



RELAF NEWSLETTER N°50

Brothers of the Christian Schools



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Editorial

Lasallians,

As we begin this new year, reflecting on our commitments and achievements in our Lasallian educational and spiritual mission is essential. The articles in this 50th issue of our newsletter highlight many important initiatives demonstrating our commitment to serving communities that are often vulnerable and in need.

Our actions, whether providing access to healthcare through programmes such as **Equity Afya**, or supplying learning materials through **Librairie ABL**, are a good example of our commitment to holistic education. We have been privileged to witness how these efforts have not only improved the lives of some families but have also strengthened the social fabric of their communities.

The Assembly of the Brothers of the District of Madagascar also showed a spirit of renewal, reaffirming the importance of unity and cooperation among the members of the District. In a world where individualism and selfishness threaten our fundamental values, it is imperative to cultivate a spirit of solidarity and sharing, which is the true essence of our Lasallian mission.

We also need to be aware of the challenges, particularly of sustainability in our Institutions and projects. Recent discussions at the Visitors' Conference have called for bold strategies and a long-term vision to ensure that our Lasallian educational legacy can endure.



Together, let us continue to promote the Lasallian spirit, sing hymns of love and strengthen our commitment to ethical and responsible education.

May 2025 be a year of renewed opportunities and positive impact in our lives and those of others.

Brother Anatole DIRETENADJI, General Councillor

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CANONICAL VISIT OF THE BROTHER SUPERIOR GENERAL TO CHAD

From 5 to 10 January 2025, Brother Armin began his first canonical visit of the year, starting in RELAF, more precisely in Chad, the District of Central Africa. He was warmly welcomed by the community in N'Djamena, it was in Kélo, a small town 400 km from the capital, that the visit took off. In Kélo, the welcome was particularly warm, from pupils, teachers and Brothers, who all formed a guard of honour from the school entrance to the Brothers' community.

The visit was meticulously organised, including fraternal and community meetings between the Brothers, as well as a meeting with the Kélo MEL Team and a valuable exchange with young Lasallians. The high point of the visit was the Eucharistic celebration of thanksgiving, officiated by the Bishop of Lai, to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Lycée Saint-Joseph de Kélo. The ceremony was attended by a large number of pupils and their parents, with the notable presence of the Governor of Tangilé Province, accompanied by his staff, as well as the law enforcement officers.

Brother Superior took advantage of the significant moment to address a message to the educational community of Kélo. In his speech, he underlined the valuable contributions of the two Lasallian institutions in

the formation and education of children and young people in Chad. Despite the challenges posed by difficult living conditions, the Lasallian educational mission represents a real hope and a living force. The cooperation between families from different religious traditions and the commitment of the teachers have been particularly valued, creating a sacred educational environment where the values of sharing and evangelisation can flourish, offering a safe space for young people.

Back in N'Djamena, the visit continued to the 'Centre Technique d'Apprentissage et de perfectionnement de La Salle', where Brother Superior General attended the flag-raising ceremony, before offering some sound advice to the students. Afterwards, there was a meeting with the brothers and their colleagues, providing an opportunity to encourage them in their work, which is often hard because of the harsh climate.

The visit ended on 10 January with a working and courtesy visit to the Archbishop of N'Djamena. Despite an unfortunate incident at the Presidency of the Republic of Chad, the visit proceeded smoothly right up to its end. Brother Anatole DIRETENADJI, General Councillor, and Brother Emmanuel MBOUA, Visitor of the DAC, accompanied the Brother Superior General throughout the visit.

Brother Anatole DIRETENADJI,
From Ndjamena

CONFERENCE OF THE BROTHER VISITORS - BOBO-DIOULASSO,

18-22 NOVEMBER 2024

The Conference of Brother Visitors was held in Bobo-Dioulasso, it dealt with essential subjects concerning formation, financial management and projects of the common houses of RELAF. Here are the main points discussed:

Formation: The formation of Brothers and lay people is considered to be a fundamental priority to ensure the continuity of the educational mission. A Lasallian formation plan has been adopted.

Financial management: The conference stressed the importance of transparent and responsible financial management. Promoting the financial autonomy of the structures aims to reduce their dependence on external funding, which is also a question of dignity.

Projects and initiatives: Several projects were validated, in particular those relating to formation centres. The Districts also presented "Leavening" initiatives aimed at community development and empowerment, such as access to education for Pygmies in Cameroon and support for street children, with the Intiganda Centre in Rwanda and the Akwaba Centre in Côte d'Ivoire.

New entities: The creation of the Conseil Régional de l'Association pour la Mission Éducative Lasallienne (CRAMEL) was approved, as was the wish to transform a committee into the 'Commission Régionale des Formations Initiales et Continues' (CRFIC).

Houses and common institutions: The accounts and budgets of RELAF and the various institutions (CELAF, Saint Miguel Scholasticate, Interafrican Novitiate) were validated. Extension projects were discussed and the list of formators for the coming year was reviewed.

Other topics: The Districts have signed up to the "One Lasalle" initiative. It was also recalled that the year 2025 has been designated as the Year of Lasallian Spirituality by the Institute, and that the Brothers' communities must take this into account.

This conference provided an opportunity to strengthen cooperation between the Districts and to explore together the best ways of effectively supporting the Lasallian educational mission in Africa.

Brother Urbain François ANDRINIRINA, Regional Secretary

2024 ASSEMBLY: A NEW START FOR THE DISTRICT OF MADAGASCAR

The Assembly of the Brothers of the District of Madagascar, which was held on 3 and 4 August 2024 at the Saint-Joseph community in Analabe-Ambositra, was a high point for prayer, reflection and sharing. Chaired by Brother Julien Ratsimbazafy, the District Visitor, the meeting highlighted the strengths, opportunities and concerns of the District, while looking ahead to a promising future. It reaffirmed the vitality of the Brothers and their commitment to their educational and spiritual mission, according to Lasallian values.

However, the District, with its 158 years of history, has to contend with ageing infrastructures requiring gradual renovation. Despite these challenges, the District has great potential to develop. The Assembly underlined the human and spiritual richness of the District, in particular the encouraging presence of young Brothers in the houses of formation. These new members, who come from a variety of backgrounds, bring renewed energy and enrich the communities.

In the field of education, Lasallian schools continue to enjoy a solid reputation thanks to the excellent results and the integral approach to education. The importance of the Lasallian charism and educational values have been highlighted as sources of inspiration for students and the whole Lasallian family. Efforts to strengthen collaboration with lay and ecclesial partners was also appreciated.

One of the key points discussed was the development of income-generating projects to ensure the financial sustainability of the District. The Assembly encouraged a long-term vision and bold strategies, making it possible not only to support existing institutions, but also to initiate new projects in the service of education and evangelisation. The spirit of solidarity between communities is also seen as an essential strength for overcoming obstacles.

Spiritually, the Assembly encouraged the Brothers to strengthen their life of prayer and fraternity, placing Christ at the heart of their commitment. Initiatives such as structured retreats and community meetings were proposed as effective ways of promoting communion and a sense of belonging to the District.

In conclusion, the Assembly 2024 was a time of grace and renewal. It revealed the richness of the District of Madagascar and outlined promising paths for the future. United in faith and animated by Lasallian values, the Brothers are committed with determination to their educational and evangelical mission, aspiring to a lasting and transformative impact.



Brother Urbain Francois ANDRINIRINA, Regional Secretary

ASSOCIATION OF LASALLIAN WOMEN IN MADAGASCAR, ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL COMMITTEES

From 22 to 25 August 2024, the Association of Lasallian Women in Madagascar held its Assembly in Soavimbahoaka, Antananarivo. This meeting brought together around thirty women from the schools of the Brothers and Guadeloupe Sisters, each represented by her local committee, hence the name "Assembly of Local Committees".

It was a time of love and sharing, allowing the participants to get to know each other, support and advise each other while drawing up a work plan with the main objective of "Being identical and

working together". The participants arrived on the evening of Thursday 22 August, scheduled to rest after a long journey.

On Friday 23 August, the day began with Mass at the Shrine of Blessed Brother Raphaël Louis Rafiringa. Father Augustin expressed his pride in seeing Lasallian women come together, encouraging them to strengthen love, the foundation of fraternity. The first conference on "Lasallian Formation" was presented by Mrs Sylvie Raherinanatenana, representative of Madagascar at CIL 2019 in Rome. The afternoon was devoted to a reflection presented by Sylviane Randrianarisoa, President of the Association, on "The Life of Lasallian Women in the World Today", taken from CIL 2023.

The following day, the Guadeloupe sisters, Sr. Noashy and Sr. Juliette, led a reflection on "The Dignity of Malagasy Lasallian Women", addressing their role in the Church, society and their daily lives. This discussion led each woman to question her dignity as Lasallian woman. The President highlighted some fundamental points about Lasallian DNA, affirming the Assembly's objective: "To be the same and to work together".

The afternoon was devoted to an "Open Discussion" on the future of the association, allowing each participant to share their ideas and suggestions for the activities to be undertaken. In the evening, after dinner in the presence of the Brother Visitor, a cultural event allowed each school to present an artistic scene illustrating the specific characteristics of their region.

The Brother Visitor expressed his gratitude to the Association, hoping for its participation in District projects. The meeting was marked by enthusiasm and pride in belonging to the Lasallian family. The members of the local committees undertook to share the fruits of this assembly with all the Lasallian women in their community.

"I am, you are, we are Lasallians! We are proud to be Lasallian Women of Madagascar!"



RANDRIANARISOA VOLATIANA SYLVIANE
President of the Association of Lasallian Women of Madagascar.

ANNUAL RETREAT OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS OF THE CENTRAL AFRICA DISTRICT

"To fulfil your ministry well, it would not be enough to carry out your duties about children, conforming yourselves only to Jesus Christ in his conduct and the conversion of souls, if you did not also enter into his views and intentions". (Meditation 196). To imitate the gaze of Christ, the Brothers of the Christian Schools of the District of Central Africa gathered on the hill of the Marian Community Oasis of Peace, in Mbalmayo, for their annual retreat. It took place from 04 to 10 August 2024. The theme that guided their reflections was "Lasallian DNA. Where is your focus?"

For five days, in an atmosphere of silence and meditation, the Brothers reflected on their spiritual DNA in ten talks led by Brother Jacques D'HUITEAU of the District of France. It emerged that the Lasallian DNA is a particular way of living out the mission of faith in Jesus Christ, which gives it its particular colouring.

What is more, in terms of organisation, each participant was actively involved in carrying out the various tasks proposed.



This retreat was marked by the renewal of vows by a young Brother. It was a joyful moment, marked by the warmth that fraternity generates. We can say with the psalmist that *"it is good, it is sweet for brothers to live together and be united"* (Ps 132).

Brother Delence NGUELE,
District of Central Africa.

KENYA YOUNG LASALLIANS

The theme "***One La Salle, our pilgrimage towards peace***" was chosen by the youth commission of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools for the International Lasallian Days of Peace, which takes place every year from 21 September to 21 October. The young Lasallians of Kenya, particularly those from Nairobi, were strongly committed to this initiative, demonstrating their attachment to the congregation.

On Saturday 19 September 2024, they celebrated the closing of these days with a Mass of thanksgiving presided over by Father Julius, to pray for peace in the world. This event also enabled the young people to strengthen their faith in Christ, the Prince of Peace. The Eucharist prepared them to reflect in depth on the theme of the peace pilgrimage.

Brother Paulo Petry, Director of the Scholasticate, spoke to the young people on this important subject, sharing his experiences and highlighting the world's expectations of today's young people, at a time when many political and humanitarian crises are affecting peace.



He focused his teachings on the Holy Scriptures and encouraged personal prayer and meditation to foster peace. After an hour of sharing, he proposed several questions to encourage the young people to discuss in groups, to better understand the theme. This led to insights into the causes of conflict and the promotion of values such as love and service.

During the sharing session on September 19, 2024, participants identified the main causes of global conflicts, such as misunderstanding, selfishness, and political instability, while proposing solutions focused on collaboration, love, and service to promote peace and spiritual growth. The session concluded with the song "One Love, One Heart" by Bob Marley and the planting of a fruit tree as a symbol of their reflection on the theme "One La Salle, our peace pilgrimage."

Frère Dieu Merci NLANDU, De La Salle Centre- Nairobi - Kenya

CHARITY EVENT 2024. SATURDAY 19 OCTOBER 2024 IN SHAURI YAKO, CITY OF HOMABAY



"Celebration of the International Lasallian Days for Peace while touching the lives of the least fortunate families in society".

In line with the mission of our founder St. John Baptist De La Salle, this event highlighted the importance of service to others. La Salle Homabay School hosted a successful charity event on Saturday, October 19, 2024. This event was held at the Shauri Yako in Homabay Town, and it demonstrated the commitment of our educational community to support the disadvantaged and nurture the values of love, care, and compassion towards our students.

The event was a collaborative effort, bringing together our dedicated staff, learners and parents, all working hand in hand to make a significant impact on the lives of people from 80 families in the Shauri Yako community. Donations included essential household items such as food, clothing and educational materials for children, all aimed at improving the lives of those in need.

We were privileged to have key people who contributed to the success of this event. These partners included: Homabay County Partnerships and Management Relations: who provided logistical support and helped facilitate the coordination of the event with the local authorities.

Equity Afya: Providing free medical care and health consultations to members of the community, ensuring that they not only received material support but also had access to essential health services.

Catag: Helping to identify and mobilise needy and vulnerable families who needed help, as well as organising the venue

ABL Bookshop: Donation of learning materials for children, reinforcing the importance of education in the community.

At La Salle Homabay, we believe in a holistic education that extends to academic excellence. This charity event was an important opportunity to instil the virtues of love, care and empathy in our learners. By actively participating in the event, our learners were able to see for themselves the impact of giving and supporting those less fortunate, thereby embracing your founder's core values.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to all the partners, parents, learners and staff who contributed to the success of this event. This service has not only helped to improve the lives of over 80 families but has also strengthened La Salle Homabay's sense of community. We remain committed to our mission of holistic education and look forward to further initiatives that will enable our learners to become compassionate and responsible citizens.

Brother Antoine OLOO, District of Saint Charles Lwanga

DE LA SALLE HOLY CROSS COLLEGE - JOHANNESBURG SOUTH AFRICA

De La Salle Holy Cross College is a dual-charismatic school in Victory Park, Johannesburg, catering for 1,100 students from RR to Matric. The school embodies the principles of the Brothers of the Christian Schools and the Teaching Sisters of the Holy Cross, providing a comprehensive educational environment that nurtures, welcomes and accepts everyone.

Guided by the Lasallian Fundamental Principles, we emphasise Faith in the Presence of God, while integrating the call to be a transforming presence in the world. These values are reflected in our educational programme, our extra-curricular activities and our daily lives.

The College cultivates a strong sense of community, involving staff, parish, parents and alumni in activities ranging from fundraising to sporting and liturgical events. The presence of former students among the parents reinforces the family atmosphere and traditions of the school.

To preserve our religious character, the Ethics Committee ensures that religious education is at the heart of our mission. As St La Salle wished, we aspire for each student to leave knowing that they are created in the image of God, while nurturing their spiritual development.

This year, the 'Leavening Project' was introduced, involving reflections and retreats where students were invited to "Be bread for others". This project has encouraged greater involvement of students, parents and alumni in awareness-raising initiatives.

Lasallian Youth is part of our weekly timetable, offering students the opportunity to participate in meetings, praise and outreach. We remind them that they are part of a worldwide Lasallian Family, claiming that they are "One in a Million".

Sport is very important in South Africa, and every student is encouraged to take part in at least one sport per term. They have the opportunity to choose from a wide range of disciplines, from basketball and rugby to swimming and athletics. Pupils can take part at different levels, from amateur to competitive.



For those who prefer cultural activities, the College offers a rich variety, including music classes with drums and marimbas. The drama department has produced many shows, and our students excel in debates and public speaking competitions, as well as developing their strategic chess skills.

In short, De La Salle Holy Cross College is a joyful place where, in the words of St La Salle, children "enter to learn, and leave to serve".

Marie HYAM, Director of Religious Education and Training, November 2024.



PERPETUAL VOWS OF THREE BROTHERS IN MADAGASCAR

On 1 November 2024, three Brothers of the Christian Schools-Brothers Jean Solo Razanakoto, Julien Emile Rafenomanana and Modeste Léonce Tsilavindrany-took their final vows, marking a major step in their religious journey. After years of dedication following their first profession, they have decided to definitively confirm their commitment to the Congregation of the Brothers of the Christian Schools.

Their preparatory retreat took place from 3 to 23 August 2024 at Analabe Ambositra, under the guidance of Brothers Mamy Olivier Rabarone, Julien Ratsimbazafy and Fulbert Ralaimboa. This time of spiritual reflection was essential in consolidating their decision.

The day before the ceremony, on 31 October, the three brothers shared their life stories with their families and the Christian community. They recounted their call to join the congregation and the path that led them to this definitive commitment. These emotional moments were punctuated by evangelical songs, prayers and Biblical commentaries led by Brother Fulbert. The evening ended with the blessing of the families, a symbol of support for this important decision.

Mass began at 9 am on 1 November in the chapel of Saint Jean-Baptiste De La Salle. It was presided over by Father Lucien Rafiononantsoa, Episcopal Vicar of the Diocese of Antananarivo, due to the unavailability of the Bishop. Priests, Brothers, Sisters and families were present to mark the occasion.

During the homily, the preacher meditated on the biblical passages chosen by the brothers:

- Brother Jean Solo: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for He has anointed me to bring good news to the poor" (Isaiah 61, 1) - Brother Julien Emile: "Lord, you know all things". (John 21, 17)

- Brother Léonce: "It is by the grace of God that I am what I am". (1 Corinthians 15, 10)
- Together: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5, 3)

After the Litany of the Saints, the Brothers pronounced their perpetual vows and signed the official registers. The Mass, enriched by liturgical dances, was led by the postulants and choirs. Brother Félicien Bora, Postulator and Procurator General of the Institute was present, adding a solemn touch to the event.



After the ceremony, a fraternal meal brought together more than 300 guests in a large hall. The festivities were enlivened by performances by postulants, students from Lasallian schools and members of the Blessed Raphael Louis Rafiringa choir. The festive atmosphere lasted until nightfall.

The day of 1 November 2024 will remain engraved in the history of Brothers Jean Solo, Julien Emile and Léonce. By making a definitive commitment to the Congregation of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, they have shown their fidelity to the Lasallian vocation. May their lives be filled with grace and may they continue their mission inspired by Saint John Baptist de La Salle.

Brother Claude Aimé RANDRIANANDRASANA, Madagascar District Secretary

First face-to-face meeting of the Standing Committee of the Young Brothers in Madagascar

The Young Brothers Standing Committee held its first face-to-face meeting from 23 to 28 November 2024 in Madagascar. Six members from five Regions were present.

- Brother Chris Patino (member of the San Francisco New Orleans District (SFNO) of the Lasallian Region of North America (**RELAN**) - General Councillor
- Brother Miguel Marcos, from the Lasallian Region of Europe-Mediterranean (**RELEM**)
- Brother Arockiasamy Antonysamy, from the Asia-Pacific Regional Conference (**PARC**)
- Brother Eduardo Rivera, of the Lasallian Region of Latin America (**RELAL**)
- Brother Matthew Kotek, of the Lasallian Region of North America (**RELAN**)
- Brother Urbain François Andrinirina, of the Lasallian Region of Africa and Madagascar (**RELAF**)



These young Brothers, from different regions, arrived and set foot on Madagascan soil on Friday 22 November 2024. They were welcomed by the Brothers of the Provincial Community. Saturday 23 November was marked by a warm welcome for the new arrivals. It was also the start of the activities of the Standing Committee of Young Brothers and their first meeting.

In addition to the activities carried out during its stay, the Standing Committee of Young Brothers aims to reflect on aspects that affect not only the life of the Institute but also that of the young Brothers. It was a question of dreams and challenges in certain areas, in line with the theme proposed by our

Institute to live this year: ***"Our heart is in the peripheries"***.

Moments of joy and shared experiences marked the passage of the young Brothers of the International Standing Committee. In addition to several visits to the various Brothers' centres and communities in Tananarive, there was a special occasion when the delegation of young Brothers from the District of Madagascar met with the Committee. It was a time for exchange and sharing of experiences between several Brothers. It was also an opportunity to take stock of the reality of young Brothers.

One of the important topics discussed was the needs of young Brothers. A question was raised: "Why do a large number of Brothers leave the Institute? The answer to this question lies in the need for better accompaniment and attentive follow-up to help the young Brothers make their way in religious life.

This moment, rich in exchanges, concluded with a cocktail on the terrace, where everyone took a glass to toast the occasion. The smiles and joyful looks on the faces of the brothers testified to an atmosphere of conviviality and fraternity. It was also an opportunity for some to practise their English.

In addition, notwithstanding the busy schedule of the young Brothers of the International Permanent Committee, they felt at ease and well-integrated among the others, such as the laypeople and the students. Indeed, it was truly noticeable that their presence, even for a few days, in our District gave many people the joy and desire to appreciate the life of a religious Brother.

The arrival of these young Brothers from different countries in our District has brought a new way of thinking, of acting and of walking as ***'Passionate Witnesses of Fraternity'***. We are therefore very grateful for the many fraternal gestures they have shown towards the Brothers of the District of Madagascar.

Brother Marc Marcel FANOMEZANA, District of Madagascar

RELAUNCH OF THE MEL AT THE LASALLE COMPLEX IN DOUALA.

Following on from Lasallian Day and International Teachers' Day, during which the Brother Director had recommended the resumption of the MEL, a re-launch meeting was held on Wednesday 13 November 2024 in the conference room of the La Salle complex in Douala from exactly 12.55 pm.

After the prayer said by Mr NGUE Charles, the Brother Director General, in his introductory remarks, recalled the objectives of the MEL: to supervise the new teachers, to animate formation and sharing on the particularities of the Lasallian educational mission, to help the teachers to transform themselves to better live their vocation. For this reason, he insisted on the openness of the MEL to all; on personal, spiritual and pedagogical formation, with the possibility of requesting external facilitators for complex themes.

Following the General Director's speech, and after a great deal of discussion and sharing of opinions among the team members, it was agreed that:

- MEL meetings take place on the second Wednesday of each month from 12.30 to 1.15 pm in the meeting room.
- Raising awareness is necessary to better structure the spirit of association around shared Lasallian values.
- A strategic plan will be drawn up to give visibility to MEL's activities,
- The course will be divided into three phases:
 - The primary phase for recruits,
 - The intermediate phase for former members,
 - The in-depth phase is for those who want to perfect their skills.

To facilitate the implementation of this project, several committees have been set up: a committee to draw up the strategic plan, a communication committee, and a committee to identify the themes to be addressed.

The meeting ended at 3.30 pm with a promise to meet again next month.

Live Jesus in our hearts, forever!

Laadjou Abdurrahman Demanou, District of Central Africa

VALUING TEACHERS AT DE LA SALLE KANO BILINGUAL SCHOOL GROUP IN BERTOUA

To enhance the teacher's value, the Groupe Scolaire Bilingue De La Salle Kano staff in Bertoua decided on the theme: *"Valuing the voice of teachers towards a new social contract, towards Education"*. A round-table discussion, moderated by Mrs DJOUPMEU Chanceline, was organised, at the end of which several measures were agreed, structured around two main themes:

- A- Improving living conditions for teachers
 - Increasing teachers' salaries ;
 - Mass integration of teachers into the civil service;
 - Regularisation of salary payments ;
 - Parents' respect and consideration for teachers.
- B- Promoting the best conditions for Education

- Provide schools with appropriate and adequate infrastructure;
- Provide teachers with teaching materials;
- Encourage parents to provide their children with textbooks;
- Encouraging tolerance and non-violence in schools.



The implementation phase was crowned by the installation of the school's staff by Brother DEBASCO MIAMADINGAR, Director. He closed the ceremony by emphasising to his colleagues the precarious living conditions of teachers in Africa in general and offered a prayer for all the teachers in the world.

IDJOU ME NTONGA JULES, District of Central Africa

Perpetual Vows of the District of Central Africa

On Saturday 04 January 2025, the Brothers of the Christian Schools of the District of Central Africa gathered in Douala to celebrate the definitive oblation of Brother Samuel Brice ETOUKA LEMBA.

"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is at its best in weakness". These words of Saint Paul the Apostle to the Corinthians are Brother Samuel's motto. In this way, he abandons himself to the will of

the Lord, who wanted him to be at his service in the Church and the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools "*together and by association*" for young people, especially the poor.

Brother Samuel is from Douala in Cameroon. He studied at De La Salle College, where he met the Brothers. After his secondary studies, he entered the Postulancy and then the Novitiate, at the end of which he took his first vows. He did his higher studies at the CELAF Institute in Abidjan. Brother Samuel trained as an electrician and has a passion for computers. After a stay in Chad, he is currently on a mission in Equatorial Guinea.

The Mass of Vows was celebrated in the Chapel of Our Lady of the Rosary at De La Salle College. Initially, it was the Ordinary of the Archdiocese of Douala who was to preside at the Eucharist. However, the Vicar General, Mgr Dieudonné BAYEMEG, was delegated to preside.

Brother Samuel's final profession was received by the Visitor of the District of Central Africa. Brother Anatole, General Councillor, was also present. Numerous delegations from Kélo, Ndjamena, Bertoua, Lomié, Yaoundé, Talba and Bomudi were strongly represented. The educational community of Bomudi, to which Brother Samuel belongs, mobilised a large number of collaborators in support and recognition of the person and work of Brother Samuel in Equatorial Guinea.

To the rhythm of local sounds and a fraternal meal, the ceremony of the perpetual vows of our Dear Brother Samuel leaves an imprint in the minds and hearts of young people who want to follow Jesus Christ in the footsteps of Saint John Baptist de La Salle.



Brother Delence NGUELE, District of Central Africa.

Calendar of the Brother General Councillor and the Brother Superior General in Africa:

- **1 to 4 January 2025:** Douala
- **4 to 19 January 2025:** Ndjamena
- **3 to 27 February 2025:** Rome, plenary session
- **1 to 5 March 2025:** Haiti, retreat activities
- **10 to 20 March :** Abidjan
- **8 - 12 April 2025:** Visit with Brother Armin in Bata, Equatorial Guinea
- **13-18 April 2025:** Visit with Brother Armin to Dapaong, Togo
- **19-23 April 2025:** Visit with Brother Armin in Niamey, Niger
- **8-11 May 2025 :** Conakry, Guinea Conakry
- **15 May 2025:** Papal Audience; granted by His Holiness Pope Francis.
- **26 - 30 October 2025:** Visit to Rwanda with Brother Armin
- **2 - 9 November 2025:** Visit with Brother Armin to Kinshasa, DRC
- **11 - 17 November 2025:** Visit to Cameroon with Brother Armin
- **20 - 25 November 2025:** Visit with Brother Armin to Antananarivo - Madagascar
- **1st to 5 December 2025:** Nairobi, Kenya, Brothers Visitors' Conference and meeting with the International Association of Lasallian Universities (IALU)

NB: this calendar is subject to change if circumstances require.

FOR YOUR TEXTS TO BE PUBLISHED:

- The text must not exceed 500 words
- The text must be dated and signed by the author
- Send a maximum of two well-chosen photos,
500kb maximum resolution.
- Respect the deadline set by the secretary