

“I experienced the love and faith among the Brothers and the laity through the studies, prayers, and recreational moments,” commented Sister Catherine Nguyen of the Lasallian Sisters from San Jose, California. Buttimer participants are consistently inspired by the individual gifts participants bring to the program and share on so many levels during their three weeks together. Colleagues discover that theirs is a unique and almost privileged opportunity to form community with others engaged in the Lasallian mission.

Bringing the Experience Back Home

While the Buttimer experience is a highly personal and prayerful one, participants are expected to share and bring their experiences to life in their home communities through development of practical projects. Projects undertaken by participants this year include: opportunities for “daily spiritual food” through posting a “Daily Reflection” on the Lasallian web site and opening the site to all Lasallians to share educational

The Lasallian Leadership Institute – Carrying the Heritage of the Past into the Future

As the Buttimer Institute looks back at the history of Saint John Baptist de La Salle and the Christian Brothers, the Lasallian Leadership Institute (LLI) looks forward to the expansion of the works of Brothers and Partners into the next century and beyond.

The two programs are similar in the opportunities provided for study of the Founder’s life and work, and for building community and deepening spirituality. In other ways, the programs are quite different. Buttimer participants meet for three weeks during the summer, while LLI attendees gather for one week during the summer and two weekends during the school year. Additionally, the Buttimer Institute affords a more personal formation program which includes aspects of team-building, while LLI offers a decidedly intentional “team approach” to formation.

The primary goal of LLI is to provide training for teachers, administrators, staff, and other school leaders who are committed to the Lasallian educational tradition of making a human and Christian education available to young people, particularly those to whom it is least accessible.

The first three-year cycle of the LLI will be completed in Spring 2000, and a new cycle will begin that summer. Each year of the Institute focuses on a different theme. In the first year, the theme

“Back in the real world after Buttimer, I have seen its effect. Those who have attended Buttimer have a greater sense of what our Lasallian Family is all about, a sense of unity, with an even greater Love for the students we serve.”

– *Brother Chris Baker, Buttimer 2 Community Director*

A singular aspect of the Buttimer Institute is the opportunity for personal spiritual renewal. The community gathers three times each day to pray and share their faith. Tremendous enthusiasm and profound spirituality are palpable, as together participants select readings and sacred music for prayer services and liturgies in the College chapel.

experiences and activities; integration of the familiar phrase, “Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve” into Lasallian Family language in such media as publications, videos, and posters; and creation of a Lasallian prayer book for daily use in the classroom, containing selections on the life and teachings of Saint John Baptist de La Salle.

Students of Buttimer 1 listen to Brother Luke Salm describe the early formation of the Christian Brothers

