

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS CONFERENCE

LASALLIAN REGION OF NORTH AMERICA
RÉGION LASALLIENNE DE L'AMÉRIQUE DU NORD

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

March 30, 2020

Dear Lasallians,

We hope this message finds you, your families and ministry communities safe and healthy. The Office for Lasallian Education at Christian Brothers Conference has been closely monitoring health alerts and advisories of the coronavirus pandemic while in ongoing communication and reflection with our partners on the advisability of holding the 2020 summer formation programs (Buttimer Institute of Lasallian Studies, Brother John Johnston Institute of Contemporary Lasallian Practice and the Lasallian Social Justice Institute). At this time, we write with an update regarding this summer's programs.

After discussing several considerations, in consultation with the Districts and the Lasallian Education Council, and out of an abundance of care and caution, we are canceling the 2020 Buttimer Institute of Lasallian Studies and the 2020 Lasallian Social Justice Institute (LSJI) and postponing the July session of the Brother John Johnston Institute of Contemporary Lasallian Practice. The health and well-being of all involved in these programs were at the forefront of this decision. Conscious of travel plans, we wanted to get this information out in a timely matter. We regret the present health crisis requires a change in plans.

For those who have registered for Buttimer and LSJI to date, an email will come from Christian Brothers Conference outlining the registration refund process. Specific emails regarding each program were also sent to those involved in the program (i.e. participants, presenters, facilitators, program sites, etc.).

We continue to join with our Lasallian colleagues from around the world as Brother Superior Robert Schieler, FSC, invites us to "pray for all those suffering from this virus, those families who have lost loved ones and for the many doctors, nurses and first-responders putting their own health at risk."

We remain grateful for your ongoing support of our formation programs. Please be assured of our prayers for you, your families and ministry communities.

Peace,



Sarah Laitinen
Director of Lasallian Programs
Office for Lasallian Education



Mark John Freund
Executive Director
Office for Lasallian Education