



DAILY REPORT
21 May 2022

Day 21

This was a special schedule today in that the Brothers made a trip to the dicastery at the Vatican for a Papal audience with Pope Francis. There was private morning prayer and breakfast that followed this morning. At 8:45 AM two buses with approximately 50 passengers each left the Generalate grounds. The Brothers and Lasallians arrived at around 9:30 AM to St. Peter's Square where they paused for a group photo. Many passing tourists also snapped this photo op at having so many religious in their habits in the middle of St. Peter's Square. The group then proceeded to the right side of Bernini's columns where they went through security and were then escorted by the Swiss Guards up into the Papal Offices. After being seated for some time, the Pope entered around 10:45 AM to the applause of the Brothers and Lasallians. Bro. Armin Luistra, gave an address to the Pope recommitting ourselves to the values of the Chapter and in the end placed the Brothers and their ministry at the disposal of Church in service to the young and the poor. Pope Francis' response highlighted the witness that the Brother give to the Church especially the poor. After this, the Brothers and Lasallians were given the opportunity to shake the Pope's hand and all received a rosary compliments of the Holy See. The Brothers and Lasallians left the Vatican Palace around 11:15 AM and returned back to the Generalate around 12:05 PM. It was a sacred experience for us to have met the Pope and have him affirm the hard work and dedication of the Chapter. In addition, there was much encouragement to continue the ministry of Christian Education to poor young people.

The afternoon began with lunch and many of the participants of the Chapter took advantage of the free afternoon to explore Rome.



Brothers of
the Christian
Schools

La  Salle 



Evening prayer was held at 6:45 PM in the Chapel of St. La Salle. The prayer service was a special type of participative one in which capitulants were asked to cut out a copy of their hands on a sheet of paper. When executed properly the two hands made a heart in the middle of it. Then participants were then directed to write down places and experiences where they discovered their true self in the last year. These hands were all placed on the back wall of the sanctuary in the Chapel next to the relics of St. John Baptist De La Salle to show unity.

Dinner and rest followed evening prayer. A very prayerful and memorable day for all!

By Br. Michael Andrejko, FSC,
Chronicler day 21.