



**Brothers of
the Christian
Schools**



“WITH A FATHER’S HEART “ Celebrating the Year of St. Joseph, Patron of the Church and of the entire Lasallian Family.

30 SUGGESTIONS FOR THE DISTRICT

The General Council, during the month of January, asked a group of Brothers and lay Lasallians to “brainstorm” proposals and possible actions that could energize the celebration of this Year of St. Joseph at the level of the Institute and the Lasallian Family. A total of 22 people from all the Lasallian Regions took part with very enriching suggestions. Obviously, the General Council in its programme of celebration had to focus and make choices (see the specific programme). However, given the variety and richness, we thought it appropriate to make them known, in case any of them could serve as a guide or suggestion when it comes to celebrating this Year of St. Joseph at District and/or local level, bearing in mind what is planned from the centre of the Institute.

Reflection papers, studies and research:

01. To offer some books and/or articles at the theological, pastoral, anthropological level on St. Joseph, including some recension specifying the novelty that the renewal of the devotion to St. Joseph brings today.
02. To disseminate the meditation 110 of St John Baptist de La Salle for 19 March among educators and families. To work at all educational levels on the three characteristics of St. Joseph: just, obedient and tender love to Jesus.



03. To study in depth the Apostolic Letter “Patris corde” from a Lasallian point of view.

04. To highlight, in the morning reflection, the figure of St. Joseph.

05. To conduct a simple reflection with Lasallian educators on the vocation and work of St. Joseph based on De La Salle’s mantra: “those entrusted to you” Who, how and when and for what reason?

06. To study in depth the values that Saint Joseph generates and represents: understanding, work, faith in the face of the inexplicable, family, submission, austerity, trust in Mary; or from the characteristics presented by Pope Francis in “Patris corde”: beloved Father, in tenderness, in obedience, in hospitality, in creative courage, discreet worker, and to see what applications it has in our educational mission.

07. To promote academic reflection on the figure of the father and the crisis of fatherhood, especially in Western culture.

08. To promote educational actions in our ministries by placing the father figure at the centre, since it is often forgotten in the educational actions of our students.

09. One or more conferences for fathers in our schools with St. Joseph and Lasallian spirituality as inspiration, offering material from the District.

Communication:

10. To disseminate the message of the Convocation of Brother Superior General for this Year of St. Joseph.

11. To promote the figure of St. Joseph as Patron and Protector of the Lasallian Family on the District’s website.

12. To make a video of a prayer to St. Joseph with passages from his life together with Jesus. (The one provided from Rome could help).

13. Some action among the different schools in the District that bear the name of St. Joseph.
14. To participate in the requests that come from the Institute's Communication Service: testimonies, prayers, celebrations, books, images...
15. To take advantage of his figure as an element within the ministry of vocations with a series of testimonies of different ways of living the Lasallian vocation in each work of the District in the form of a video or other means, taking into account Circular 475.
16. Text with prayer that can be sent to families in printed bookmark format. (Whether it is the one from Rome or another. In case of a new prayer, please send it to the Communication Service in Rome to be shared).

Iconography, symbols.

17. To ensure that in every classroom and in every community and even in every family there be an image of St. Joseph. If the District has a Lasallian artist, a new model of Saint Joseph could be created, be it a painting, a sculpture...
18. Develop a sign, medal, pin... for the District.
19. That St. Joseph be remembered in the publications of the District and/or our educational works.

Traditions, novels, celebrations...

20. To retake the litanies to St. Joseph that were traditionally recited in the Institute.
21. A novena to St. Joseph, what could end with the streaming to Rome and Bethlehem on March 18th and 19th. (see programme).
22. To invoke St Joseph at the end of or within the invocations that are held in Lasallian institutions and communities, especially during this year.



23. A celebration to be held in the classroom, for educators or for Lasallian communities.

24. An online Lasallian rosary in the District in honour of St Joseph (6 decades).

Retreats:

25. To provide spiritual retreats inspired by St Joseph.

26. To propose that the spiritual retreat of the Brothers for the Year 2021 be focused on Patris corde or that the figure of St. Joseph be very present in it.

Young Lasallians:

27. Forums to highlight virtues (faith, prudence, love, work, daily sanctity...) and apply them to young people.

28. A poetry competition at district level.

Solidarity:

29. To unite in a network all the Lasallian Schools and Ministries of the District after the name of St Joseph and that all do their bit during this year dedicated to Saint Joseph, perhaps with a common solidarity project, which could be called: Saint Joseph, very present in the Lasallian Family in 2021.

30. To associate this celebration of the Year of St. Joseph with a specific project in which the District is more involved at a solidarity level.