

hope, and vision which will be felt throughout the District as we work together to implement the Action Plan.

I also want to bring to your attention two new ventures that will have a significant impact on our District as the school year progresses and we welcome the new millennium.

First, the District will gather for a second Convocation in Burlingame, California, on October 23 and 24. Centered around Saint La Salle's vision of *Reaching Out, Touching Hearts*, its goal is to inspire Brothers and Partners to a renewed and strengthened personal commitment to Lasallian education. Our keynote speaker is Cardinal Thomas S. Williams, D.D., Archbishop of Wellington, New Zealand. The work of the Convocation will further the implementation of the "Context for Action/Action Plan", which has been widely discussed throughout the District and was approved by the District Chapter in March. This important event will create an opportunity for communication and connection among representatives of the District, as well as with Brothers and Partners from other Districts and Regions in the United States and around the world.

Second, as part of our District-wide planning efforts, De La Salle Institute has retained the services of Global Business Network (GBN), a respected international consulting firm specializing in collaborative planning for the future. GBN will assist us in addressing critical uncertainties about our future, especially in terms of membership, mission, and leadership.

All of us – Brothers and Partners – can be proud of the many wonderful things taking place in the District of San Francisco and throughout the Institute. Your support and commitment, encouragement, involvement, and prayers are at the heart of the continued success of our Lasallian educational mission. With De La Salle as our center, we are reminded that the work we undertake is not our own, but one to which God calls us.

I look forward with each of you to a rewarding and grace-filled year together, and to welcoming you to the District Convocation in October. May we all come to appreciate De La Salle's words to us:

"Do not distinguish between the duties of your state and what pertains to your salvation and perfection. Rest assured that you will never effect your salvation more certainly than by fulfilling well the duties of your state." 🌹

Brother David Brennan, FSC



*A second Convocation will be held in Burlingame, California, on October 23 and 24, centered around Saint La Salle's vision of *Reaching Out, Touching Hearts*. Our keynote speaker will be Cardinal Thomas S. Williams, D.D., Archbishop of Wellington, New Zealand.*

Contributing to *Signs of Faith*

With this issue, *Signs of Faith* begins its second year of publication. We are grateful for the many expressions of praise and support received from across the District and throughout the International Institute. Although *Signs of Faith* is produced by De La Salle Institute, it is made possible by the work of many members of our Lasallian family.

Over the past year, Brothers and Partners across the District have graciously and gladly shared themselves and the powerful work they do to change and save lives in our schools, at Saint Mary's College, and in other Lasallian apostolates. Teachers have opened their classrooms to the momentary distraction of photographers. Staff and faculty have taken time to talk about their work, its challenges, and its rewards. Students have reflected on their experiences as the primary beneficiaries of the Lasallian mission. The Editorial Board wishes to thank all those who have contributed to *Signs of Faith*. At the same time, we need your help if we are to continue to share the Lasallian story as it unfolds in the District of San Francisco. Here's what you can do:

📖 Provide us with stories that will inform, inspire, and motivate our Lasallian colleagues. Write an article for a future issue, or simply contact us and share your idea for a story.

📧 Send us the names of individuals or organizations with whom we should share the good news in *Signs of Faith*. We will add them to our mailing list and will let them know that the magazine is being sent at your request.

👥 Sharing our stories connects us to one another and to the work we have been called to do. Won't you help us spread the good news?

Tom Brown, Executive Editor