thank him for his willingness in accepting this mission. Let us welcome with joy and faith his appointment. Let us already pray for Brother Paulin so that the service that we ask of him for the District is lived generously. We are all called to collaborate with him in the implementation of the Strategic Plan which will be reviewed and approved during our District Chapter that will be held in Togoville.

*Frère Jose Manuel SAURAS
Outgoing Visitor of Golf of Benin District*

EVANGELII GAUDIUM

The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ joy is constantly born anew. [...] (1)

APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION
OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS

http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20131124_evangelii-gaudium_fr.html

PASTORAL LETTER TO THE BROTHERS

*Consacrated by God the Trinity,
As a community of Brothers
Called to be witness of God's Love*

Brother Álvaro Rodríguez Echeverría, FSC
Superior General
December 25, 2013

http://www.lasalle.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/CPast2013_fra.pdf



Calendars

Brother General Councillor (Brother Gabriel SOME)

November 30 – December 10	District du Golfe du Bénin
December 10 – 18	Congo Brazzaville
December 18 – 30	District du Golfe du Bénin
December 30 — January 2014	Bureau Régional (Abidjan)
February 2014	General Council —Rome

Regional Bursar (Brother Anatole DIRETENADJI)

December 11—24	District du Congo Kinshasa
December 25—	Bureau Régional (Abidjan)

Other dates to remember

December 23—28	District Chapter in Golf of Benin
February 9—14	3rd International Symposium of YL

