

## FRATELLI DELLE SCUOLE CRISTIANE

### **Vicario Generale**

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**To:** *Brother Visitors and Auxiliary Visitors of Districts & Sub-Districts  
Brother Delegates and Presidents of Delegations  
Brother Secretaries of Associates, Education, Formation, & Secoli*

**From:** *Brother Vicar General*

**Re:** *Practical Materials (relative to the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter)*

**Date:** *1 March 2001*

### **Communities in the Service of the Lasallian Mission**

The delegates of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter, when discussing the question of “identity,” noted that a “vibrant and spiritual community life” reinforces the identity of the Brother. At the same time, it was observed that a certain kind of questionable “individualism” has crept into the community life of some Brothers.

Brother Superior Alvaro Rodríguez, in an effort to help all of us rediscover the priority of community living, dedicated his recent pastoral letter – “Being Brothers in Community: Our Primary Association” – to this topic and called for communities that are fraternal, prayerful, apostolic, and open.

He highlighted the apostolic nature of community in stating that “community witness in itself is mission and I would say that it is one of our principal missions” (page 32). Furthermore, he directed our attention to the formative role of the community as “the place for the evangelical education of its members” (page 18) and as “a laboratory of just and fraternal living together” (page 35).

You might remember that the whole of the 1998 pastoral letter of former Brother Superior John Johnston was also, in a way, an invitation and a challenge to build innovative, creative, and holy communities.

With this present “memorandum,” please find four prayer services on the topic of union and diversity in community living. These services are part of the series of **Lasallian Reflections** that you have recently been receiving. It is hoped that you will make this material available, when and as appropriate, within the Districts, Sub-Districts, and Delegations.

Brother William Mann, FSC  
*Vicar General*

### **The 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter: *Previously Received Materials***

1. *Circular 447: The Documents of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter* (1 October 2000)
2. *Bulletin of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools: 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter*, N° 246 (2000)
3. *Pastoral Letter to the Brothers: The Image of the Brother Today* (25 December 2000)
4. *Circular 448: Toward the Year 2007* (1 February 2001)
5. *Lasallian Reflections N° 1: A Synthesis and Some Reflection Questions on Brother Superior's Pastoral Letter* (April 2001)
6. *Lasallian Reflections N° 2: Guidelines to Help Us Read and Assimilate the Documents of the 43<sup>rd</sup> General Chapter* (June 2001)
7. *Lasallian Reflections N° 3a: Associated for the Educational Service of the Poor* (September 2001)
8. *Lasallian Reflections N° 3b: The Rights of the Child* (September 2001)
9. *Lasallian Reflections N° 4: Some Questions for Reflection on "Government and Administration"* (December 2001)
10. *Pastoral Letter to the Brothers: Being Brothers in Community – Our Primary Association* (25 December 2001)