



BROTHERS OF ST GABRIEL

Province of Malaysia-Singapore



**I'm the handmaid of the Lord,
be done unto me according to your word.**

*Wishing you all the joys of Christmas
and
many happy days for the New Year*



Words from the Provincial Superior

Bro. Francis Chua

Dear Brothers and Friends of Montfort,

May the peace and love of Christ be with you all.

It is my privilege and joy to write a few words for this Issue of the Province News Bulletin to update you all on what are the happenings in and around our Communities and Institutions. We are once again being challenged to be “Authentic Leaders for a Greater Brotherhood” which is a powerful reminder of our glorious heritage as radical followers of Jesus Christ who are “called to be brothers of Christ and brothers for a greater brotherhood in the Church” and an apt response to the challenges of our rapidly changing times. In order to achieve this, we are called to authentic interior life, and to be rooted in Jesus Christ the Eternal and Incarnate Wisdom.



As Companions and Brothers on the journey we are here not by chance but by grace in the Spirit and Charism of our beloved Founder St Louis Marie De Montfort, to help and complement each other to proclaim the Gospel in the lives of the people, particularly the youth. We exist to convey a message of hope to those whom the world rejects.

As you flip through the pages of this Bulletin, you will perceive that the activities taking place within our Schools and Institutions are testimonies that we are ‘walking the talk’ and making our local communities a place of living and radiating Evangelical mission.

At the close of this year 2013, let us continue to thank the Almighty God for all His blessings showered upon us throughout the year. As we enter into the time of Advent, may I invite you to spend time in prayers and to stay awake as we welcome our Savior at Christmas. My special thanks to all those who have contributed to this Bulletin.

Wishing you a Holy and Blessed Christmas and another happy and promising New Year ahead in 2014.

May God bless you all.



Montfort Youth Centre, Melaka

-by Theresa Sia



June – We bid farewell and thank Bro. Robin D sg. for being the Director of MYC for past 4 years. Bro. Robin is currently studying in the Philippines. We wish him all the best in his studies.

July – Warm welcome back to MYC after 6 long years! Bro. Peter K sg. replaces Bro. Robin D sg. as the Director of MYC.



Both the Brothers are not only the pioneering Brothers of MYC but they are also the Founders of the mission in Ayer Salak, Melaka which is now in the 12th year. May God’s blessings be always upon them as they work tirelessly in His vineyard.

30 June – MYC 11th Open House Charity Carnival.



During this time, Melaka was badly hit by haze. It was especially bad in Bukit Rambai and Ayer Salak. With fervent prayers and trusting in God Alone, the weather on the day of the event was PERFECT! With excellent weather, the crowd was huge and the event was a success.

We thank our Guest of Honour, Mdm. Pang Siew Fian who officiated the event.

We also thank all our volunteers, stall holders and all who came to support us. Thanks to Bro. Gasper sg., the Chairman of the event and all staff and boys who worked hard during the event.

25 August – Batch 11 Graduation.



Congratulations to all 32 boys who successfully completed the 2-year training at MYC! These were the boys who had gone through the thick and thin of the Montfort programme of Character Formation & Skills Training and lasted to the very end! There had been lots of funny moments, fun times, personal reflection, challenges

and tears too. These boys survived! We thank all donors who had made this possible for the boys.

As their ‘big brothers’ leave MYC to face the working world, Batch 12 boys prepare to be ‘big brothers’ themselves to the new batch of boys. 56 youth joined MYC on 18 August as Batch 13 boys. Missing home and struggling in the new environment with new friends, the ‘big brothers’ try their very best to make the new boys feel at home.

INDUSTRIAL VISITS

2nd year students were brought for exposure visits to factories and industries before they graduate.

The objective is to bring awareness to them on the fields that their skills can be utilised and also to be mindful of the actual working environment.



14 October – MYC Sports Day

The competitions began as early as 2 September. The boys competed in a total of eight games between their houses. They were supported by staff which were divided into teams of the



boys' houses. A cross country run was held on Friday 11 October, being a Public Holiday for Melaka state. The winning team of four games; futsal, tug-of-war, volleyball and sepak takraw played against

the staff on 14 October. Two games were won by each team. The champion for MYC Sports 2014 was Anthony House! Congratulations to all WIN OR LOOSE PLAY THE GAME!

The day ended with fellowship lunch among students and staff. As tired as everyone could be, all had fun and enjoyed themselves.

26 October - MYC Deepavali Celebration



A simple celebration was held to observe the festival of light among staff, students and volunteers. We wish all Hindu staff, students, volunteers and benefactors a Happy Deepavali.

SWEET MEMORIES

Sr. Theresa Chai, the former headmistress of the IJ Primary School, still fondly remembers this lovely place. She had requested to come back and see her old and dear school, travelling all the way from Cheras Convent. With her are her old students, Pauline and Theresa who are staff of MYC.



Fr. John Yu, the former Parish Priest of St. Mary's Church, Ayer Salak had also requested to come and see what the former IJ Primary School had become. He was so impressed with the turnout and congratulated the Brothers for the work well done!

MYC staff posing with visiting Brothers; Bro. Paul Raj sg. and Bro. Jean Paul Mbengue sg. – Assistant Generals from Rome. The Brothers were here to spend some time with the staff and students.



MONTFORT BOYS TOWN, SHAH ALAM

- by Arulanandam Sinnasamy

One place where social integration is being practiced is none other than at Montfort Boys Town. Our effort of blending various cultures with respect towards religion and race is being well appreciated by all our students and staff and well acknowledged by visitors. As we build youth in skills training and character formation, we are contributing towards nation building with one thing in mind that is “God is Love and In All Things God Alone”.



Visit by Assistant General:



Bro. Paul Raj. A – Assistant General from the Central Administration visited Montfort Boys Town in July 2013. He was accompanied by Bro. Jean-Paul Mbengue (Assistant General) as well. Bro. Paul spend some days and visited the campus and acknowledged that new courses and some changes in infrastructures compared to his last visit in passing some years ago. He took some time to meet the

students as well as addressing staff with inspiring words. The whole institution was delighted with his visit and hosted a thanks giving dinner where students and staff belted out their talents in songs and dance.

New Intake 2013

A day full of excitement with anxiety where a total of 183 boys and 50 girls were enrolled in July 2013. All senior students played big brother/ big sister roles and comforted some who felt home sick as well as journeyed with them with patience and guidance. Though some had dropped out but many were determined to complete 2 years of training. To all students we wish Good Luck...



Intake (Above) and Graduation (Below)

Graduation 2013

The spirit of gratitude and joy filled the main hall while waiting for the moment of blessings received both by the students and their parents as well. It was a memorable event in their lives which gave them a good career path to begin with and to anticipate many more learning moments and challenges along their ways. A total of 125 boys and 26 girls received their scrolls and acknowledged that they have achieved their dreams.



Merdeka and Malaysia Day Celebration

It was great moment to celebrate Merdeka and Malaysia Day among the students. The Student Affairs Department worked out various tele-match, games as well as competitions for students’ greater participation and integration. Many students portrayed their best talents, leadership skills and motivating one another to a greater team spirit at all times.



Merdeka and Malaysia Day



Founders Day

Founders Day Celebration

A Eucharistic Celebration and thanks giving dinner was organized by the management. To commemorate this special day, students took part in various sports/games competitions and the winners were awarded on this auspicious day. The pioneering brothers showed their commitment and contributed to the holistic development of this institution and the mission being carried out by the brothers and lay staff with one common goal that is to transform the lives of underprivileged youths in our care.



"I once picked up a woman from a garbage dump and she was burning with fever; she was in her last days and her only lament was: ‘My son did this to me.’ I begged her: You must forgive your son. In a moment of madness, when he was not himself, he did a thing he regrets. Be a mother to him, forgive him. It took me a long time to make her say: ‘I forgive my son.’ Just before she died in my arms, she was able to say that with a real forgiveness. She was not concerned that she was dying. The breaking of the heart was that her son did not want her. This is something you and I can understand."

-Mother Teresa



Montfort Youth Training Centre (MYTC)

The Brother's Community

The second half of the year sees some changes in Montfort Youth Training Centre and the in the Brother's community. With the new term of leadership in the Province, Bro. Francis Chua who was the Director of MYTC, was appointed by the Superior General, to take lead of the Province as the Provincial Superior. He served eight years as Director of the institution that made him the longest serving director of MYTC.

In the Brother's community, two members were added, namely Bro. James Anting and Bro. Thomas Paul. Bro. James Anting returned to Sabah for his pastoral immersion as part of the Catechical Course, which he is taking in Malang, Indonesia. He is currently attached to St. Mary's Parish, Sandakan. And together with Bro. Stephen Tee, who is in-charge of St. Mary's Boys hostel, trying to piece together to make the hostel conducive for staying and studying for the school going students.

Bro. Thomas Paul, who was in Singapore, was called to Sabah to assist in the two developments and constructions, which were kicking off. Bro. Joseph Philip was appointed to be the Manager of the Residential Campus, whereas, Bro Paulus Anak Tuan is undergoing his study in a nearby private college.

The Institution

Currently, two hostels on different locations are under the wing of MYTC; namely San Damiano's Boys Hostel, Kiulu and St. Mary's Boys Hostel, Sandakan. Mr. Wallace Wong was appointed Deputy Director of MYTC effectively 1st October 2013. His appointment sees the coherence with the 31st General Chapter's Message that is in partnership.



Bro. Paul Raj and Bro. Jean-Paul

Nevertheless, there were many activities that had happened from July until the date of this report. Those worthy of mention are the visit of the two Assistant Generals, Bro. Paul Raj and Bro. Jean-Paul in mid July this year. The two Assistant Generals took time to meet the staff and students. Bro. Paul Raj also conducted a half day recollection for the staff on Montfortian Education. On top of all, Bro. Paul Raj who is the accompanier

of the Province spent his time to meet the brothers in the community individually.



Project Trust Vounteers
(L-R) Rory, Benjamin, Liam and Max



The Obstacles Race



The Camping



The Confirmation



Open House Carnival
Datuk Margaret Fung, in the centre holding the souvenir T'Shirt

On the 27th August, four Project Trust Volunteers arrived for one year attachment to MYTC. These teenagers from the United Kingdom will be assisting whatever they could for the betterment of ours students, especially in residential activities and enhancement of English. They are Benjamin J. Wilson, Rory J. Weir, Liam T. M. Waldie and Max C. Nowicki. Benjamin and Rory are attached to San Damiano Boys' Hostel whereas; Max and Liam are in Montfort Youth Training Centre. This is the second time MYTC and San Damiano has Project Trust Volunteers.

And by end of August, the Obstacle Race was organized. This Obstacle Race was participated by the students and staff. Unfortunately, the students from San Damiano were on holiday and they did not join the race. It was an endurance race that was participated with full spirit of team work. The students and the staff had benefited it the race. A fellowship lunch was served after the race.

And on 14th - 16th September 2013, the whole population of MYTC and San Damiano camped at Purun, Kuala Penyu. The rain did not deter the spirit of unity, friendship and cooperation among the staff and students. There were many activities organized during the camping. One of them is the tele-match and the tug of war between the staff and students.

On October 23, twenty students of MYTC were Confirmed by the Archbishop of Kota Kinabalu is a traditional Confirmation Ceremony held at St. Augustine's Church. MYTC thanked the dedication and commitment of Catechist Linus Tokuzip for instructing and preparing the students for the Sacrament. (Catechist Linus Tokuzip is in red shirt-third from left)

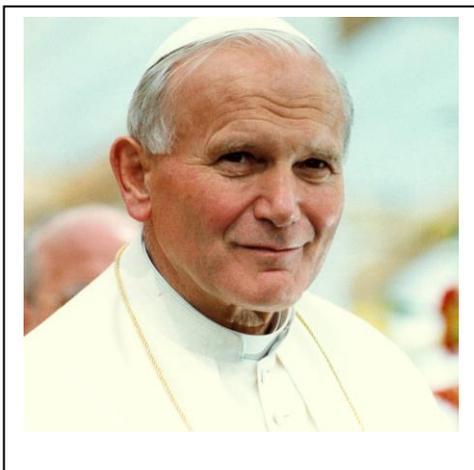
The second Fund-Raising effort of the year was the Open House Carnival and Bazaar which was held on the 27th October. MYTC thanked Datuk Margaret Fung, the Chairman of the Open House Carnival and Bazaar. The event was a great success. MYTC also thanked the many people who patronized the stalls and those who had helped to mind the stalls. It is worthy to mention that donors had contributed to the success of the event. It was made grander by the Elvis Presley of Sabah and

the appearance of the Harvest Queen 2013.



The Assumption English School (AES), Singapore visited MYTC from 30th October to 3rd November. The staff and students of AES were exposed to the programme, activities and discipline of MYTC. The AES entourage was welcomed in a traditional way by the Murut Warriors in their dance. Once again friendship was enhanced between the Gabrielite Schools in this region.

And although there was no Hindu student in MYTC but in solidarity with the Hindu brethren in Malaysia, MYTC celebrated the Deepavali Festival. As tradition, kolam (floor decoration) was created as a traditional decoration for any India-Hindu celebration. The Deepavali celebration this year fell on 12th November. The staff and students were initiated to create the kolam using coloured grains. – *Province Bulletin*



“It is Jesus that you seek when you dream of happiness; He is waiting for you when nothing else you find satisfies you; He is the beauty to which you are so attracted; it is He who provoked you with that thirst for fullness that will not let you settle for compromise; it is He who urges you to shed the masks of a false life; it is He who reads in your heart your most genuine choices, the choices that others try to stifle.

It is Jesus who stirs in you the desire to do something great with your lives, the will to follow an ideal, the refusal to allow yourselves to be ground down by mediocrity, the courage to commit yourselves humbly and patiently to improving yourselves and society, making the world more human and more fraternal.” -*Pope John Paul II*



The Hostel Building



Meeting with the Bishop (Bishop Julius Dusin in the third from the left)



Some of the students visited Montfort Youth Training Centre

St. Mary's Youth Hostel, Sandakan.

The Management Committee of St. Mary's Boys Hostel had requested verbally in many occasions to the Gabrielite Brothers to assist them in running the said mentioned hostel. The relationship between the Brothers and the Sandakan Catholic Community was established long before the Sandakan Diocese was erected. The said Catholic Community had helped Montfort to raise funds in many occasions. One worthy to mention is the Fund Raising Dinner held in July 2005 in Sandakan when Sandakan and Kota Kinabalu were still under the Bishop of Kota Kinabalu.

On 16th July 2007, the Diocese of Sandakan was erected. Again verbal request from the Management Committee was not attended to due to shortage of manpower and the ever increasing demands from the existing establishments of the Brothers in Kota Kinabalu Archdiocese. Years had passed and in early 2013, the Bishop of Sandakan, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Julius Dusin wrote to Bro. Dominic Yeo-Koh, the then Provincial Superior requesting the Brothers to manage the hostel. The request was tabled in one of the Council's meeting and the Councilors agreed to give a helping hand. It was agreed that the Brothers will assist to set up the residential care system but not to take charge. The Management Committee will continue to manage the hostel.

In July 2013, Bro. Paul Raj and Bro. Jean-Paul Mbengue visited the Sandakan hostel. They had the opportunity to meet the Bishop. The Bishop thanked

the Brothers for responding to the needs of the Diocese especially in caring for the youth who are residing in the hostel. Two Brothers, namely, Bro. Stephen Tee and Bro. James Anting are stationed there to assist in establishing the hostel system.

Currently, there are only 13 students residing in the hostel, which raised the concern of the Bishop and the Management Committee. The Diocese needed the assistance of the Brothers to nurture the youth especially in grounding them in the faith. The world is ablaze with many negative influences that made the youth swayed from the Church. It is hoped that the Brothers presence in the hostel could help the youth to be better citizens of the Church and of the world. – *Province Bulletin*

San Damiano Boys Hostel

-by Remy M. Gunsalam



The Hostel Building



The Staff

The Hostel's run very smoothly with the 5 full time staff to look after 60 boys. We have committed staffs that eventually take up the role of the brothers since there is no brother stationed in San Damiano Hostel. The Hostel's focus on Montfort's mission; *A home truly dear whom the world most neglect* as a guideline and direction in providing the accompaniment program to the boarders. Beside the 5 Holistic development aspect, The staff also consistently imposing the 5R value to them so they may be a successful person in the future. The Brothers that based in Montfort Youth Training Centre, Kinarut take their turn to visit the Hostel once a week and sometime stay few night to give some spiritual input to the boarders.

Activities in pictures



All the boarders took the family picture before the school's holiday after the Jungle Trekking.



This year, 6 SPM candidates and 4 STPM Candidates will be graduating and leaving the Hostel.



The schools year-end holiday commenced on 2nd of November, therefore the Boy's and Girl's Hostel took the opportunity to organize the Closing Month of Rosary. The procession was held by using the statue Our Lady of Wisdom.



This year, we awarded Mitch Jr Maurice, as the Most Dedicative Prefect. He served as Food and Beverage HQ prefect however he is also helps in various areas in organizing activities and assist the Student Affairs Officer in running the Residential Home program.

Going Green

The present era has challenged us to sustain our lives and towards healthier lifestyle. It is called quality of life. The trading and constructions; the farming and fishing industries including food productions and transportations, have been battling with the depletion of natural resources. The environment had been destroyed due to deforestation, mining, over-fishing, pollutions, and buildings just to cater the needs of growing populations. The Church has concern for all these and had called for environmental protections, integrity of creations, justice and peace and respect for all human persons and God’s creations.

Part and parcel, the Gabrielite Brothers in the Province of Malaysia-Singapore responded to this call towards sustainability. With the decreasing number of membership and the increasing of age, the leadership team in the previous term decided to make little investment to sustain the province especially in health care of the aging members.

How all this started?



Bro. John Albert

The BSG Finance Commission made up of investment experts like Mr. Gerard Lee and Mr. Michael Lim have helped us check and balance our Portfolio Investments. We also have our Plantation Advisor Mr. Anthony Lucas and Mr. Anthony Lim who have stood by in the process of sourcing for appropriate land for Palm Oil cultivation. While this project undertaken by the Provincial Administration since 2006 was aimed at stabilizing financial situation for both sectors of the Province, it has not neglected any Member’s basic needs in the name of increasing land bank or cash reserves. (Bro. John Albert)

Some members questioned the move to the plantation and some were very enthusiastic about it. The hard work that the very person, Bro. John Albert had put in since then had seen some fruits. The palm trees help to balance the ecosystem and provide food for the growing populations. – *Province Bulletin*



Some News Update from Singapore

By Bro. Dominic Yeo-Koh

Brother James Tham celebrates 60 years of religious commitment

Bro. James Tham at age 84 years old, celebrates 60 years of commitment as a religious with the Brothers of St. Gabriel. He took his first vows on 8 May 1953 in Eachinkadu, India. He belongs to the first batch of Singaporean who joined the Brothers in the 1950s. He has spent a number of years serving as headmaster of the Montfort Primary School in Batu Pahat. He then returned to Singapore in the 1980s to serve his years of teaching service with St. Gabriel's Secondary School and looking after the Juniorate at that time. After retiring from teaching service he has continued to lived and served in Boys' Town in Upper Bukit Timah Road.

Bro. James being such a modest man did not want any grand celebration of this occasion. However, this event cannot go unmarked but with a Thanksgiving Mass on 8 September 2013 at the Montfort Centre. The Mass was celebrated by the Archbishop Emeritus Nicholas Chia, who knows Bro. James well. This was done during the occasion when the Brothers gathered for the Quarterly recollection in Singapore. It was a good occasion to give thanks for all that Bro. James has been - a man of God at the service of his community. Congratulations to Bro. James on this joyous occasion and May God bless him with many good years and with good health.



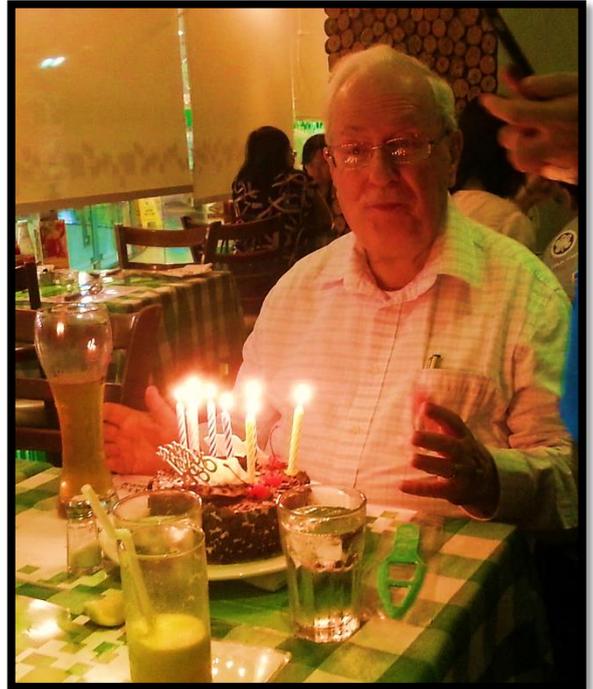
The Brothers with Archbishop Emeritus Nicholas Chia and Bro. James Tham

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Brother Emmanuel (Pierre-Paul Gaudette) celebrates his 80th Birthday

Bro. Emmanuel marks his 80th birthday this 28 October 2013 with a series of celebrations. On 26th October the Boys' Town held a celebration for him at the ART restaurant with an evening of food and fun. It was a family occasion for him where all the various components of Boys' Town came together to make this 80th birthday a memorable one for him. The occasion was marked with a dinner out with the Brothers in Singapore. The Brothers all came to celebrate this day dining out at the Jack's place at our famous Bukit Panjang Plaza. These are just some of the many other evenings out for him with various other groups of people who made this grand birthday a significant stage in his life. It was indeed a festival of celebrations for Brother Emmanuel, one who is well admired and loved by so many people here. He jokingly said that he still has many more years to go and he hopes to celebrate his centennial years. Ad Multos Annos!



St. Gabriel's Schools celebrates 60th Anniversary

St. Gabriel's Secondary and Primary Schools celebrated its 60th Anniversary on 9 November 2013. The evening began with a Mass celebrated by Archbishop Emeritus Nicholas Chia. This was followed by a dinner held at the St. Gabriel's Primary School hall. The occasion was organized by the St. Gabriel's Old Boys Association. Some 450 old boys, teachers, principals, parents, well-wishers and Brothers gathered to mark this significant occasion in the history of the school. Bro. Emmanuel, who was for a number of years principal of the St. Gabriel's School, was the guest-of-honour for the dinner. Our heartiest congratulations to the St. Gabriel's Primary and Secondary Schools on this occasion of their 60th anniversary.



Mr. Wee Tat Chuen replaced by Mr. Eric Leong as principal of APS

The principal of Assumption Pathway School (APS), Mr. Wee Tat Chuen, will be completing his term with the school this December 2013. He has led the school since its inception in the year 2009 as an enhanced vocational secondary school from its predecessor Assumption Vocational Institute. Tat Chuen has shown leadership in steering the school to be a place of learning for many young people who had not done well in the mainstream school system. He has led the staff during these five years to develop innovative pedagogy and skills training to develop the students to be personal achievers in their own right. We will miss his dynamic and compassionate ways in wanting to do his best for the students. He will be replaced by Mr. Eric Leong who will take over the running of the school from 15 December 2013. We bade farewell to Mr. Wee Tat Chuen and welcome Mr. Eric Leong to the school.



Mr. Wee (facing camera) and Mr. Eric Leong on his left, chatting with a group of students

A New Centre Manager for Montfort Centre

The Montfort Centre welcomes Mr. Henry Tan as its new centre manager since 18 September 2013. Henry comes to the centre as someone who has many years of work experience in the corporate sector, especially in the banking area. He has also much experience in Information Technology too. Most importantly is that he has recently completed a Diploma in Adult Faith Formation with the Singapore Pastoral Institute. As a committed Catholic he brings with him a wealth of experience that will help manage the day-to-day running of the Montfort Centre to fulfil its purpose as a Montfortian Spirituality Centre. We welcome Henry to the Montfort Centre.



Renovation work has begun on Assumption English School

It is now the turn of Assumption English School (AES) to undergo PRIME for the improvement of its facilities. PRIME is the Ministry of Education Programme for Rebuilding and IMproving Existing schools (PRIME), especially those schools built in the last 20 to 30 years. AES is one of the last in our group of schools to undergo this major work. The school has been in a holding school in Queensway since January but work on the school has just begun. We can see some demolition work being done and the work site being prepared. This project is expected to be completed by middle of 2015.



Demolition work on parts of the building of AES has begun

Boys' Town celebrates opening of new facilities and launches centre for Children, Youth and Families

On 16 August 2013, just days after obtaining its Temporary Occupational Permit (TOP), the renewed buildings of Boys' Town were blessed by the Archbishop of Singapore William Goh. The event also marks the Founder's Day of Boys' Town, usually on the feast of the Assumption of Mary. The celebration began with a Mass celebrated by His Grace with a number of concelebrating priests. This was followed by the Annual Founder's day dinner held at the games hall. It was a joyous occasion with the Boys' Town family entertaining the guests, staff and alumni of Boys' Town. It was a good occasion to mark the 65th anniversary of Boys' Town. For 65 years, Boys' Town has reached out to young people from socially and economically disadvantaged backgrounds to equip them with the skills they need to become responsible and contributing members of society.



A group of boys performing during the Founder's day dinner

After two years of fundraising and building up the new facilities, Boys' Town is now able to bring together a multi-disciplinary team comprising of psychologist, counsellors, social workers, teachers and programme supervisors to provide one-stop, coordinated care for young people-at-risk and their families. Mrs Irene Loi, Boys' Town Executive Director, said, "Boys' Town has traditionally been associated with residential care for boys aged 11 to 18, and this has been our mission for the past 65 years. However, we have come to realise that a wider spectrum of youth today are at risk, from children as young as 6 years old who have suffered various traumas, to older teens who still require care and counseling." Acknowledging Boys' Town's many, generous benefactors, Mrs Loi added, "Thanks to their support, Boys' Town is ready and able to launch new programmes to continue our work of reaching out to young people at risk in our community."

Its services include residential, hostel and shelter care, street outreach through its community service arm, YouthReach, and community and school-based programmes in relation to the care and protection of young persons and the promotion of their welfare. Each year, Boys' Town works with about 500 youth and their families, of which, about 50 are part of its residential programme though it has the residential facility to cater to some 80 boys.



The new building housing the office, counselling and therapy facilities, dormitories, Staff and Brothers' quarters



A partial view of the Boys' Town hostel for the older youths who needs care



An inside view of the new dormitories for the boys



Boys' Town has been engaging youth-at-risk beyond residential care

Boys' Town in collaboration with the Catholic Welfare Services run YouthReach, a community-based programme which started in 2010. YouthReach focuses on helping youth-at-risk, aged 10 to 24, learn values of self-worth, discipline and responsibility. In the long-term, it hopes to reconnect youth with their families and give them the motivation and strength of

character to break away from risky behaviour and friends who have a negative influence on their lives.

YouthReach began as a drop-in centre at Tampines to engage youth in meaningful activities and help them develop physically, academically, emotionally and socially. It has since expanded to include developmental programmes, counselling and visiting youth at their homes.



The youth workers also do street outreach to engage groups of youth. These efforts have helped defuse confrontations, support runaway youth in returning home, and relocate intoxicated youth to a place of safety.



Some Activities of that the youth workers of YouthReach are engaged in

The Establishment of Montfort Care

Marine Parade Family Service Centre (MPFSC) began as a community project by the Brothers of St. Gabriel and Catholic Welfare Services (CWS) in 2000. MPFSC's presence in the community grew quickly and we began piloting several new initiatives with other community partners. In 2002, we started *GoodLife!*, a community-based wellness programme to cater to the growing needs of the elderly community.

MontfortCare

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To drive the society to adopt a renewed and positive understanding of ageing in the community, *YAH!* (Young-at-Heart) Community College was established in 2005. By 2012, a new family service centre, *@27 FSC*, was launched to serve the residents in Telok Blangah. In mid-2013 *Big Love*, a Child Protection Specialist Centre, was introduced to handle and manage child-abuse related cases.

As the organisation grows from strength to strength, and to reaffirm the mission and to align the values that drive the programmes and services, there was need to re-organise so that the organisation can grow stronger, expand its services and help more of those in need.

Montfort Care was introduced in October 2013 as a network of initiatives and programmes committed to improving the lives of individuals, families and the community facing transitional challenges. The organization adopted Montfort's name because it is inspired by his life story and touched by his willingness to walk the unfamiliar path and take risks in order to help those in need.

Montfort Care works not merely to help people to solve their problems, but rather to help them build support and resilience so that they could tackle the obstacles that they face. The belief is that in order to help; one must share the situation of the people, because "Those Whom The World Rejects, Must Move You The Most". Through its five programmes and

services, Montfort Care aspires to be a leader in social service, empowering lives and strengthening communities.

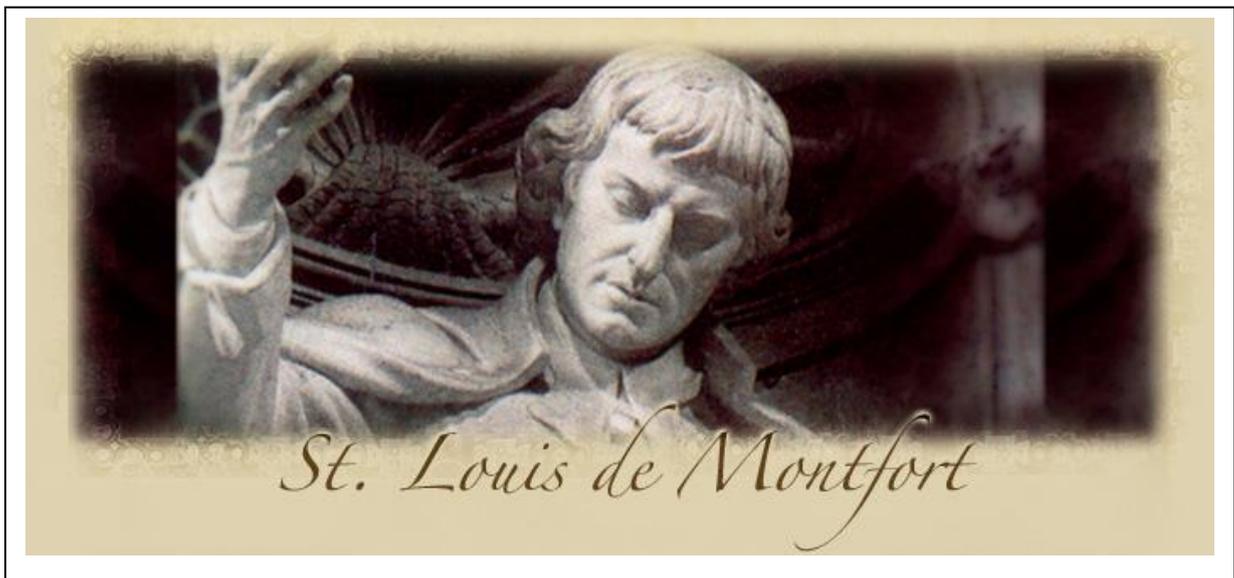


In appreciation of the volunteers at MPFSC



A Collage of the activities of the various programmes





St. Louis Marie de Montfort is the founder of the three Montfortian Religious Congregations; namely; The Company of Mary (SMM), the Daughters of Wisdom (DW) and the Brothers of St. Gabriel (SG).

He was born in the province of Brittany, France in a small town called Montfort Sur Meu in 1617. He entered the seminary St. Sulpice in Paris when he was 20 years old. In 1700, he was ordained priest. He longed to have a small band of missionary under the banner of the Blessed Virgin. His devotion to the Blessed Virgin was unspeakable. His famous writing, “True Devotion to Mary” is a well read and observed by many until today. His motto is “God Alone” telling the total abandonment to God’s divine providence.

His first follower was Maturin, where the Brothers of St. Gabriel descended. There are about 1200 brothers working in 33 countries today. Marie Louise was the first Daughter of Wisdom and their number had grown to 2500 today and working in various ministries among the poor. Towards the end of his life, Fr. Mulot and Fr. Vatel came to join him in preaching missions. The Company of Mary descended from them. Today they have about 1100 members around the world working in various ministries.

Young men and women who are interested in the Montfortian way of life are encouraged to contact the followings:

Singapore	
Bro. Dominic Yeo-Koh (E) dominic_yeokoh@montfortcentre.org (T) +65-91914607	Bro. Raja Manikam (E) manicraj.manthony@gmail.com (T) +65-82820788
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Sabah and Sarawak	
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