



BROTHERS OF ST GABRIEL

"Through Work Achieves Success"



*My soul glorifies the Lord;
My spirit rejoices in God my saviour.*



Words from the Provincial Superior

Bro. Francis Chua



Dear Brothers & Friends of Montfort

In this modern world, we are constantly being challenged as we keep our faith in Jesus and be true to His Name. How then can we be true to His Name especially in this educative mission as Montfortian? Only this, when Jesus prayed to His Heavenly Father "Consecrate them in the truth". By doing so, He said "the world will hate you when you are being consecrated and ready to speak the truth." However, Jesus reassured us that He is living in us through our suffering.

Recently on 1st of May 2014, Brother Joseph Philip had boldly taken this step to consecrate his life to God to serve without condition in order to make a difference in the lives of those who need him. Brother Joseph Philip made his Perpetual Profession at St. Patrick Church, Membakut, Sabah. I take this opportunity to congratulate Brother Joseph Philip for his perseverance and would like to thank Bishop Cornelius Piong, the Brothers, the Clergy and Parishioners of St. Patrick Church Membakut for making this day possible and memorable for all of us.

St Louis Marie De Montfort's famous quote "No Cross, What a Cross" is basically reminding us of our daily challenge that we need to face them positively. St Paul in the Acts of the Apostles also reminded us that fierce wolves will invade us and have no mercy on the flock when he is gone. He commended us to God by the Word and the Grace of God that we be empowered and be sanctified.

There is a saying that often people who have strong likes and dislikes find it difficult to bend. They are as rigid as if they had only one bone. Such people cannot bend, they can only break. We have the capability to change and learn to develop Resilience. We can make ourselves like that Japanese doll called Daruma doll which has a rounded base and is weighted in such a way that when you push it over it springs back up. You can hold it down as long as you like, but as soon as you take your hand away, it jumps back up again. It's like no one who is sick wants to remain in that situation. This is the kind of resilience that we all can cultivate. Whenever life tries to push us down or knock us down, people who have developed this precious quality of Resilience, are able to spring back nimbly; they have lost every trace of rigidity. To achieve the above, we need to once again re-focus on our way of life as Religious to make time for prayer, meditations, Scripture reading, Adoration and Marian Devotion as mentioned in our Rule of Life Nos. 110, 111 and 116.

In concluding, I wish to draw our focus on the Montfortian Education Charter which was launched in Singapore on 18th January, 2014. The eight dimensions enshrined in the Charter call us to remain steadfast in staying true and committed to uphold the purpose and goal of our Montfortian education. Last but not least, I encourage all the Brothers, Lay collaborators, Staff and Friends of Montfort to have the spirit of giving than receiving. It is with the same spirit of sacrificial love of Jesus that we continue to give of ourselves as Educators to teach, serve and care for those whom the world neglects. Our Montfortian Institutions in Singapore and Malaysia have so much to offer to our Youth which you will glimpse as you flip through the pages of this Issue of BSG Province Bulletin. My sincere thanks to the Editor and those who contributed to this bi-annual Province Bulletin.

God bless you all.

GABRIELITE ACTIVITIES IN SINGAPORE

by Bro. Dominic Yeo-Koh

Montfortian Education Symposium

On 18 January 2014, the St. Gabriel's Foundation organized the Montfortian Education Symposium which brought together some 700 staff members of the seven institutions of the



Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel in Singapore. The event was also attended by some of the board and staff members of the Brothers' institutions from Malaysia. It was held at the Auditorium of the Institute of Technical Education College Central. This was the first of such event, where all the staff of members of the institutions in Singapore gathered for one event. The last such event was held in 1987 at the Golden Jubilee of the arrival of the Brothers in Singapore.

At the Symposium the Montfortian Education Charter was also launched. It was distributed to all the staff members and the launch was inaugurated by the Superior General, Brother John Kallarackal. Brother John also addressed the symposium and spoke about the Montfortian Education Charter. He

highlighted the importance of the Charter in that it is the road map that should guide us. A mandala illustrating the Montfortian Education Charter, with its eight dimensions and imprinted with the thumbprint of all the staff of the schools was unveiled. This year's event is the beginning of the Montfortian Education week to be held every year on the week leading up to the third Saturday of the year. This has created for us a greater awareness in our institutions of the importance of Montfortian Education for the 21st century.



“Since grace enhances our human nature and glory adds a still greater perfection to grace, it is certain that our Lord remains in heaven just as much the Son of Mary as he was on earth. Consequently he has retained the submissiveness and obedience of the most perfect of all children towards the best of all mothers.” - *St. Louis-Marie Grignion de Montfort; True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin, TD27*

A photo presentation of the Montfortian Education Symposium



Arrival of guests and registration, and the fixing of their thumbprint on the panel for the Montfortian Education Mandala.

The participants at the symposium, wherein some 700 staff members were present on that day.



Opening Address by the Provincial Superior in which he invited the participants to come up with a Montfortian Education that speaks to the world of the 21st Century.

A dance performance by the Montfort Junior School. The Students of Assumption English School also did a dance performance. There were also performances by the choir of Montfort Secondary School as well that of the St. Gabriel's Secondary School.



Right Reverend Sebastian Francis, the Bishop of Penang, the special guest addressed the assembly in response to the keynote address by the Superior General. Msgr Sebastian is an old boy of Montfort School in Singapore.

The Archbishop Emeritus, Msgr Nicholas Chia (centre), graced us with his presence at the symposium. He was also an old boy of Montfort School, then known as Holy Innocent's English School.



Feast day and Speech day celebrations in the schools

The month of April is the time when schools in Singapore celebrate the feast of St. Louis Marie de Montfort and also the school speech and prize-giving day. On 5th April St. Gabriel's Secondary School held its Speech day. It was an occasion when the school gives awards to students for achievement in academic as well as co-curricular activities. A number of teachers of the school also received their promotion and long service awards. The students put up various performances from the school band, the choir and guitar ensemble entertaining the audience.

For the Assumption Pathway School (APS) there were several celebrations during the month of April. On 23 April, the school held its graduation ceremony for students who have successfully completed their studies and trainings. It was also a time to give recognition to those partners who have supported the students in various programmes. It was a day of much rejoicing for the students and their parents.

On 25 April, the school held its Sports fiesta, wherein the students took part in a whole morning of sporting events. It was not a time of competition but a time of participation for all students. It is so nice to see the enthusiasm of the students taking part in the various games.

APS marks the Feast of St. Louis Marie de Montfort at the school assembly with a talk on the Saint and also a quiz for the students of the school. Similarly the other schools also marked the Feast day with celebration of the Eucharist and with other activities to make the day significant for the students. Those who were not able to do so on 28 April did the celebration on another appropriate day during the week.

The two Montfort Schools (Junior and Secondary school) celebrated their 98th Founder's day



on 26 April 2014, being a Saturday. The Founder's day was also the school speech and prize-giving day. The Guest-of-honour for the occasion was His Grace Msgr William Goh, the Archbishop of Singapore. The students who did well in the academic as well as in

the co-curricular activities were given various awards on this occasion. It was a very joyous occasion for the school on that day.

St. Gabriel's Primary School (SGPS) held their Open House on 31 May 2014 on its ground. Many parents came and visited the school and there was a carnival atmosphere for the day. There were performances by the students of the school and the students of the secondary school also took part in the event. There were ample food and games stalls to engage the families who came for the event. The students also showcased their talents and the various activities that they do in the school. The student demonstrated their kite making skills and also their origami skills. It was very impressive work. There was also class presentation for the parents in which the students confidently presented their class project. With all these activities, SGPS highlighted to the parents who came that SGPS is the school of choice for them.

Montfortian Experience (MX) Retreat is back again

This last 23rd to 25th May 2014, the Montfort Centre has brought back the Montfortian Experience (MX) Retreat. Eighteen participants from various walks of life took part in this first in the series of MX retreat. This first in the series is known as the MX1 and it is a weekend based on Montfortian Spirituality. It is entitled, "THE HEART OF LIVING: A MONTFORTIAN PATHWAY TO CHRISTIAN LIVING."

The retreat is animated by Bro. Paul Raj and Bro. Dominic Yeo Koh, and it leads the participants in the spiritual pathway as proposed by St. Louis Marie de Montfort, in a radical living out of the gospel call to holiness. Most of the participants has found the retreat experience inspiring and at the end of the retreat they felt that they are enthusiastic for the kingdom of God inspired by Montfort. The next in the series will be held this coming October and this MX2 will dwell on the True Devotion to Mary.

Glimpses of the MX1 Retreat



Sharing a meal together



Small group sharing taking place



Bro. Paul Raj and Bro. Dominic



Getting in touch with their experiences



Those who made it through the week



Moments of prayer

Montfort Junior School Charity Golf 2014 tournament

The Montfort Junior School (MJS) and the St. Gabriel's Primary School (SGPS) will soon be undergoing Primary Education Review and Implementation (PERI) upgrading to meet the recommendations of the committee. Thus both the schools are now engaged in the fundraising effort to



meet the requirements of the additional facilities that the school will need. On 30 May 2014, the MJS held its Charity Golf tournament to help raise some of the needed funds.

The Charity Golf event was organized by the Montfort Alumni and it was well supported by the many old students of the school. It was a very successful event with much of the needed funds raised on this occasion. The Golf tournament was well participated and the dinner that followed was well attended by most of the participants. The little rain that came by later in the day did

not dampen the spirit of the golfers. They had lots of fun all the same. It was a day of fellowship and enjoyment. Well done to the organizing chairman and his committee members. Thanks also to the many generous donors who contributed to the success of this event.



While the income of a minority is increasing exponentially, that of the majority is crumbling. This imbalance results from ideologies which uphold the absolute autonomy of markets and financial speculation, and thus deny the right of control to States, which are themselves charged with providing for the common good. **-Pope Francis** (*Reuters* May 16, 2013)

The Official Launch of Montfort Care

The official launch of the Montfort Care was held on 15 February 2014 and it was officiated by His Grace Most Reverend William Goh, the Archbishop of Singapore. On this occasion His Grace also inaugurated the Big Love, a new Child Protection Specialist Centre by Montfort Care to provide community-based support for families with child abuse, neglect and welfare concerns. This launch marks a journey of more than fourteen years, since the year 2000, when the Marine Parade Family Service Centre was started by the Brothers of St. Gabriel in collaboration with the Catholic Welfare Service of Singapore. This has grown into a network of services which today we call the Montfort Care. With this official launch the Montfort Care network is committed to improving the lives of individuals, families and the community facing transitional challenges. It serves the disadvantaged communities by providing programmes that create an impact in the community.



The Staff team of Montfort Care on the occasion of the official launch

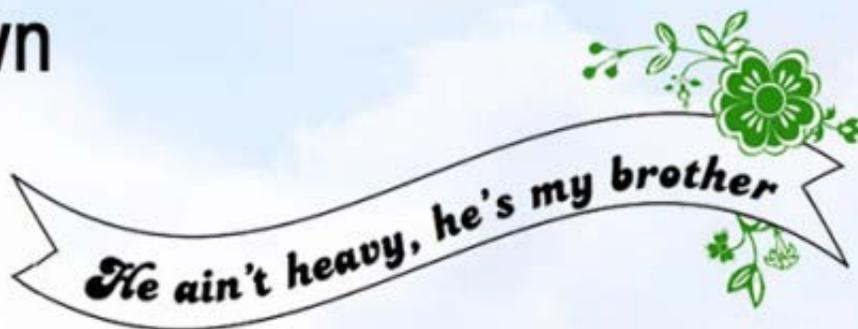


His Grace Archbishop William Goh addressing the crowd at the launch



“God made the world for the delight of human beings-- if we could see His goodness everywhere, His concern for us, His awareness of our needs: the phone call we've waited for, the ride we are offered, the letter in the mail, just the little things He does for us throughout the day. As we remember and notice His love for us, we just begin to fall in love with Him because He is so busy with us -- you just can't resist Him. I believe there's no such thing as luck in life, it's God's love, it's His.” – Blessed Teresa of Calcutta

Boys' Town



BOYS' TOWN FRATERNITY, SINGAPORE

Bro. Emmanuel (Pierre-Paul Gaudette)



January is the beginning of a new year with people of a certain age. Our expectation and our prayers right from the first day has been *"O Lord through the Immaculate Heart of Mary help us to spend a year of joy, love, understanding and amicable friendship and respectful brotherhood among ourselves and with the people who will come our way day after day, week after week, month after month throughout the whole year."* We soon found out that it is not as easy as that to live to such ideal and expectation but what is certain is that we tried and are still trying.

Our Fraternity always made up of 4 elderly and lovable people the Roger, the Jean-Denis, the James Tham and the Emmanuel have striven to live up to the dream of our Provincial when he called us *'the power house of the Province'*. We have a long way to reach fully that ideal but we try.

Being a Fraternity with a cook; and at the request of our very close neighbouring fraternity the St. Louis' Fraternity, we extended welcome to all the Brothers to have their meals with us and to share precious time together. Out of 4 Brothers two are regular, one has been transferred and the other makes a rare appearance at these meals but all are welcome at all times to share the little that we have.

The task of the Cook is made difficult as many of our members are ill, aged and require particular care for food ... Fish for those who like it, meat for the others, spicy food for those who like it and not so spicy food for others. Sugar and salt or no salt or sugar etc Poor William although trying his best is sometime finding it uneasy to satisfy all the whims and fancies of every one. He is trying and improving.

Open House for visitors: All kinds. Brothers, Sisters visiting priests, friends, members of the family of the Brothers etc. Of late we gave Board and Lodging to 2 Diocesan Priests from Kiunga. One of them needed urgent medical care and he came with the diagnosis that he had cancer of the prostate and stone in the bladder. They arrived on a Thursday evening ... the day after the one who was sick was seen by the Doctor from the Raffles Medical Centre, on Saturday night he was operated and lo and behold bad prostate, no cancer at all and no stones. On Monday discharged and on Wednesday found fit to return completely restored to Papua New Guinea. The Brothers of my fraternity were very attentive to their needs and they felt at home in our midst.

Fr. Bernard Teo (CSsR) is a regular visitor who comes from Australia every now and again and offers to say Mass for us in our Chapel. It is a blessing and we are able to help him help us. Sisters working in Papua-New Guinea come and go and spend some quality time with us. Sometimes they use plenty of our time but we are always ready to be of service to them.

No wonder this fraternity is considered as a very hospitable fraternity. Everyone plays his part to help

BOYS' TOWN FRATERNITY, SINGAPORE

Bro. Emmanuel (Pierre-Paul Gaudette)

the best way he can to make their stay memorable. Chinese New Year gave us the opportunity of a few visitors.

The Friends of Bro. Roger especially members of the RCIA came to have dinner in our very small and cosy dining hall and we had a great time rejoicing and making happiness part of the party. Bro. Rajamanikam on transfer to Kota Kinabalu was given a decent farewell meal to thank him for his services. Members of both Fraternities in Singapore were there to wish him all the best.

We usually celebrate the birthday of the members of these two fraternities with a meal either out in a simple restaurant or cooked by our Chef who demonstrated his savoir faire in the art of culinary food. We never missed the opportunity to celebrate with our Brothers on their anniversary.

The Boys' Town Fraternity has a beautiful chapel. Every time we have an opportunity we gather for Mass on the occasion of a visiting priest. The Staff of Boys' Town and the Catholic students of the Home have a weekly service organized for them under the care and love of our neighboring Franciscan Fathers.

The death of people who are dear to us be they members of our family, or friends who are very close to us, or benefactors is always commemorated through a Mass and prayers for their intentions.

We had a brief visit of our Provincial Superior whose main attention since the beginning of his Provincialate has been in Sabah but he has managed to spend brief moments with us sharing some of the Province and Inter Province news and some of his aspirations. Such visits are very much appreciated and we wish they were more frequent.

INTO YOUR PRAYERS we uplift Bro. Jean Denis Gervais whose cancer of the prostate and of the bones is making rapid progress. He bravely bears the pain and continues boldly to work on his pet project but he is very much in need of our intensified prayers. Especially now that he has planned to go home for his regular home leave. We pray for a safe journey, quick recuperation if this is the will of God and a prompt return home to us at the end of his holidays.

Bro Roger Venne is also suffering from a multitude of sicknesses ... he has apparently several cancers and of late problems with his kidney. He would need operations but his heart is too weak for the doctors to decide on operating him. If his kidneys are not attended to he may need to begin some dialysis treatments. He too is a strong man, and although he is highly restricted in his diet he very bravely continues to work as if he was not ill. I recommend him also to your good prayers.

Bro. James Tham is strong and healthy. He takes care of his illnesses and continues to attend to his duties in our community with courage and efficiency. He is very much appreciated as the treasurer of the community and the support he gives to his fellow brothers.

As for me I can bless the good Lord for a reasonably good health. I have problems with my legs. Suffer bouts of High Blood Pressure but still can vacate to my different duties. I have slowed down in giving talks, in solemnizing marriages and visiting prisons but I do not let go, I let God utilize me as much as He can. Being the youngest I always boast of being the fittest.

All of us in our own way and manner strive to serve the Lord in the best way we can. For some it is evident they are visible praying for others they are humbly praying in the silence of their room and solitude. What is important is BY OUR FRUIT THEY WILL KNOW WHETHER GOD IS WITH US.

I am grateful to be with a community of Brothers who are very patient, loving and forgiving. It is not always easy to live with a superior who may not be always on the lead ... but I can assure you that he tries to be.

May God bless our fraternity and grant each one of us the graces to live gracefully, in good health and happily in the service of the Lord.

Montfort Youth Centre, Melaka

by MYC

CHINESE NEW YEAR



The first half of the year passed in a brisk. Classes began on 6 January and after 3 weeks the students were back home again to celebrate the Chinese New Year festival.

MYC had our own in-house celebration to usher in the new year of the Horse. The evening started with a thanksgiving mass, followed by video presentation on the mystic animals of the lunar year.

As *Yee Sang* is a Chinese New Year dish and is only available during this festive season, the management committee was invited to toss the dish, which is the symbol of prosperity. Beside dinner, oranges, *Ang Pows* and lion dances were of course part of the joyous occasion.



MYC LION DANCE

Our Lion Dance Troupe was invited by the Chief Minister's Office to perform at Mydin Hypermarket, Ayer Keroh. The occasion was *Ang Pow* giveaways to single mothers and the poor which were presented by the Chief Minister of Melaka.

ANG POW



ENE (Melaka) Sdn. Bhd. visited the students during the Chinese New Year festival and gave *Ang Pow* and goodies to every student.

COOKING COMPETITION



Cooking Competition is held regularly among the Houses. The picture shows boys from Louis House presenting their dishes as others applauded in support.

GOODBYE



Early this year, we bid farewell to Mr. Michael Dass, our Student Affairs Officer who was also a member of the Management Committee. He has served in MYC since 2008. He has left us to join the College General Catholic Seminary in Penang. We congratulate him for taking up the challenge and wish him all the best in his studies, while

assuring him of our prayers always.

Ms. Christina Joseph and Mr. Aidid had also left to pursue better careers. We wish them all the best.

WELCOME TO THE TEAM

- Mr. Michael A/L Anthony – Student Affairs Officer
- Mr. Roger bin Kukundu – Student Affairs Officer
- Ms. Nurul Ismah Syazwani binti Ismail - Instructor (Computer Maintenance)
- Mr. Ab Razak bin Hj Ahmad - Instructor (Motor Mechanic)

Montfort Youth Centre, Melaka

by MYC

EASTER SUNDAY



EXAMINATION



VISITING SUNDAY



Semester examination was held in mid-March to evaluate the students' understanding of their courses.

After the mid-term semester examination, parents and family members came to MYC to collect their sons' report cards as well as to interact with the Brothers, teachers and staff on their sons' progress. Later the students joined their family for lunch which they had brought from home.

To mark the end of Lent, the prefects organized a barbecue for all the students on Easter Sunday. The boys had fun preparing the food and had a wonderful time bonding together with each other.

STAFF BONDING

During the mid-term school break, the Brothers and staff went to Tioman Island for a 4 day trip. It was a great time to get together away from the everyday working environment and to get to know each other better amongst the staff from various departments. Besides swimming and feeding the fish, a number of fun-filled games were organized. Before we left the island, Ms. Nurul, who represented the staff, thanked Bro. Peter for organizing the trip which all had enjoyed.

MYC 12TH OPEN HOUSE CHARITY CARNIVAL

The yearly event was held on Sunday 18 May from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. with YB Mr. Lim Ban Hong, Japerun Klebang, officiating the event. The weather in the morning was wet and gloomy so sales for stalls were slow but gradually picked up by mid-noon as the sun started to shine.

To all our donors, stall holders, supporters, friends of Montfort and members of the public, we wish to thank you for your kind support. To our staff and students who had worked so hard to see to the success of the event, thank you!

As we bless and thank God for providing us with everything, we pray that God will shower His blessings on all who has contributed in one way or another to the success of our Open House Charity Carnival 2014.



Montfort Boys Town, Shah Alam

by Mr. Arulanandam

CHINESE NEW YEAR 2014 (YEAR OF THE HORSE)



Chinese New Year Celebration was the opening event for the year 2014. A sub committee was formed among students to organize this event. They managed their time well and put up a good show for the day. The staff was amazed at their organizing skills, performance as well as 'Team Leadership' which will be an advantage where they venture into the world of employment.

MONTFORT FEAST DAY – 28 April 2014



The Feast Day committee was chaired by Ms. Cecilia and working closely with the committee to prepare and celebrate the Feast Day meaningfully. We had many ideas in mind but the spirit of the Lord finally directed us to what was to be celebrated. The theme was 'God Alone'. We had 3 days triduum which was celebrated by our own former Bro. Eddie who is now Rev. Father Edward Rayappan. Being formed by the Montfortian spirituality he had shared with us a fruitful and meaningful reflection. The topics that were shared include Internal Wisdom, Mary and The Cross. Archbishop Emeritus Murphy Pakiam was the main celebrant for the Feast Day Mass. Following this; there were performances prepared by the students for the celebration; Hand Miming titled Black Night Performance, some other performances by the students and video presentation on the Life of St. Louis Marie De Montfort, which was awesome. Together with this we also celebrated the 50th Priestly Anniversary of Archbishop Emeritus Murphy Pakiam and 75th birthday of Bro. Mark. That evening's celebration was greatly appreciated by the guests. A new portrait of St. Louis Marie De Montfort was placed at all departments and important places to remind us about our founder. We praise and thank God for being a part of reaching out to the under privileged with love and care. All for the glory of God. *(Contributed by Ms. Cecilia)*

Montfort Boys Town, Shah Alam

by Mr. Arulanandam

SCHOOL LEAVERS RETREAT (23 to 26 April 2014) and SCHOOL LEAVERS NIGHT (5 May 2014)
A total of 105 boys and 23 girls attended this year's School Leavers Retreat at Golden Sands Baptist Centre, Port Dickson. Bro. Peter Issac (Director), Sr. Yvonne together with the working committee prepared months ahead for this retreat. It was another bonding session among the 2nd year students who journeyed with one another and shared their happiest moments, identifying their own transformation and laughed at some of their silly mistakes till tears wet their cheeks when it was time to say sorry for their mistakes. Sharing sessions, Prayers and Meditations were conducted and all students were very grateful to the Management and staff who had guided them these two years of their training.



OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL – TRAINING FOR PREFECTS



Leaders can be groomed with guidance and by exposing them to challenges. Montfort has identified leadership qualities among students and gave them an opportunity to be a prefect in the "Home Prefectorial System". Most prefects will serve for a year in various categories. To appreciate their good leadership skills, Montfort Boys Town offered them a 5 day leadership training course at the Outward Bound School in Lumut, Perak, recently.

OPEN HOUSE CARNIVAL 2014



It was Carnival Day again on 4th May 2014 and many people came to support our Fund Raising Event. Last year's crowd was smaller due to the date of GE13 which clashed with our event, but a

Montfort Boys Town, Shah Alam

by Mr. Arulanandam

good turnout this year was a blessing from God. The old boys from Cameron Highlands generously donated vegetables and flowers and BIG thanks to the MBT Alumni for their good networking. It was a fun filled day where the crowd enjoyed games, food and music all day long. Our sincere thanks to many stall operators who donated their profit (100%) to Montfort Boys Town. "The main purpose of the Montfort Open House Carnival 2014 is to raise funds to support Montfort's mission and defray the operational cost of RM 6 million per annum" said Mindy Wong, Organizing Chair for the event.

SCHOOL LEAVERS PROJECTS



As the students have been blessed generously, they too wished to use their talents to bless Montfort Boys Town. This year 3 groups of students came forward to represent their fellow friends and contributed 3 projects – namely: The Path of Serenity, Flower Bed and Mural Painting with Lightings. Amidst their preparation for their final exam and employment interviews, they managed to plan their projects and completed them on time. A great challenge they faced was the 'rain' which hampered their work while many of us prayed for 'pouring rain', to end the water rationing. It was a blessing for both parties as they completed their projects and the water rationing came to an end.

GRADUATION 2014



Our annual Graduation for this year was held on 11th May 2014. A total of 105 male students and 23 female students graduated. It was a joy-filled occasion where parents and guardians were very happy with their sons'/daughters' achievements and were very grateful to Montfort Boys Town. Almost every student secured employment before Graduation and will be starting work in the month of June 2014. The Scholar of the Year awards went to Teh Yu Han and Tang Voon Tick and were awarded cash and a memento. Ms. Jasmin Johnson, the Manager of SCR Department from Hong Leong Management Company was our VIP and she was very impressed with the graduating students. A BIG thanks to the Board Members, Donors and Benefactors who attended and wished them well in their careers. A special thanks to KD Dass the Organizing Chair for the event who worked with his committee making the event a memorable one for all.

Montfort Youth Training Centre, Sabah

by Ms. Beverly Jominit



The Rotary Club of Kota Kinabalu (RCKK) officially handed over the Rain Water Harvesting Project to MYTC on 17th January 2014. RCKK sponsored two units of 9,000 litres cylindrical water storage tanks, piping, electrical jet pump and the labour and materials for constructing the project costing the Club about RM 16,000.00. The total installed rain water harvesting capacity would save about one third of the water (4,000 litres) used by the Trainees. The aim of the project is not only to save cost but to create awareness in the Trainees of the need to conserve water and natural resources to instill the responsibility for the environment. District Governor of Rotary District 3310, Chew Ghim Bok, who witnessed the handing over of the project commended RCKK for completing a very useful and meaningful project which brought benefits comprising sustainable long term assistance to MYTC. DG Ghim Bok with the Rotarians from RCKK took the opportunity to visit the workshop and training facilities of MYTC. We would like to especially thank Mr. Chiang Wei Chia, the President of RCKK who is also a member of MYTC Board of Governors for initiating this project.

The News of MYTC in Pictures

Support from Berjaya Care Foundation

Berjaya Corporation Berhad held its 4th Berjaya Founder's Day on 22nd February 2014 at Berjaya Times Square, Kuala Lumpur. MYTC was among the beneficiaries of the event and Bro. Stephen Tee attended the event to represent MYTC for the cheque presentation. The foundation also donated a van to St. Mary's Youth Hostel, Sandakan; another hostel that is under the wing of Montfort Youth Training Centre.



Visit of St. Gabriel's Secondary School, Singapore

Mr Stephen Chin, the Principal of St Gabriel's Secondary School, Singapore accompanied by Mr Koh Wei Ming, Ms Geetha Sagunan and Mr Ong Chin Ming visited our Centre in February 2014 to explore and plan the upcoming activities for their students in November 2014.

The News of MYTC in Pictures

Chap Goh Mei Celebration

MYTC marked the year of the Horse on 15th February 2014. The Open Hall was decorated with lanterns made by the Trainees themselves. The Brothers, Staff and Trainees enjoyed a wonderful buffet dinner while entertained with performances from Trainees such as the Lion Dance and song presentations.



One Billion Rising Campaign

16th February 2014 – *Pusat Kebajikan Good Shepherd*, Youth-PREP Centre joined hands with Sabah Women's Action-Resources Group (SAWO) to organize the campaign that aims to create awareness about violence against women and children. Our Trainees participated with enthusiasm and shared their views on this subject.

Welcoming the Brothers of St. Gabriel from the Province of Malaysia-Singapore

6th March 2014 - We had the pleasure to welcome the Brothers of St. Gabriel from the Province of Malaysia-Singapore during their Recollection here in Kinarut. A fellowship dinner was held in the Open Hall to officially welcome Bro. Raja Manikam to MYTC and at the same time celebrate Bro. Jean-Denis' and Bro. Roger Venne's birthdays.



Prefect Training

22nd – 24th March 2014 – Forty Trainees from MYTC together with twelve students from San Damiano went to Kokol for three days two nights leadership training programme. Team building activities were organized to improve team morale and help strengthen their sense of responsibility.



Outdoor Camp

4th – 6th April 2014 – The Boys came back energized and refreshed from an outdoor camp on the hill adjacent to the campus. There were many activities organized for the students including treasure hunt and games.

The News of MYTC in Pictures

Easter Barbecue

20th April 2014 – It was a most enjoyable time among the Trainees and Staff who participated in the activity. It was the annual event for the students. Thanks to Mr. Stephen Voo who donated the fresh Tilapia fish for the students to feast.



Batch 14 Graduation Ceremony

Kinarut: The 14th Graduation Ceremony of Montfort Youth Training Centre (MYTC), which was held on the 17th May 2014 saw 70 young men walked out triumphantly from the Centre with their scrolls. They had successfully secured their Montfort Certificate and Sijil Kemahiran Malaysia (SKM) Level I and II in one of the following trades: Automotive Mechanic, Welding, Carpentry and Refrigeration Air-conditioning Mechanics.



Fidelis Sogen receiving the scroll from the Board Chairman



Voon Zi Feng receiving the scroll from the Board Chairman



Raymond Kading receiving the scroll from the Board Chairman



Fenson Adrian

During the graduation ceremony, there were three graduates who obtained “Excellence” in their achievements. They were Fenson Adrian (Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Maintenance), Raymond Kading (Welding) and Maxwell Baking (Carpentry).

YBhg. Tan Sri Bernard Dompok, Chairman of MYTC Board of Governors officiated the Graduation Ceremony and presented the certificates to the Graduates. In congratulating the Graduates for the successful completion of their two-year



Maxwell Baking

programme, Tan Sri reminded them to live up to the trust and hope the Brothers, Instructors, Benefactors, Sponsors and Parents have invested in them. Brother Francis Chua, the Director of MYTC, thanked all present, in particular the Graduates' parents for coming to witness their sons' graduation. He congratulated the Graduates for their perseverance and determination in overcoming the many challenges to attain their certificates.

Fidelis Sogen, Voon Zi Feng and Raymond Kading were the valedictorians on that day. They shared their past experiences and what they had gained in the Centre. They were very grateful for being given the opportunity to improve themselves. Voon Zi Feng, in the midst of thanking his parents in Mandarin, became speechless while trying to hold his tears and decided to step to the middle of the stage and offered them a bow instead. Ninety-seven percent of the Graduates are secured with employment in and around Sabah and Peninsular Malaysia, indicating Montfort's role in the economic empowerment of rural Youth in Sabah and Sarawak. –MYTC

8th Montfort Charity Golf



Kota Kinabalu: The 8th Montfort Charity Golf held on 14th June 2014 at the Sabah Golf & Country Club (SGCC) was a tremendous success. Organising Chairman, Mr Willie Wong assisted by Mr Henry Goh and their dedicated organising committee team managed to achieve the set target. YBhg Datuk Aloysius Tan of TBMC Sdn Bhd generously sponsored a Mitsuoka Nouera worth RM 220,000 for the Hole-in-One prize for the hole no. 8 and no. 17. The champion for this year's

tournament is Mr Chua Poh Guan. Also present during the tournament were the Lord Mayor of Kota Kinabalu, Datuk Abidin Madingkir and the President of SGCC, Datuk Robin Loh.



Mr. Willie Wong (centre) having light moment with the Lord Mayor (left) before the tournament began.

Tan Sri Bernard Dompok, the Board Chairman of Montfort Youth Training Centre (MYTC) thanked the Organizing Chairman, Mr. Willie Wong and his team for their dedication, hard work and commitment in organizing and ensuring the success of the tournament. He also thanked all the golfers for their contribution to the building of the youth in MYTC. He said that MYTC not only train the youth in technical skills but more importantly their character formation.

Four weeks earlier 70 of the Trainees graduated from MYTC and 97% of them were employed.



Mr. Chua Poh Guan, the overall champion received the trophy from Tan Sri Bernard

SAN DAMIANO BOYS HOSTEL (SDBH), KIULU

by SDBH

PARENT'S DAY February 8, 2014 (Saturday)



At the beginning of year 2014, we received 14 new students to stay with us in San Damiano Boys Hostel, Kiulu making the total number of boys under our residential care to 62. Three of the boys are from Kota Kinabalu and the others are from villages nearby where access to school, SMK Tun Fuad Kiulu is a major problem. The school is the only secondary school in the vicinity and has 1,200 students. Kiulu is situated between Kota Kinabalu and Kinabalu National Park. It takes approximately 45 minutes by car to reach Kiulu town from Kota Kinabalu city.

On the 8th February 2014, The Staff in SDBH organized Parent's Day for the first time. We invited the parents of our 62 students to come to visit San Damiano Boys Hostel and get to know the Staff who are here to take care of their children. The staff force at the time consists of 1 Cook, 1 Admin In-Charge, 1 Admin Assistant, 1 senior warden, 1 junior warden and 2 volunteers from UK. Our programme for Parent's Day started as early as 8 am. We served light breakfast to welcome those who arrived early followed by introduction of SDBH and talks by the warden, admin In-charge and a welcome speech by the Brother Director of Montfort Youth Training Centre. Lunch was served at 12.00 noon.

The talk given by the Admin In-charge, Ms. Audrey Yong was on 'How to Add Value to 1 Ringgit'. Many of our students are spending 1 Ringgit or more a day on tit-bits which are actually 'junk food'. She presented to the parents and students figuratively that if the 62 boys can put aside 2 ringgit a week in 'pool box' and they will be able to collect RM 496.00 per month. With that amount, we can buy nice cakes, ice cream and even McDonald Burgers and Kentucky Fried



Chicken to celebrate birthdays. Though not every parent could come for the occasion, we could see that the younger boys were really happy having both SDBH staff and their parents chatting and eating together as a family. Since 2014 Chinese New Year festive mood is still in the air, Brother Director also distributed 'Ang Pows' to the boys. Mdm. Helena Kwan from MYTC was also present to give the 'Ang Pows' on behalf of her son who is working in Singapore. We hope to make this 'Parent's Day' a tradition in San Damiano Boys Hostel.

FEAST OF ST. LOUIS MARIE DE MONTFORT IN SDBH, KIULU **April 23, 2014 (Wednesday)**

The staff and students of SDBH gathered together to celebrate St. Louis Marie De Montfort on the 23rd April 2014. We invited the Franciscan Sisters to join us in the celebration and Sister Jane and Sister Clare attended. Our programme for the evening started at 6.30 pm with the recitation of the Holy Rosary prayer in front of the Grotto. Candles were lit around the grotto and compound. Before dinner, we had cake cutting to celebrate birthdays of the month, Montfort Feast Day and to welcome Brother Raja Manikam who will be Brother-In-charge of Residential Care of SDBH, Kiulu.



The weather that day was beautiful and allowed us to continue our evening programme in the open air compound. The students and staff sang songs of St. Louis Marie De Montfort and 3 groups of boys gave their performances in songs and guitar. Our Cook, Mrs. Angeline served us with a drum of prawn crackers donated by the parishioners of Holy Nativity, Terawi, Penampang as a special treat.

VISIT BY BASEL CHURCH, TUARAN **March 15, 2014 (Saturday)**

A group of women, about 30 of them came to pay us a visit in San Damiano Boys Hostel, Kiulu on 15th March 2014. They donated some dried food and washing detergents to the boys. Our Cook, Angeline served them donuts and coffee. In the group, there is a lady Pastor who serves in Tamparuli Basel Church. She told the boys a story about the 'cracked water container'.



The story goes like this. There was a man who has to carry water every day to his house from a well. His water container is cracked and water leaks from it. The 'Water Container' feels bad because it does not serve his master well. But the flowers along the road benefited because they are watered by this 'cracked watering container'. The moral of the story shared by the Pastor is that God

makes each and every one of us different and has a purpose for each and every one of us in the making of His kingdom.





It was a memorable first football game for the Project Trust Volunteer, Ben in Sabah: MYTC, Kinarut vs. SDBH, Kiulu Saturday, (18/01/2014). The score was in favour of MYTC, 4-1. it was great foot work on both sides, for till the end, the motto 'win or lose, play the game well', was well honored. Thank you Ben for seeing to it that the plan materialize and more importantly, for finding the occasion for the boys to have such clean fun.



One may think that the Project Trust Volunteers are just good for imparting class room English lessons. To prove us wrong they turn the kitchen into a learning station. It is time to savour English pancakes and have a hands-on pancake experience. Making pancakes with the boys on Shrove Tuesday (04/04/14), was memorable. The boys as usual appreciated what their teacher taught and served. It was a great treat for one and all. They had copied the recipe, so that they could make pancakes for their own friends and family.



To mark the visit of Sam from UK, the brother of Benjamin the Project Trust Volunteer; Sam, Rory and Ben with the boys decorated the classroom on Saturday, 05/04/2014. The boys were delighted to meet another member of Ben's family another 'Orang Puteh' and they thoroughly enjoyed decorating and making Sam's visit a meaningful and joyful one.



Charity Dinner in Aid of St. Mary's Youth Hostel, Sandakan

Sandakan: A Charity Dinner was organized on the 18th May, 2014 in aid of St. Mary's Youth Hostel, Sandakan. The supposed 'pilot project' of the Brothers when they decided to assist in running the hostel programme, now become one of their missions and services for the young people in the Diocese of Sandakan. In the past the Brothers were approached to assist in managing the hostel but due to manpower shortage, the Brothers did not respond at all. However since the Brothers took charge, there had been much improvements in the programmes of the students.

The Diocese of Sandakan reporting through their blog, covered the night of the Charity Dinner exclusively. The followings are the extracts from their report.

The Organizing Chairman, Mr Michael Raymond Tan, who is also the Chairman of the Hostel Management Committee in his welcoming speech, extended his appreciation to all donors and supporters for their kind generosity. He disclosed that the fund-raising team through their strong commitment and teamwork has raised an awesome sum of RM674,089.00 in a mere two-month charity drive. They had exceeded their expectation to raise RM500,00.00. The team comprised of Daniel Pang, the secretary, Suzanna Hon, the treasurer, Raymond Wong, Jacob Pang, Jerry Lo, Christopher Chia, Vincent Chow and Brother Stephen Tee sg as committees.



The Organising Chairman, Mr Michael Raymond Tan



The cutting of ribbons by VIPs to mark the event



The Cheque presentation



The full-house attendance

Brother Francis Chua sg, the Provincial Superior of the Montfort Brothers and Mr John Pang, the adviser to the fund raising committee and the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Hostel were both instrumental and remained very supportive of the drive from its conception till implementation. He said, 'The huge turnout shows the tremendous support and kind understanding of the local community in helping those in need especially the under-privileged students from the rural areas across Sabah to experience a better and more conducive learning environment.' He commended the good work of the Organizing Committee. He thanked the people of Sandakan for having responded so generously in support of St Mary's Youth Hostel. He touched briefly on the background of Montfort Youth Training Centre (MYTC) Sabah, established some 16 years ago.

Charity Dinner in Aid of St. Mary's Youth Hostel, Sandakan

Among the local dignitaries present in the event were Ir James Wong, the President of Sandakan Municipal Council, ACP Rowell Marong, the Sandakan Police Chief and Fr Thomas Makajil, the rector of St Mary's Cathedral, representing Rt Rev Julius Dusin Gitom, the Bishop of Sandakan. Fr Simon Kontou of St Dominic Parish, Lahad Datu, Fr Sunny Chung of Sandakan, Religious Sisters of FSIC and RGS and Religious Brothers of SG were also present, lending support to the event.

The purpose of the Hostel Programme is to provide residential care in a living and learning conducive environment to the rural school-going youth. St. Mary's Youth Hostel run the same programme as the San Damiano Boys' Hostel whereby the students are being nurtured with Christian values, leadership and communication skills besides monitoring their English competency. –Province Bulletin

Kindly read the full article from: **News Updating Diocese of Sandakan**

http://newsupdatedospo.blogspot.com/2014/05/your-gift-can-make-difference-in_19.html



Human rights, of course, must include the right to religious freedom, understood as the expression of a dimension that is at once individual and communitarian - a vision that brings out the unity of the person while clearly distinguishing between the dimension of the citizen and that of the believer. -**Pope Emeritus Benedict VI**



Helping Others

Once there was a small boy named Shankar. He belonged to a poor family. One day, he was crossing through the forest carrying some woods. He saw an old man who was very hungry. Shankar wanted to give him some food, but he did not have food even for himself. So he continued on his way. On his way he saw a deer who was very thirsty. He wanted to give him some water, but he did not have water for himself. So he went on his way. Then he saw a man who wanted to make a camp but he did not have woods. Shankar asked about his problem and gave some woods to him. In return, he gave Shankar some food and water. Now Shankar went back to the old man and gave him some food and gave some water to the deer. The old man and the deer were very happy. Shankar then happily went on his way.

However, one day Shankar fell down the hill. He was in pain but he couldn't move and no one was there to help him. But, the old man whom he had helped before saw him; he quickly came and pulled him up the hill. He had many wounds on his legs. The deer that Shankar had gave water saw his wounds and quickly went into the forest and brought some herbs. After sometime Shankar wounds were healed. All were very happy that they were able to help each other. (<http://www.moralstories.org/>)

Final Profession of Bro. Joseph Philip

Membakut: It was a joyous occasion for the Brothers in the Province of Malaysia and Singapore when Bro. Joseph Philip professed his final commitment on the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, on 1st May 2014 at St. Patrick's Church, Membakut.

Rt. Rev Datuk Cornelius Piong the Bishop of Keningau Diocese presided over Bro. Joseph Philip's Final Profession Mass at St. Patrick's Church, Membakut and concelebrated by Fr. Paul Mikin and Fr. Charles Chiew. The Brothers from Melaka and Singapore attended the celebration. Bro. Francis Chua, the Provincial Superior of Malaysia – Singapore Province accepted the vows of Bro. Joseph. In congratulating Bro. Joseph, the bishop expressed his gratitude to Bro. Joseph's parents for giving their son to the Congregation and hoped that there will be many more to follow in his footsteps.

Bro. Joseph Philip (SG) although belonged to the Holy Rosary Parish, Limbahau, chose to celebrate his Final Profession at St. Patrick's Church, a neighboring parish of his home parish because it is in this Parish Church that he made some soul searching. His faith journey led him to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2001. That same year, he responded to God's calling by serving in the Lord's vineyard through the Congregation of the Brothers of St Gabriel and was accepted as candidate and aspirant. In 2003, he was admitted into the Novitiate in Chiang Mai, Thailand where he underwent the two years of religious formation. He faced his trials and challenges with humility and perseverance. He went through the novitiate life full of thanksgiving and surrendering his life to God.



The Signing of the Attestation



Bro. Joseph (centre) and the Brothers



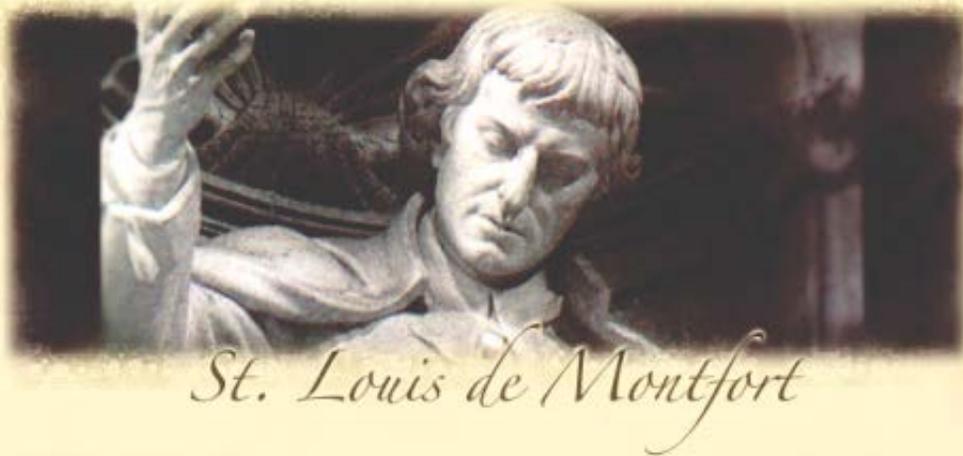
With the Organising Committee



With his parents and cousin, Fr. Francis Dakun

In May 2005, Bro Joseph made his first profession at Montfort Youth Training Centre, Penampang, whereupon he was posted to Montfort Youth Centre in Melaka for his tenure of two years. In 2007, he was transferred to MBT Shah Alam to continue his ministry while at the same time pursued his study in psychology. In 2011, he went to the Philippines to do a basic course in theology for one year. Upon returning from the Philippines, he was posted to MYTC. Through the encouragement and support of the Brothers, he applied to become a permanent member of the BSG.

The Brothers in the Province wish to record their sincere thanks to the Bishop for presiding the celebration. The Brothers also grateful to the Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Paul Mikin for granting Bro. Joseph's wish to have his final profession at St. Patrick's Church, and the Parish Pastoral Council and those who had worked hard in organizing the celebration.



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).

The mission of the *Company of Mary* is expressed in the Congregation's Constitutions as follows:

"Our Mission in the Church consists in revealing the mystery of salvation to those who do not yet know it, and in helping those who have already heard the Good News to rediscover and deepen this mystery by a renewed consciousness of the meaning of their baptismal commitment."

Daughters of Wisdom throughout the ages have endeavoured to follow their founder's example in reflecting the face of Christ Wisdom and showing his immense love to wounded humanity. This Wisdom Spirituality is open to all who desire to live their lives for God Alone. The more we are committed to Jesus Wisdom, the more we let ourselves be loved by Wisdom, the more we become creative as She is.

The Brothers of St. Gabriel's mission is inspired by the mission of Jesus according to St. Luke (4:18-19) "The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has chosen me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recover of sight to the blind; to set free the oppressed and announce that time has come when the Lord will save his people". On his footsteps, we are called to empower the youth, particularly the poor, and all those struggling for justice. This requires transformation of the persons that they may be able to establish just and fraternal relationships, and attain sustainable development of the society. The Brothers witness to the love of Christ in different ways. They regard apostolic mission as the normal expression of their life of faith and of their religious commitment. "Religious Brothers provide valuable services of various kinds, inside and outside the community, participating in this way in the mission of proclaiming the Gospel and bearing witness to it with charity in everyday life" (Vita Consecrata no. 60).

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