



WHERE I AM GOING, YOU KNOW THE WAY



This past Thursday, the Parish of Our Holy Redeemer Liturgically bid farewell to the eleventh graduating class of the De La Salle School, Mr. Kevin Rall (Dean of Students at the De La Salle School), and Brother Thomas P. Casey, FSC (Executive Director of the De La Salle School). The School and Parish communities came together before the Lord (which by the way normally takes place at the 12:10 P.M. Mass every Friday during the Academic Year) with joyful singing, and listened to Saint Paul tell us to “keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me”. Shortly thereafter, it was Saint Ephrem (a fourth century Deacon and Doctor of the Church from Syria) who told us to “work diligently at my precepts and doctrines: as my disciples, do not fall away from the Catholic Faith.”

Certainly, each boy in the graduating class of 2016, in fact all of us, should heed the words of the two Saints who surfaced during Thursday’s Mass. Yet, how many of us really know “the things” that Saint Paul spoke of, or the “precepts and doctrines” that Saint Ephrem wrote about? How many of us in our busy schedules have time to study the lives of our Saints so that we might better be able to *work diligently at the precepts and doctrines*, and *keep on doing the things* they taught us? If only we had someone in the flesh that we could hear and see! Someone who – like Saint Paul and Saint Ephrem – let their light shine.

Throughout their four years at the De La Salle School, the 2016 graduates have seen the Light shine in many people; two of whom will be “graduating” with them: Mr. Kevin Rall and Brother Thomas P. Casey, FSC; two men dwelling amongst us, who in leaving our company, could make the words of our two Saints their own. And that is because like Saint Paul and Saint Ephrem, they walk by faith, and embody the Spirit of Saint Jean-Baptiste de La Salle who instructed his disciples: “your faith should be a shining light for those whom you teach” (Med 178.1).

And their faith has been that shining light; for all of us. Their faith in the One they followed into Religious Life (Brother Thomas), Married Life (Mr. Rall), and to Freeport. Their faith in the One Whose disciples they are. Their faith in the One Whose precepts and doctrines they worked diligently to keep. Their faith in the One Whose words and deeds taught them to do the very things that have been done at the De La Salle School since its doors opened in 2002! Yes, their faith in Our Holy Redeemer has been the shining light that has literally, in the lives of our De La Salle School graduates, brought forth fruits of faith a hundred-fold!



Congratulations De La Salle School Graduates! Congratulations Mr. Rall! Congratulations Brother Thomas! While your walk of faith leads you away from the De La Salle School at Our Holy Redeemer, just remember: *(you) are in the Holy Presence of God*. That remembrance will make sure that you do not fall away from the One Who (even in your departure) is the Reason those of us you leave behind can **rejoice in hope!**