

difficult, for your effort will be their light.

L: Blessed are you when you leaven your teaching with patience and empathy, for this is to teach as Jesus did.

R: Blessed are you when you reach out for your students, for you will find God and rejoice.

ALL: Blessed are you who lead your students in the ways of all virtue and love, for yours is the Kingdom of God.

The Lasallian school will be characterized by a concern for each student. This concern encompasses the whole person: family background, temperament, strong points, special interests, the child is more than just another student who happens to attend the school. Thus, the school will be a living community where young people coming from different social and family backgrounds educate one another by mutual understanding and respect, openness of each, growth in the spirit of service, and the practice of justice and charity.

*A Declaration: The Brother Of  
The Christian Schools In The World Today*

*For silent reflection:*

Ponder the words of St. Columbanus: "Let us be careful that no image but that of God takes shape in our souls."

*Prayers of the Faithful*

ALL: Lord, you chose St. John Baptist de La Salle for the work of the Christian education of the young. We ask you to help us to continue in his footsteps, ever-mindful of our responsibilities as ambassadors of Christ to those that you place in our care. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**St. John Baptist de La Salle...pray for us.  
Live, Jesus, in our hearts...forever.**

# The Lasallian School

## New Faculty Orientation

**Let us remember that we are in the Holy Presence of God.**

ALL: O God, how precious it is for us and how pleasing it is to you when your people learn how to live and work together in unity!

L: As much as we do this, that is how much we begin to resemble you and carry out your will in a discordant, troubled world.

R: Come, let us together bless God's name, rejoice together in God's love for all of us, declare together God's worth to all people, and walk together in unity with God's will.

ALL: It is the same God who made heaven and earth and all of us who dwell therein. Let us worship and serve God together.

Community is at the heart of Christian education, not simply as a concept to be taught, but as a reality to be lived. Through education, people must be moved to build community in all areas of life; they can do this best if they have learned the meaning of community by experiencing it. Formed by this experience, they are better able to build community in their families, their places of work, their neighborhoods, their nation, their world...The experience of community leads naturally to service. Christ gives his people different gifts not only for themselves, but also for others. Each must serve the other for the good of all.

*To Teach As Jesus Did*  
National Conference of Catholic Bishops

*(pause for reflection)*

L: Lord, in your providential care, you have called us to this ministry. Help us to use our gifts and talents according to your will.

R: Enable us to look upon those whom you have entrusted to us as your children, sacred and precious in your sight.

L: Enable us to guide them in the spirit of love and prayer, often calling them to recall your abiding presence.

R: May we show them much care and vigilance, and may kindness guide us in all of our actions.

L: May we help them to know their own and to respect the worth of others.

R: May we support and encourage and build them up as members of one body in your Son.

ALL: Father, teach us to touch the hearts of our students and to reveal your love for them and lead them faithfully to you.

Children need the light of watchful guides to lead them on the path of salvation: guides who have an adequate understanding of what God expects of young people and an understanding of their usual shortcomings. This is why God has provided children with teachers and why he has given teachers all the care and vigilance, as well as the responsibility, needed to prevent anything harmful to salvation from capturing the hearts of children. This is the main concern that you must have for the children entrusted to you.

St. John Baptist de La Salle

*(pause for reflection)*

L: People brought little children to him so that he might touch them, but when the disciples saw this they turned them away.

R: But Jesus called the children to himself and said, "Let the children come to me and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs."

L: "I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the Kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."

R: "And anyone who welcomes a child in my name welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the One who sent me.

To "really see" someone, especially someone who looks up to you, is to give that person an important blessing. In a gaze of recognition, of understanding, in an appreciative look, there is deep blessing. Often, it is not so important that we say much to those for whom we are significant, but it is very important that we see them. Today, the young are not being seen enough in this way. Our youth are acting out in all kinds of ways as a means of getting our attention. They want to, and they need to, be seen by us -- parents, adults, teachers, priests, coaches, leaders. They need our blessing. They need to see, right in our eyes, the radical acceptance of their reality, and they need to read in our eyes the words: "You are my beloved child; in you I am well-pleased."

*The Catholic Herald*

*(pause for reflection)*

L: Blessed are you who are called to teach, for you walk in the footsteps of the Master.

R: Blessed are you who sow peace and harmony in your school, for yours will be the joy of the Lord.

L: Blessed are you when you share your faith with others, for your name will be written in their hearts.

R: Blessed are you who plant seeds of hope in youthful hearts, for your legacy will be the harvest.

L: Blessed are you who are sensitive to the cries of youth, for you will become their voice.

R: Blessed are you who anguish now when your students are