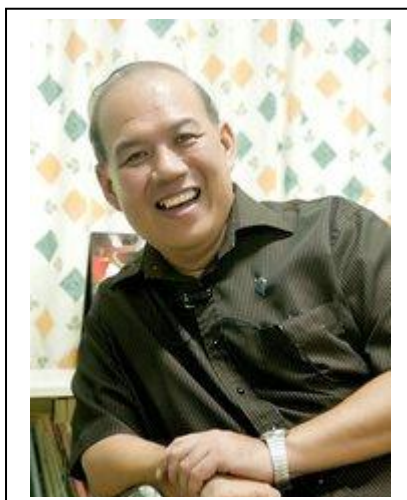




The Provincial Superior's Message



Dear Brothers,

We have just ushered in the New Year 2012. I take this opportunity to wish you a Most Blessed New Year. May God bless you abundantly in this New Year. It is another year of challenge and commitment for us in the service of the Lord. As we make our resolution for the year may we recommit ourselves in an authentic way to be faithful to the Lord's calling in your life. Sometimes along the way we can lose sight of our true calling and the mission in which we have committed ourselves to.

The calling that we have received is not and never is meant for your own self and for your self-purpose. It is always a call to be in community, in communion with one another. This is the call towards greater brotherhood. We need to be in deeper communion with our brothers in community, with our fellow collaborators and mission partners, with the suffering humanity, and with the whole of creation. Such is our destiny to be living in greater brotherhood.

Every action that we make should always be for the greater good of one another. It is a challenge for us to live beyond our selfish focus. Our own human needs are so strong that it is a human struggle to live truly in the service of God and in unity with others. Thus the following words of St. Paul to the Philippians (2:1-2) should ring strongly for us this new year: "If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind."

The invitation is for us to develop, in our communities and in our mission, a common purpose and a common mind as St. Paul has expressed to the Philippians. It is so easy to forget to do this. Our own needs tend to draw us away from having a common purpose and maintaining a common mind in our community life and mission. This is a good time for us to take a new look at what is our common purpose and what it is that can help us develop a common mind.

As I wish and pray that you may have a Happy New Year in 2012. I would like to reiterate the following words of St. Paul for us to encourage us in our community living and a greater commitment to our mission. "That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interest instead." (Phil 2:3-5)

May you in 2012 live a life that is marked by entering into a new life in community and not by feats of individual stardom. We are not here for a Star-search (or the Idol programme) but to search for the One Star that guide us to the child Jesus. May we think beyond our self, in terms of our individual greatness and personal heroism, but to be rooted in Christ as servants of all in order to build community among us, and that is the greater brotherhood we are invited to live everyday of our life.

Bro. Dominic Yeo Koh
Provincial Superior

The Brothers give equal opportunity to all the students to change.



Kinarut:- Montfort Youth Training Centre (MYTC) had the honour to have Mr. Phanuwat Mongkhon, affectionately called Joe for a month in October 2011.

Joe, 21, a Lahu from Chiang Rai, Thailand, had been with the *Communal Life of Love and Unity of the Mountain People* (CLUMP) for three (3) years, which was initiated by Bro. Anurak Nidhibhadrabhorn. It was the first time for Joe to be out of Thailand to experience different kind of apostolate and how to integrate it with the CLUMP activities. The third child from five siblings born from a farming family spoke little English but soon able to communicate fairly well with the Brothers, staff and students of MYTC. The one month experience had taught him many things especially in improving his English. He was grateful to Ms. Clare Sibungkil who had helped him in his English. He was quick to adapt himself and made good friends with the students. He said that the one month went by without notice since there were many activities.

In the morning he spent time at the Welding Workshop and in the afternoon with the Students Affairs Department. He said that it required lots of creativity in the Welding Workshop and he was able to see the bright future of the trainees. He said that the training in the workshop was just basic and beginning for the trainees. Their boundaries and skills will be expanded once they had graduated. He further said that there is no limit or fix boundary in learning skills.

Through the Student Affairs Department, he learned many things. He said that the staff in the said department really care for the students and they know how to talk to the students when they have difficulties. He acknowledged that it was not easy to control and handle the students. He realized how difficult it is to run the residential program. He admired how the staff managed the department. The friendly character young man who stayed with the brothers also joined the Brothers in their daily prayer. He felt welcomed by the Brothers. He said that the Brothers give equal opportunity to all the students to change.



When asked what he could bring back to Thailand, he said that the activities at the CLUMP are different. Life back at his homeland is all about work. He said that the 138 boys at MTYC, made the compound maintenance easier. There are only 50 people stayed at the CLUMP Centre at Chomthong and most of them are working at the farm. He said it is all about sharing. The knowledge that the individual had

gained is meant to be shared. It is the same for the benefits from the labour. He further said that there are many hardworking people that made things happened and there are also lazy people who just wait. The group needs to grow for the betterment of all. He said that he may not be able to bring back the technical training but he certainly could bring back the system he had learned especially at the Residential Campus of MYTC. He further said that the important thing is that everybody is happy by end of the day. The young man, who had made good friends with the students, was emotional when the students sang him the MYTC traditional "Thank You Song" on the day he departed from MYTC to return to Thailand.

The Brothers, Staff and Students of MYTC wish all the best to Joe for his future endeavour. They hope that Joe could come again to visit them. ~*Province Bulletin*

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A guy walks into a post office one day to see a middle-aged, balding man standing at the counter methodically placing "Love" stamps on bright pink envelopes with hearts all over them. He then takes out a perfume bottle and starts spraying scent all over them.

His curiosity getting the better of him, he goes up to the balding man and asks him what he is doing. The man says "I'm sending out 1,000 Valentine cards signed, 'Guess who?'" "But why?" asks the man. "I'm a divorce lawyer," the man replies. (Source: [http://www.lotsofjokes.com/lawyer\\_jokes\\_1.asp](http://www.lotsofjokes.com/lawyer_jokes_1.asp))

**News in Pictures from Montfort Youth Training Centre (MYTC), Montfort Girls Campus (MGC) and San Damiano Boys' Hostel, Sabah**

**Kinarut:-** The Assumption Pathway School (APS), Singapore visited MYTC on 5<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2011. The visit was led by Mr. Simon Lim. The APS Staff and students and together with MYTC students, scaled the Mt Kinabalu. Due to the strong wind and rain, and for safety reason, the APS contingent was not allowed to ascend to the peak. There were some activities organized by MYTC for them including the Obstacle Race. APS financed the building of the Barber Hut of MYTC. MYTC expressed its thankfulness to APS.



**Penampang:-** The Girls' Graduation on 10 December 2011. The graduation also marked the end of the Girls training. The Girls Campus had to be closed due to un-conducive living and learning environment, since a development had taken place at the adjacent land.



The Guest of Honour for the Girls' Graduation Ceremony was Ybgh Datin Mary Yong. MYTC records its appreciation to her for gracing the ceremony.

**Kinarut:-** On 20<sup>th</sup> Nov to 10<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2011, St. Martin's Secondary School, Tambunan sent six (6) boys aging 15 to 17 to experience the residential activities in MYTC while having attachment programme in Automotive Engineering Skills at a nearby Kota Bumi Workshop. This was the second time that the school sent its students to MYTC and to the said workshop.



**Kinarut:-** The Christmas Carols started on the 7<sup>th</sup> until 14<sup>th</sup> December. The Students brought the Glad Tidings to the Board Members, Benefactors, Friends of Montfort and not forgetting the poor in vicinity. The even sang on the street as what they called it the "Street Evangelization."



**Kinarut:-** Christmas is the time of Love, Joy and Peace. MYTC celebrated Christmas on 15 December, just a day before the school holidays. The Christmas Liturgical Play preceded the event. Bro. Francis presided the evening service and followed by fellowship. The staff, friends of Montfort and well wishers joined the students and the Brothers for the celebration. The celebration also marked the birthdays of December Babies including Bro. Francis and Mrs. Charlotte Wong (a Montfort Associate), who cooked the lovely dinner for that evening. The highlight of the evening was gifts presentation by Santa Claus to children. It was also the time of acknowledging the efforts and contributions of outstanding prefects and students.



***The St. Gabriel's Fraternity, Sabah wishes all readers a wonderful and prosperous New Year 2012.***

***Editor's Note***

We have been blessed throughout the year 2011. What will to come for the year 2012? Let us journey together with hopes and dreams, harmony and peace; and with God's providential grace, we will sail through the year 2012 with great experiences. The movie "2012", which depicted the great flood, is just for entertainment. If it is true, we would have seen "Noah building his Ark" again. Let us then build the "Ark of Love, Joy and Peace" and surely we will sail through the tempest and tranquility of the ocean. Let us build a just society where people honour and respect one another. Let us build and care for a happy environment for our children to inherit, as we share resources. As the Prime Minister of Malaysia had propagated the "1Malaysia", let us echo, "1Earth, 1People of God!" Happy New Year 2012! God blesses us all!

**MONTFORT SECONDARY AND MONTFORT JUNIOR SCHOOLS:**

Montfort Secondary School has just completed its Prime Renovation. On visiting the School it is difficult to remember what the old school looked like. The new school is outstandingly modern, buildings are smartly colorful and attractive, facilities abound and our students feel happy to come back to their Alma Mater.

There will be a march from the Holding School on 3<sup>rd</sup> January to the new School where the students and the Staff will take over their new Campus and make it resounds loud and clear as a Montfortian School. It is sad to say that the School in spite of its many efforts has not been able to collect all the funds needed yet to pay off for the new school but this should be done with early in 2012.

The two Principals: Mr Andrew Tan, principal of Montfort Secondary and Ms Genevieve Chye are working hand in hand in making Montfort School a ONE MONTFORT School, sharing common space, but above all their vision and mission.

Both Schools have done passably well in their academic endeavors and very well in the formation of the character of their students.



**From Singapore**

by Bro. Paul Gaudette,  
The Local Animator of Boys  
Town Fraternity and  
Gabrielite's School Supervisor

**ST GABRIEL SECONDARY SCHOOL AND ST GABRIEL PRIMARY SCHOOL.**

The Schools under the leadership of Mr. Marcel Lee who has been extended for another two years and under the past leadership of Ms Antonia Teng who has taken a sabbatical year to pursue her studies at MOE have done very well and progressively climbed up to a respectable standard both Academic and Formation building.

Mrs. Chiang is the new Principal of St Gabriel Primary School, a Roman Catholic teacher, and a person highly motivated to continue to bring the primary school to higher heights.

**ASSUMPTION ENGLISH SCHOOL**

The Principal, Mr. Benedict Keh who has served the school very well and produced wonderful progress during his term of office has been transferred to Ponggol Secondary School after almost 8 years of service. His parting words have very significant weight and impact on all of us "I have spent the best seven years of my life in Assumption English School". Mr. Benedict Keh has been succeeded by Madam Mabel Leong, who has been in the Education Service under many portfolios. She was a Teacher in Primary school, a principal in Secondary School, a teacher in one of the Junior Colleges, a Superintendent of Schools, ex-students of St Anthony's Convent and a Catholic Principal. She is very highly motivated and excited to pursue the efforts of her successor and to continue to spread the good name of Assumption English School far and wide.

Assumption English school will be undertaking Prime in the year 2013 and meanwhile they will in the course of this year or early in 2013 go to in a Holding School in Queensway.

**ASSUMPTION PATHWAY SCHOOL** under the leadership of Mr. Wee Tat Chuen has rapidly developed and this year in August we will have the opening Ceremony held. They are still short of money to pay all their bills but God will provide. An invitation is extended to one and all to visit our new School and to admire the many changes it has to offer. Mr. Wee Tat Chuen is ably helped by Mr. Christopher Neo Teng Long the previous Principal and by Madam Michelle.

One of the attractions that we can already benefit is the Restaurant called the ART which provides good meals in the afternoon to one and all at the cost of S\$12/- per head.

### BOYS' TOWN HOME



The New Block at Boys' Town

A S\$15,000,000 project is on and phase One should be completed in April 2012 or thereabout. This will be the Administrative Block, the Quarters for the Brothers for as long as we have any in Singapore and some dormitories. This first phase will cost us about S\$8,000,000 dollars and the Second Phase will cost us some S\$7,000,000.00 a good part of it has been collected already and much more is to be found.

**MONTFORT TRAINING CENTER OR SPIRITUAL CENTER OR MONTFORT CENTER SIMPLY.** Has been renewed, repainted and extended. It costs a good deal of money and its use of the place is reasonably

occupied. It is more a retreat house, a house for seminar and house for retreats for all kinds of faith. But it fulfills some important use.

The Brothers use it for monthly retreats, annual retreats. Chapters etc ...

**THE BOYS' TOWN FRATERNITY** is made up of 6 brothers. We are the Welcoming Hub or Home to all visitors and in our simple and reduced manner extend the best of services to one and all who come. Of course we appreciate our visitors more when they give us pre-notice of their visit.

### THE FRATERNITY AT CHANGI

Little is known about it. The Provincial and Bro. Philip Heng are the only ones living there and they too have a fair share of visitors

### OUR VARIOUS ALMA MATERS:

Montfort School OMA is led by Mr. Jimmy Er.

St GABRIEL'S OBA is led by Mr. Henry Phang



Boys' Town OBA is led by Mr Vincent Lee

It is formidable what these OBAs are doing for their alma mater. Our Old Boys are going all out to ensure that their former school is well looked after and many activities attract past students towards maintaining the Gabrielite Traditions and Spirits. All three OBAs are doing well and are promising greater contribution to all our Schools.

### **THE GABRIELITE FOUNDATION**

This Foundation is chaired by the incumbent Provincial Superior, who is Bro. Dominic Yeo Koh Tuan Kiok. The Directors are made up of some Brothers, the Chairmen of our School Management Committees who are doing extremely well in encouraging and supporting each school under their care, and other Professional members in Singapore. We are working hard to establish a branding for all our schools and to raise enough funds to enable the schools to function well.

The above is a very brief account of the many activities our schools and institutions are doing.

The Brothers of St Gabriel in Singapore though few in numbers are still actively supporting all the schools, school managements and facilities of our institutions in our dear Singapore. We may appear to be a dying breed but we are not and those among us who can continue to give support and comfort and encouragement to all the lay people working in each one of our Institutions.

### **NEWS ABOUT OUR BROTHERS:**

Among the latest we sympathize greatly with Bro. Peter Issac on the occasion of the demise of his mother. May her soul rest in peace!

We were very sorry to hear of the mishap of Bro. Jean-Denis Gervais who fell in one of the shopping centers in KL and snapped a ligament on his right knee. We are grateful to the Brothers in KL especially to Bro. Peter K who has shown great love and devotion to our brother. Bro. Jean Denis is working hard to recover the use of his leg and we are longing for his return into our Fraternity where he is much needed. We keep Bro. Dominic Yeo Tuan Kiok in our prayer for a quick and lasting recovery. Both Bro. Raja Manikam and Dominic Kiong's birthdays were held respectively and we wish them many happy more years to live.

**WISHING EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THE READERS A VERY HAPPY AND HOLY NEW YEAR 2012.**