

# Lasallian Education Around the World

F A I T H



C O M M U N I T Y



S E R V I C E



## In 80 Countries

~ 1,000 Ministries

1,011,876 Students

3,418 Brothers

93,338 Partners (Educators)

65 Colleges / Universities

## The Purpose of Lasallian Education

*“to provide a human and Christian education to the young, especially the poor, according to the ministry which the Church has entrusted to it.”*

(Rule, Art. 3)

## The Motive for Lasallian Education

It is the constant desire of those engaged in Lasallian education to remain faithful to those who are most in need of their educational services. Such services are directed to the whole person - taking the person and his/her needs for an effective and fulfilling life as the starting point.

## The Range of Lasallian Education

**Quebec, Canada** - Reception centers for travellers and drug addicts.

**San Gabriel, Bolivia** - The teachers of Radio/TV serve 2 million Aymara Indians on the high plateaux children run by Spanish Districts.

**Abidjan & Byumba, Rwanda** - Centers for street children .

**Australia** - A toll-free telephone service covering the whole of Australia for young people with problems (30,000 calls a week), supported by a finely adjusted technology and a major countrywide fundraising system.

**Alexandria & Cairo, Egypt** - 3 centers for the mentally handicapped.

**Poland** - 3 centers for mentally handicapped children.

**France** - 5 Brothers and 30 lay persons have created a network of 36 mobile classrooms (in vans adapted for the purpose), teaching 5,000 Gypsy children as they travel around the country and creating a successful teaching approach and way of working that is unique to that population.

**South India** - “Reaching the Unreached” which for the last 30 years has helped and educated local people. Among their accomplishments: 70 villages reorganised; 2,000 wells dug; 1,600 family homes built by the local people; work for women (widows looking after orphans); vocational schools for adults, and other schools for many groups.

**Kushpur, Pakistan** - Several schools and the only Catechist center for the country, where both parish catechists and their wives take classes.

**Cameroon** - Courses & resources on responsible paternity-maternity.

**Australia & France** - Associations to help young pregnant women.

**Vietnam** - Motorcycle repair schools for street kids, art schools, etc.

**Kenya** - Christ the Teacher Institute for training teachers throughout Africa

**Holy Land** - Bethlehem University and a high school in Tel Aviv which both Christian, Jewish, and Moslem students attend.

## The Principle of Lasallian Education

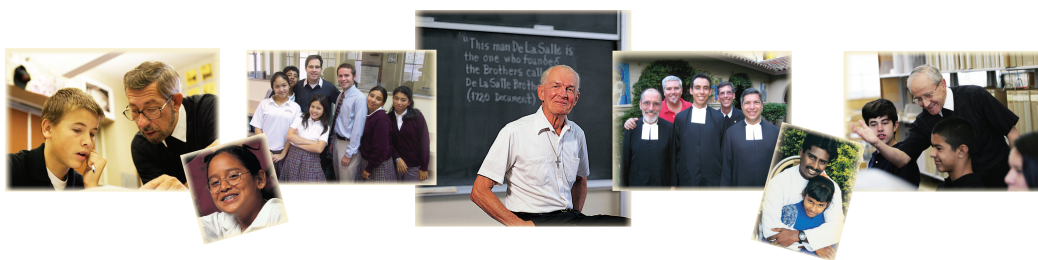
The vast majority of Lasallian educational institutions are fairly traditional schools at all academic levels that provide solid, high-quality, personalized education. From that core foundation emerge local, regional, and national programs that are able to push the educational envelope with creativity, courage, and wide-spread support across the Lasallian world.

Some examples:

- \* San Miguel Schools
- \* Charter Schools
- \* After School Programs
- \* Immersion Programs
- \* Inner-city Youth Programs
- \* Literacy Programs
- \* Inter-faith Dialogue
- \* Family Support Programs
- \* Twinned Schools Program

The training of teachers and creation of novel teaching materials and methods in the US, Europe, Latin America and elsewhere continues to be a Lasallian priority. If we can't find it, we'll make it.

# The Lasallian Educational Network



**St. John Baptist de La Salle (1651 – 1719)** began an educational heritage of more than 325 years that ranges from store-front schools to great universities in 80 countries. He is the Founder of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (known as the De La Salle Christian Brothers in the United States) and is the inspiration for over 93,000 educators in Lasallian institutions around the world. His writings continue to shape what teachers teach, how teachers teach, and why teachers teach. He is the Patron Saint of All Teachers of Youth in the Catholic Church. A movie of his life has been made available through Ignatius Press. [www.dlsfootsteps.org](http://www.dlsfootsteps.org)

**The Vocation of the Brothers** is a commitment to “provide a human and Christian education to the young, especially the poor.” Brothers are men who dedicate their lives to God in the ministry of education. They are serious about prayer, live a life in common, and are devoted to the lives of young people, especially the poor. The De La Salle Christian Brothers are the largest group of lay religious men in the Catholic Church dedicated exclusively to education. [www.brothersvocation.org](http://www.brothersvocation.org)

**Lasallian Education around the world** includes both formal institutions (71 colleges/universities, 900 primary/secondary schools, etc.) and innovative programs that reach out to those in need (30 vans in France to teach Gypsy children, a youth-crisis phone line in Australia that receives 30,000 calls a week, Catalyst Charter schools in Chicago, etc.). In non-Christian countries, Lasallian schools quietly witness to God’s Presence in all our lives and present Christ’s example in action. We are present in 84 countries around the world. [www.lasalle.org](http://www.lasalle.org)

**Lasallian educational spirituality** arose from the experience of De La Salle and the early Brothers, developed through 300 years of expansion among many cultures, and forms the core of today’s Lasallian schools and agencies. It is a spirituality that has the school as its setting, the teacher as its focus, and the salvific potential of education as its inspiration. Elements include five core principles: faith in the presence of God, quality education, concern for the poor and social justice, respect for all persons, and an inclusive community. These are expressed in the context of the Gospel and the Catholic Church. The student’s welfare is primary. [www.lasallianresources.org](http://www.lasallianresources.org)

**Lasallian Volunteers** are dedicated, well-trained men and women who provide one or more years of service to schools and agencies of the Brothers whose mission is to serve the poor. Acting out of faith, rooted in the gospel, and sharing community with the Brothers and other Lasallians, the Volunteers offer personalized educational support and service. Lasallian Volunteers change the world for the better and discover themselves transformed in the process. [www.lasallianvolunteers.org](http://www.lasallianvolunteers.org)

**Lasallian Institutions in the United States** comprise a wide spectrum of institutions and agencies. These include 6 Colleges / Universities, 51 High Schools (which include 4 “Cristo Rey” schools), and 21 Elementary and Middle Schools (which include 11 “San Miguel” Schools). There are also 28 ministries that address special educational needs, such as court-adjudicated youth, after school care, and residential supervision. New schools and educational outreach efforts continue to be established every year. [www.lasallian.info](http://www.lasallian.info)

“People are hungry, especially the young.  
They are hungry for God and you  
are here to satisfy that hunger.  
Be faithful to the great gift that God made  
you to be teachers, educators, light,  
His light in the world among young people.  
The future of the world depends on what you do.”



Mother Teresa  
(Talk to the De La Salle Christian Brothers)

The Brothers have “demonstrated permanency  
by providing for over three centuries an  
astonishing array of activities from the most basic  
literacy learning to the most complicated  
technological learning for both children and adults . .  
. so that they can be fully integrated  
into community and society.”



United Nations  
(UNESCO Noma Prize)

“Union in a community is a precious gem,  
which is why Our Lord so often  
recommended it to his apostles before he died.  
If we lose this, we lose everything.  
Preserve it with care, therefore, if you want  
your community to survive.”

*De La Salle*

St. John Baptist de La Salle