

UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

30th anniversary of the Declaration of the Brothers of the Christian Schools in the World Today

Brother Celestino Hernando

Thank you, Lord, for the gift of the Declaration of the Brothers.
You were present, with the strength of your Holy Spirit in 1967
when the Brothers, gathered together in Chapter, drew up this document.
Be present in our days as we recall its 30th anniversary.

Teach us that true celebration demands radical conversion:

- which is rooted in the Gospel,
- which is nourished in the sources of the Founder,
- which discerns the Signs of the times.

Help us to discover and to delve more deeply into the identity of the Brother today:

- which has its roots in Baptism,
- which is firmly based on an alliance with Christ, by means of the vows,
- which is characterized by its lay consecration aspect,
- which is lived out in a community fraternity,
- which is committed to the ministry of Christian education,
- which fulfills its mission and apostolate in the style of Jesus of Nazareth,
- which is inspired by the Lasallian charism.

The Declaration calls for continuing renewal:

- in the drive to dedicate one's whole life to young people;
- in personal and community excellence;
- in an appreciation of the gift of a Lasallian vocation;
- in fostering an apostolic and missionary spirit.

In the center of current realities, we want to live:

- in a communion of love with the Brothers,
- in collaboration with other teachers and parents of our students,
- in service of students and in tune with the Church.

The vocation of a Brother of the Christian Schools:

- is a gift from God and a response from man;
- is an honor and a responsibility,
- is needed by young people.

Lord, give us courage as you gave courage to John Baptist de La Salle:

- to create new educational enterprises for young people,
- to be teachers and witnesses of Jesus Christ,
- to be especially attentive to those most in need.

May your Spirit return again,
as in the days of John Baptist de La Salle,
to renew the Lasallian Institute. •

THE LASALLIAN EDUCATOR'S CREED

(Published in “Lasallian Family”, number 4. District of Medellin).

This is our CREED:

- I believe that to educate is helping someone TO BE.
- I believe that I should live my job as teacher as a mission and not as a profession.
- I believe that to fulfill the mission without concealment nor hypocrisy requires a reference to values.
- I believe that it is necessary to define oneself as a person of FAITH, even though doing so may be cause for losing the esteem of others.
- I believe that I should prepare myself so that my presence, my use of time and my relationships with companions and students are causes for raising up Values and Ideals.
- I believe that my presence in the school may be cause for awakening in someone the possibility of BELIEVING, of bringing out the meaning of the GOSPEL.
- I truly believe that the protagonist of education is the student and not the book, the method, nor the teacher.
- I believe that I should be up to date in the specific knowledge that I am to teach.
- I believe that I should be in tune with new techniques in order to help the development of all of the capabilities of the students.
- I believe that one learns and discovers what it is to be an EDUCATOR in contact with persons who are honest, generous, TRANSPARENT.
- I believe that one cannot be an EDUCATOR without believing in humanity, personal need, ethical responsibility.
- I believe that when an educator no longer is willing to BE a companion-friend, to deepen himself in knowledge and esteem...then he is at the point of making himself incapable of fulfilling the mission.
- I believe that it is a good fortune to collaborate with GOD so that each student might discover the joy of BEING one's own person.
- I believe that the most beautiful of the educator's adventures is BELIEVING in the work of GOD, the most beautiful creation from his hands: Mankind - The student.
- I believe that my performance and plans are rooted in JESUS who was TEACHER.
- I believe that being an educator gives my life meaning.

I BELIEVE...and...I HOPE! •