

INTRODUCTION

◆ The current issue number 47 of LASALLIANA is the second set of materials for 1998-1999. It contains items of special importance and we would like to point out some of them:

— There is a theological and ecumenical discussion concerning our relationship with God in this preparatory year for the great Jubilee which has been dedicated to the Father. This has been provided to us by Brother Jeffrey Gros and the authors are companions of his at the Office for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the United States Bishops' Conference.

— There is the intervention made by Brother Alvaro Rodríguez, Vicar General, at the Lasallian Pedagogy Congress which was held in Canoas, Brazil from May 12-14, 1998. He speaks of the challenges that are found today in the ministry of the Lasallian educator.

— There are three articles by Brother Léon Lauraire on the distinctive characteristics of Lasallian Pedagogy. Composed originally in French, they have served as formation materials during various sessions of CELAS in Spain and they have been gathered together in brochure form.

— We would especially like to draw your attention to a special contribution concerning Blessed Nicholas Roland. This is a study by Father Pitaud, a Sulpician, about simplicity in the person of the Founder of the Sisters of the Child Jesus and in his Congregation. We know the profound influence that Father Roland had on Saint John Baptist de La Salle by means of the spiritual direction that shaped the young man who was preparing for the priesthood while he acted as tutor for his orphaned siblings. We are publishing this at the request of the Superior General of the Sisters of the Child Jesus, confident that it may prove useful for the study of the person of our Founder and of the beginnings of our Congregation as well as the Congregation of the Sisters founded by Blessed Nicholas Roland.

◆ There have been several requests for an updated index of all the articles published in LASALLIANA since the very beginning. There are indexes for the first 25 issues. The next index will be published once issue Number 50 has been published and this will be published, God willing, in 1999.

◆ We would like to take advantage of this occasion to wish all readers of LASALLIANA a holy and prosperous 1999, filled with the Lord's blessings.

Brother José Maria Valladolid
Director of LASALLIANA

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