

INTRODUCTION

• This current volume of *Lasalliana* is the second one for 1997-1998. Since within the preparation plans for the Great Jubilee Year of 2000 as suggested by Pope John Paul II the year 1998 is dedicated to the Holy Spirit, and in accord with the Jubilee Commission established here at the Generalate to prepare for this event, we will publish a special contribution of Brother Richard Dupont on this topic that may serve to help our reflection and prayer as religious and as Christian educators.

• We would like to draw your attention to two other contributions that are contained in the present volume of *Lasalliana*:
– The article on “Lasallian charism and Church unity” by Brother Jeffrey Gros offers some very interesting reflections on our role and our responsibility within the ecumenical movement.

– The article on the Session for New Formators, the ninth-month program that was attended by Brothers from all Regions of the Institute. Brother José Ivo Ullerich, Secretary for Formation, offers us a very valuable summary of the proposals that deal with formation and which are valid for the Brothers as well as for all the members of the Lasallian Family.

• In recent months we have received numerous contributions for *LASALLIANA*, some of very special significance, and we are very happy to include these for publication. We are currently looking at the possibility of placing some of these in an extra issue of *LASALLIANA* so as not to excessively delay the material's appearance.

We are very grateful to all those who have sent us these materials.

• Several Districts have recently increased the number of copies of *LASALLIANA* that they receive. Their plan is to put the publication at the disposal of lay colleagues and Lasallian collaborators in our Lasallian centers.

We applaud this decision and we encourage others to do the same. Our publication is an effort that is realized by many and it would be desirable that many would also take advantage of it so that it is not hidden or forgotten. Spreading the word about this publication is a contribution that everyone can make.

Best wishes for a happy and prosperous 1998.

Cordially,

Brother José María Valladolid,
Director of *LASALLIANA*

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