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All Saints Day  
1<sup>st</sup> November 2020

Greetings from La Salle Provincialate, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia. Peace and Joy is within you.

Wow ... how time passes by. It is already November and I am still in Malaysia. I have not returned to LSSC Changjiao because of the Covid-19 pandemic. It is definite that I will not to travel to Hongkong until Malaysia and Hongkong worked out a comprehensive international flight arrangement that will allow non-business passengers like me to leave Malaysia and enter Hongkong without the quarantine requirement. My community is at St Joseph's College, Kennedy Road, Hongkong.

I was delayed from returning to Hongkong in early January this year because I had to handle legal affairs of my sister and brother-in-law. My eldest sister passed away in 2018 and my brother-in-law followed 13 months later in 2019. I am the legal executor of their will. When this Covid-19 pandemic broke out in late January, everything came to a standstill, when Malaysia implemented MCO (Movement Control Order) to control the spread of the pandemic.



LSSC neat and clean ...



No students ... lots of chicken!!!

As we all know, when Covid-19 was officially announced in Wuhan, China ordered an unprecedented self-imposed lockdown that shutdown and isolated the whole of China from the rest of the world. It was drastic but a very effective way of dealing with the pandemic. Now it is obvious to the rest of the world that China did the right thing. Today, China is up and running again, the only country in the world to record a positive 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter economic growth!

The activities at LSSC Changjiao were and still are suspended since January 2020. Thank God, there are volunteers looking after the house and compound at LSSC and so I am not worried. Some villagers, especially the village doctor, are in regular contact with me via WeChat. In the early days, I was giving a weekly Monday lesson via WeChat but stopped in September when schools and universities started reopening in stages in China. Now, some students and parents still contact me via WeChat when they need assistance in learning English. Yes, I am still "WeChatting" lessons from La Salle Provincialate, Malaysia with students in China.



**Iron Trees flowering**



**Flowers blooming**

**Our University Fees Subsidy programme is still active. Fortunately, last year before I returned to Malaysia, I credited a substantial amount of money into my WeChat accounts (I have two accounts as I have two China mobile numbers – one a local Meizhou number and the other a China number). So, when the university students returned to the universities in September I was able to transfer the subsidies directly to their mobile phones. For this 2020-2021 academic year, LSSC is supporting a 3<sup>rd</sup> year student from my village of Changjiao. LSSC also subsidizes two sisters, a 2<sup>nd</sup> year and a 1<sup>st</sup> year student, from Fujian province.**

**The unusual situations brought about by this Covid-19 pandemic are beyond our control. The pandemic is worldwide affecting every country. Every country responds in different manner. In general, the slower the response, the faster spread of the cases of infections; the tighter the lockdown to minimize mobility, the more effective is the prevention of the spread of infection.**

**At a personal level, I apply my 3A's living principles in the face of changes that are inevitable.**

**The 1<sup>st</sup>A is Acceptance of actual reality. With peace in my heart I accept that this year 2020, the mission of teaching and community development that I love doing at LSSC Changjiao, has to be suspended because international flying restrictions make it very inconvenient to travel overseas.**

**The 2<sup>nd</sup>A is Adaptation in daily activities. I cannot be physically present at LSSC Changjiao but I can still teach via WeChat. Never say "I cannot." There are always other ways of doing what is in one's heart. I use the time now available to re-evaluate my Pinphonics Reading Method and my Structural Grammar Speech Training Method. I am reorganizing my teaching materials and composing new grammar songs.**

**The 3<sup>rd</sup>A is Adjustment to a different way of life. I take this as an opportunity to have a quiet holiday after 18 years of active mission work at LSSC. I have adjusted to a quiet community lifestyle here at La Salle Provincialate in Petaling Jaya. I also take this opportunity to catch up with many odds and ends matters that require my personal attention. I thank God that I caught up with and I am still catching up with former students. It is always a pleasure to catch up. Thank You for coming over to see me!**

**Finally, now as I am almost half way into the 70's, I am strictly following my father's advice to look after my mother's son. My dad told me that I cannot be useful to myself or to others if I am not healthy and fit. We are told in the gospel "to love your neighbour as yourself". I am using this exceptional time to sleep well, to eat correctly and to exercise regularly. My dad's words SEE that you look after your mother's son ... Sleep – Eat – Exercise ... are crucial actions for a healthy lifestyle.**

**I want to thank everyone in our Lasallian Family for your financial, moral and spiritual support. Thank you for being so much part of the fabric of my life as a La Salle Brother.**

**Today, being All Saints Day, I want to thank all you De La Salle Brothers who have gone home ahead of me for your good examples and brotherly guidance. Live Jesus in our hearts ... Forever!!!**

**Take care and God bless.**

**As always with love in the service of youth for the development of nation through DLS,**

**BDLiaoFSC**

**La Salle Provincialate, PJ.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Nov 2020**



**Pomelos**



**Local black pigs**