

VISITUS



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Br. Daniel Burke and Br. John Herron

REUNION IN AMMENDALE

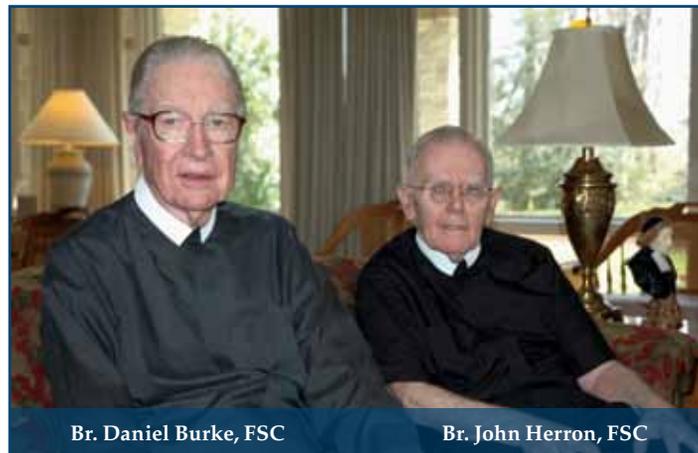
After a combined 120 years of active ministry in our District Schools, Brother Daniel Burke and Brother John Herron have taken up residence this past year at La Salle Hall in "Ammendale," the Brothers retirement home in Beltsville, Maryland. In a very real sense their arrival amounted to a homecoming, since both of them began their "journey in brotherhood" on this site when they entered the Junior Novitiate as high school students in the early 1940s. Dan entered from Central Catholic H.S. in Pittsburgh and John from Philadelphia's West Catholic Boys H.S.

After high school they moved on to the Novitiate where they received their religious robe and, as was the practice before Vatican II, also received new names in the community ~ Br. Fidelian for Dan and Brother Gratian for John. The Novitiate was followed by undergraduate studies at Catholic University as members of our De La Salle House of Studies in Washington, DC. Brother Daniel graduated Phi Beta Kappa as an English major and began his teaching career at West Catholic. Brother John earned his BA degree in history and took up his first assignment at St. Francis Vocational School in Bensalem, PA.

Brother Dan would soon return to Washington to teach at our House of Studies while studying for a doctorate in English. With the awarding of the PhD came an assignment in 1957 to La Salle College in Philadelphia. He served as Academic Dean from 1960 until he was appointed President in 1969. It was during his administration that La Salle became co-educational in 1970. After stepping down from the presidency in 1977, Brother Dan returned to classroom teaching, while also focusing his energies on the expansion of the

college's Art Museum, begun by him with the assistance of generous benefactors.

Brother Emery Mollenhauer, a friend of Brother Dan's since the 40s, and his longtime teaching and administrative colleague at La Salle noted "his 'breathtakingly levelheaded' personality (a JD Salinger phrase) who effec-



Br. Daniel Burke, FSC

Br. John Herron, FSC

tively propelled La Salle toward advancing academically in the professional quality of its faculty, students and programs. Concurrently La Salle reached national recognition through its Concert and Lecture Series and in awarding honorary degrees to cultural icons, including Andrew Wyeth and Eugene Ormandy. He also inaugurated the Honors Program and the Urban Center." Brother Emery goes on to say that, "Brother Daniel was also our poet-in-residence... a gentle man of elegance, dignity, stunning integrity, and a steadfast, very rational voice that calms and brings reason to a situation."

After two years at St. Francis, Brother John was assigned to Calvert Hall College H.S. in Baltimore, a post he held until 1976. As an enthusiastic teacher of religion and history, and simultaneously the moderator of base-

ball, soccer and the Parents Club, he was one of The Hall's busiest faculty members, managing it all seemingly effortlessly and in his usual unassuming manner. During this time he would also earn two graduate degrees, an MA in history from Villanova and an MA in theology from La Salle in summer studies. In

1976 he moved to St. John's College H.S. in Washington, DC, where he taught for five years before serving as President from 1981-88. From there he moved north to Archbishop Carroll H.S. in Radnor, PA, where for eight years he enjoyed teaching and moderating girls' sports for the first time. In 1996 Brother John was asked to return to Calvert Hall to work in the Office of Alumni Relations. Once again, he would also assume the role of mentor to students as moderator of the varsity basketball and soccer teams.

Brother Kevin Strong, who lived with Brother John at both Archbishop Carroll and Calvert Hall, speaks admiringly of his "quiet and friendly manner, which endeared him to students, parents and fellow teachers. Whether teaching or moderating he loved what he was doing and was, in return, loved by the people whose lives he touched. Brother John had a very strong presence in each of those places."

Both men were blessed early in life, growing up in families with a deep faith in God and devotion to the Church. Brother Dan's sister is still active as a nun. Brother John has had a sister and aunt in the convent as well as four cousins in the priesthood. We are grateful for the many ways in which the brotherhood of these outstanding men has enriched both our community and the lives of the many students and colleagues they have been associated with over the years.

A Loving REMEMBRANCE



Brother Hugh Albright, FSC (1928-2011)

The Brothers of the District of Eastern North America, along with the Albright family and the La Salle University community were greatly saddened by the death of Brother Hugh on February 24th. Born in Jerusalem, Hugh grew up in Baltimore and entered the Brothers' Junior Novitiate in Ammendale during his high school years. After receiving an MA from Catholic University and a PhD from the University of Pennsylvania, he spent his entire career as an outstanding teacher of mathematics at La Salle University. He retired from the university in 1994 and since then had been a member of the St. Mary's Hall Community in Philadelphia. Following are some excerpts from a reflection by Brother Edward Davis at the funeral Mass.

"Teach us to number our days aright that we may gain wisdom of heart."

None of us, I should think, was brought up in a household as unique as the Albrights. That your father is the world's leading biblical archeologist is enough, but joined with a mother who has a PhD in Sanskrit makes for a fascinating childhood. I doubt that the dinner table conversation was a script from *Father Knows Best*. Of course, to those who knew them, Mr. and Mrs. Albright were simply gentle and conscientious American parents.

Hugh began his contact with the Christian Brothers when

he attended the Calvert Hall Country School in Baltimore as a young boy. My first contact with Hugh, then Brother Alban, was when I arrived at Anselm Hall in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania, as a student Brother in 1953. Hugh, quite young, but already with a doctorate, directed the choir, getting us to produce a passable version of plainchant. He was teaching here at La Salle University and was a superb teacher. He was one of the very first recipients of the Christian and Mary Lindback Award for distinguished teaching.

Hugh had many passions. Number one was certainly mathematics. He was a theoretical mathematician and it was clear that he found real beauty in his chosen field. Everyone is aware of his great love for Jane Austen. He and I were both charter members of the Jane Austen Society. Hugh far outdid me: he read *Pride and Prejudice* more than twenty times in English, twice in French and once in Spanish. Just in the last year, he read every one of the endlessly long Harry Potter books ~ twice! He enjoyed long walks in the city. He had a love of music and art and could sit for hours with a book listening to Mitsuko Uchida or Mozart sonatas.

I lived in community with Hugh for more than forty years. He was the easiest person to live with that I can remember. Never did he show anger or impatience or criticism. He had a wonderful sense of humor and a passionate enjoyment of life. For the last year he was well aware of his declining health and of his increasingly confused thinking and remembering, but accepted all things without complaint.

"Fill us at daybreak with your kindness that we may shout for joy and gladness all our lives." (Ps. 90)

BROTHERS EXPRESS GRATITUDE FOR DONOR'S ESTATE GIFT



This Easter the Brothers were especially blessed to receive a generous gift from the estate of Peter A. Crosson, a 1945 graduate of West Catholic Boys' High School in Philadelphia. Mr. Crosson's bequest on behalf of the Brothers' retirement home in Ammendale is deeply appreciated and prayerfully remembered.

CALVERT HALL ALUMS TREAT LA SALLE HALL BROTHERS

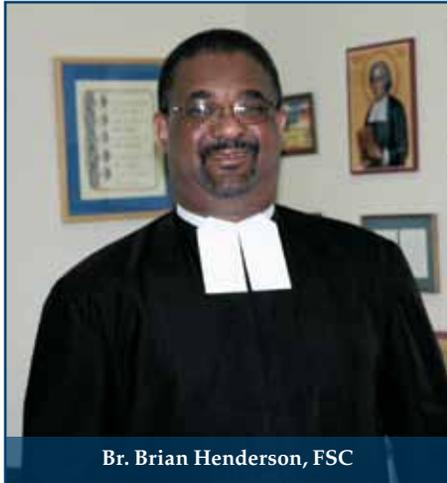
On April 9th members of the Calvert Hall Alumni Association hosted a catered dinner for the retired Brothers community in Ammendale. The occasion also provided them with an opportunity to be with one of their favorite former teachers, Brother Patrick Phillips. Brother Pat had recently celebrated his 94th birthday, as well as his 75th year as a Brother of the Christian Schools. A congratulatory letter from Vice President Biden had special meaning for Brother Pat since Joe Biden's mother was his next door neighbor and boyhood friend in Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Br. Gregory Cavalier and Br. Patrick Phillips chat about a congratulatory letter from Vice President Biden.



A Dedicated and Experienced Staff . . .

People are in awe when they look at the massive structure on Pawlings Road in Phoenixville and learn that it is a residential facility for court adjudicated young



Br. Brian Henderson, FSC

men. And they are more in awe when they learn that its magnificence and stateliness has been preserved for over 110 years.

Coupled with its elegance is a longevity factor that is the trademark of many of the personnel whose lives are intertwined with assisting delinquent youth become responsible, competent, productive member of community. Like all organizations, some staff might stay for a relatively short period while others have stayed involved for a quarter of a century and longer.

The origin of one's initial involvement varies with each person. Perhaps it was a class trip that was organized by a college professor or familiarity with Brothers who might have referred to the program during their high school teaching. Perhaps it was an employment office that was aware of an opening, or a person interested in the program who recognized someone's desire to become part of it.

Whatever the motivation for becoming

involved, it is a deep sense of loyalty and dedication and commitment that inspires a remarkable longevity on the part of many. Understanding each child and his needs, helping him discover and develop his God-given talents, promoting his growth – all serve as a source of encouragement in the myriad challenges that staff so often experience.

Basic to this longevity is the Lasallian ethic and philosophy of education and the predominance of the Mission "to give a human and Christian education to youth, especially the poor." The recent certification as a Residential Training Facility enhances what the Christian Brothers have had in place here at Saint Gabriel's Hall for over a century. Sensitivity to the effects trauma has on children places emphasis on the "injured" rather than the "bad." As has been the case in the past, circumstances are forever changing; so there are always new challenges to face and conquer.

By Brother Timothy Dean, Lasallian Animator for the St. Gabriel's System, based on reflections by Ann Cahill (31 yrs), Sandy Crellin (37 yrs), Marion Forrest AFSC (28 yrs), Becky Kelly (26 yrs) and Becky Rossi (34 yrs).

. . . Serving Youth for Over 100 Years

The broad smile of satisfaction spoke volumes for this tall yet reserved young man. Demetrius Mayfield, holding symbols of his trade, stood with justifiable pride in front of a 30 foot high pole barn that he and three others had been building over the past few months. Asked how he felt after a long day out in the cold, he said: 'It feels good knowing we're getting the job done, and I can say, hey, I did that!'

A graduate of St. Gabriel's Hall (SGH), Demetrius is enrolled in the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps ~ a statewide program that develops the working skills, life skills and self confidence of corps members. His workday starts at 7 am and ends at 3 pm. He receives on the job training and supervision, gets paid, and learns the finer points of the building trades.. Demetrius says it all goes back to what he learned at St. Gabriel's: "Getting up on time, ready to go, believing in myself, thinking positive, working hard and keeping focused on my goals."

He was not always so positively oriented. In 2009 Demetrius was hanging with the wrong crowd in his West Philadelphia neighborhood, and admits he wasn't really thinking much back then, just going with the flow, doing things that he knew were wrong. He got in trouble and faced the possibility of being charged as an adult. He

doesn't like talking about it, saying simply, "I was following bad examples, not listening to positive influences like my family, who were really worried about me."

Demetrius arrived at SGH in November 2009 ready for a change. He is grateful to staff members who helped him, like his clinical therapist, Alison Blum. Nearly all the young men at SGH these days have experienced traumatic events, such as violence in their neighborhoods and families, explains Ms. Blum. Weekly individual therapy sessions help them to process their hurts and losses, learn anger management, conflict resolution, accountability and positive decision making skills.

While at SGH Demetrius received training in construction and maintenance through participation in Youthbuild, a program funded locally by the Montgomery County Workforce Investment Board. Working with others and having good teachers and technical mentors motivated Demetrius to be successful and work hard: "The Hall is a safe place where you can finish with a high school diploma and learn to

work hard to get a job and get on with your life."

Brother Brian Henderson, Director of St. Gabriel's Hall, believes that, just as St. John Baptist de La Salle sought out lost youth and helped them to discover their talents and abilities over three centuries ago, they are about the very same thing today at The Hall. He affirms what Demetrius experienced as a "work of transformation that we, as ambassadors of Jesus Christ call forth, and it is our privilege to accompany them in discovering what it means to be a whole and wholesome human being once again."



St. Gabriel's Hall graduate Demetrius Mayfield

Excerpts from an article by Ed Lis in CSS Connections, a Catholic Social Services publication. The Christian Brothers and their associates have conducted St. Gabriel's Hall since its establishment by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia in 1898.

LA SALLE ALUMNI PRESENT SIGNUM FIDEI AWARD

La Salle University honored one of its own, Marci Schankweiler, '90, as the recipient of their 2010 Signum Fidei Award. The award, which derives its name from the motto of the Christian Brothers, "Sign of Faith" is presented by the Alumni Association each year to an individual who has made "noteworthy contributions to the advancement of humanitarian principles in keeping with Christian-Judeo traditions."

Schankweiler was cited for founding a program which sends young cancer patients and families on all-expenses-paid respite vacations. Early in her marriage to fellow La Salle classmate Pete Bossow, he was diagnosed with cancer. After friends and family raised funds to send them on a two week vacation to the Caribbean, Pete suggested starting a non-profit organization that would provide young cancer patients with similar opportunities. He came up with the name Crossing the Finish Line and, when he died seven months later, Marci left her job as a tax attorney to make his dream a reality. In the past ten years the effort has benefited more than 850 cancer patients and 3000 caregivers. Contributions have ranged from monetary gifts to the use of vacation homes. She notes that "our mission is unique as we simply provide the gift of respite time to refresh, reconnect and rejuvenate. One can witness firsthand the benefits of respite in the smiles of those we have served."



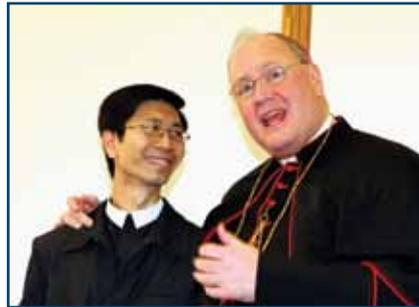
Marci Schankweiler ~
Recipient of 2010 Signum
Fidei Award

Meg Kane, President of La Salle's Alumni Association, noted that Schankweiler, "in overcoming the death of her first husband has transformed her life and the lives of 800 cancer patients in just a decade... Her faith in herself, her community and in God has helped her to not simply overcome her own adversity but also to use it as a driving force for change. She is undoubtedly a sign of faith in all she does and La Salle is privileged and proud to present her with this well deserved honor."

*Adapted from an article by Jon Caroulis, Dtr.
of Media Relations, La Salle University*

NEW YORK'S ARCHBISHOP DOLAN VISITS NEW SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

6th Street between 2nd and 3rd Avenues may be considered Manhattan's Lower East Side, but there is an East-West relationship that is creating a real buzz in the neighborhood! Last summer, La Salle Academy moved from 2nd Street and 2nd Avenue to St. George's building on 6th Street, which is home to an elementary school and a high school. La Salle, a Roman Catholic school, and the St. George Schools, Eastern Catholic schools, invited Archbishop Timothy Dolan to the campus to celebrate the schools' shared efforts in maintaining quality Catholic education in lower Manhattan. In the course of his visit, which took place in mid-February, the Archbishop participated in a prayer service with the school communities and visited some classes.



Brother Peter Nguyen, FSC welcomes Archbishop Timothy Dolan to his religion class.

Located just four blocks from each other, La Salle and St. George were facing similar challenges of changing demographics and increased operating costs. "By sharing space, we are able to ensure the viability of our schools and keep alive an educational culture of faith and success", stated Dr. William Hambleton, La Salle's President. Rev. Deacon Peter Shyshka, Principal of St. George, recalled "When Pope John Paul II spoke about the Church, he would often say that the 'Universal Church is fully alive when it breathes with both lungs, that of the East and the West.' This is most evident here where cooperation between the two traditions continues the Educational Ministry of the Church - To Teach All Nations". La Salle Academy was founded in 1848 by the De La Salle Christian Brothers, while the Fathers of the Order of Saint Basil the Great opened the St. George Schools in 1940.

Courtesy of Br. William Martin, FSC, St. La Salle Auxiliary, Lincroft, NJ

San Miguel School in Camden to Close



The Board of Directors of the San Miguel School in Camden, NJ announced in late March that the school for economically disadvantaged middle school boys will be closing at the end of this academic year. In a letter from school President Brother Joseph Juliano he indicated that the very difficult decision was made as a result of continuing operating deficits and insufficient enrollment. The impact of the poor economy in Camden, along with the opening of charter schools in the city were also cited as factors leading to the decision.

Brother Joseph expressed the Board's gratitude for the substantial support of the Brothers' Provincial Office as well as the school's generous donors since San Miguel's founding in 1998. The school's success in the education of young boys has been due in large measure to the dedicated efforts of Brothers, lay teachers and administrators and Lasallian Volunteers. The Brothers are deeply grateful to all those who have helped to make a difference in the lives of our San Miguel boys.

CALVERT HALL SOPHOMORES Honored by Catholic Charities

During “An Evening With Catholic Charities” in Baltimore, members of the sophomore class of Calvert Hall were presented with the Anne Lindsay Otenasek Youth Service Award in recognition of outstanding volunteer service. The award honors the memory and spirit of Ms. Otenasek, a former volunteer who died in the 1988 bombing of Pan Am flight 103 over Scotland.

Twice a month for the past 12 years Calvert Hall students have expanded their band of brothers to include men

and women with developmental disabilities at Gallagher Services. In the course of their service working in horticultural activities, assembly contract work, occupational therapy and recreational activities the residents and students have come to know each other, forming friendships which have been mutually enriching. Gallagher Services commended the students for modeling the best of service with empathy, compassion and care.

Courtesy of Doug Heidrick, Calvert Hall and Jim Hillman, Gallagher Services



Archbishop Edwin O’Brien congratulates Calvert Hall students for their record of faithful service to Catholic Charities programs. On the left is Br. Thomas Zoppo, FSC, President.

ST. JOHN’S CADETS HELP PROMOTE *Joining Forces Campaign*



St. John’s JROTC Cadets with Dr. Jill Biden

On April 12th eight St. John’s College High School students were invited to the Eisenhower Office Building to be a part of Mrs. Michelle Obama’s and Dr. Jill Biden’s Joining Forces Campaign for Military Families. The gathering was the formal beginning of a campaign to raise awareness of the sacrifices made by those who serve in the military and their families. The initiative also asks the American public to do “one thing” for someone in the military and/or their family. After the formal announcement of the campaign, Mrs. Obama and Dr. Biden thanked their guests, who are in a position to support the program. St. John’s students were proud to represent the many JROTC programs throughout the country. They were accompanied at the event by their Principal, Br. Michael Andrejko, FSC

By Stephanie Parrish, Communications Director, St. John’s College HS

La Salle Honors Dr. Nancy Jones

AS DISTINGUISHED LASALLIAN EDUCATOR

Inspired by a professor who took a personal interest in her, Dr. Nancy Jones has spent the past quarter century doing the same for La Salle University students, both in and out of the classroom. For this and many other examples of service to students, the Wilmington resident received the University’s Distinguished Lasallian Educator Award, which recognizes members of the University community who have “exhibited in their daily lives a commitment to Lasallian priorities and traditions.”

Along with teaching and advising, Jones has spent countless hours with the University’s “Day One” summer program for new students and their families. In 2000, she became founding director of the Integrated Science, Business and Technology (ISBT) program. She continues to teach general chemistry and ISBT classes.

In presenting the award to Jones, La Salle President, Br. Michael McGinniss, FSC said, “Those who nominated her pointed out that her students invariably see her as approachable and energetic, some-

one buoyed by the sheer love of the subject matter as well as the art of teaching. It has been their good fortune to have her in their lives – teaching coaching and encouraging them to accept challenges and consider new possibilities. Students describe her passion as contagious and as someone who un-faillingly takes a personal interest in their learning. This may be because in her own life journey she was the one ‘found’ by a highly regarded teacher who could see her considerable potential and invited her to partner with him and other students on an undergraduate research project. That invitation changed everything. She decided to be a college professor who would, like her mentor, know her students well enough – especially those who are not the “stars” – so that she might be a difference maker in their lives. And that is precisely what she



Br. Michael McGinniss presents Dr. Nancy Jones with the Distinguished Lasallian Educator Award.

has become.”

By Jon Caroulis, Dtr. of Media Relations, La Salle University

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Central Catholic Students Spread the Lasallian Vision



Thousands of miles separate glaciers near the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in Browning Montana and the tropical warmth of San Antonio, Nicaragua. Yet the people who call these distant and relatively inaccessible places home share a special connection ~ the helping hands of Pittsburgh Central Catholic students have touched them. Every year Central students and their guides, inspired by the philosophy of St. John Baptist de La Salle, travel to remote areas to help facilitate improved education for the less fortunate.

"It is a mutually beneficial experience." Says Brother Robert Schaefer, principal of Central Catholic and the coordinator of the Nicaragua trip. "While the communities benefit from our involvement, our students gain so much through exposure to different cultures, lifestyles and socioeconomic conditions."

Matt Sudnik, Director of Central's Baginski Scholars program and one of the guides for the annual Blackfeet trip agrees. "While I think our boys learned to appreciate another culture, they also became acutely

aware of the challenges faced by American Indian communities on the reservations, and the ways the Lasallian community has responded."

A hemisphere away, Central's Christian immersion group was touched by the needs of the people of Nicaragua. Inspired by the work of the La Salle Brothers in both urban and rural areas, the students witnessed the hardships daily life can bring in this poor country. Travels by boat and mule led them to villages where life for the locals was full of challenges. Senior, Chris Hanno, commented: "When we saw the condition of the school in the village of San Antonio, we made a promise that our Mission Drive efforts this year would rebuild the school so it would be known as La Salle~Central Catholic."

Brother Robert expressed the hope that, "through increased knowledge, sensitivity and awareness of other people and their cultures, our students will truly understand their role as men of faith, scholarship and service."

Adapted from an article by Katherine Brahan, Central Catholic HS



Senior Seamus Mooney listens intently as he prepares to translate a patient's concerns.

Explorers in the Caribbean

Three students from La Salle High in Wyncmooor, Pennsylvania recently participated in a Healthcare Mission to the Dominican Republic. Seniors Charlie Cannon, Sam Hyder and Seamus Mooney worked with doctors, nurses and other medical practitioners as part of a mission sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Quincy, Illinois. The volunteers, who represented various faiths, were led in prayer each evening by a

local Benedictine monk.

The La Salle students were accompanied by Fran Diccico, chairperson of the school's Language Department. Their knowledge of the Spanish language enabled them to provide helpful translations as they were paired with doctors and other adult volunteers.

Courtesy of Christopher M. Carabello, Director of Communications, La Salle College HS