

Christian Brothers Welcomes New President

THIS PAST SPRING the Board of Trustees announced the appointment of Lorcan P. Barnes as the new President/CEO, effective July 1, 2004. Mr. Barnes' resume came to the Christian Brothers' Board of Trustees through De La Salle Institute in Napa. De La Salle Institute is the main office of the Christian Brothers (District of San Francisco).

Mr. Barnes comes to Christian Brothers from Dayton, Ohio, where he served as President/CEO of Chaminade-Julienne Catholic High School from 1996-2004. Chaminade-Julienne is similar to Christian Brothers in many ways. It enjoys an excellent reputation for faith formation, academics, athletics, arts, and community service. It is 120 years old, with alumni serving as leaders throughout the region. It is a school of 1,000 students, who come from diverse backgrounds and neighborhoods to a downtown school. It is a school with a history of single gender education that has successfully transitioned to a coeducational school. One distinguishing characteristic is that "C-J" is owned by two religious orders, the Society of Mary (Marianist priests and brothers) and the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. In his eight years, Mr. Barnes was responsible for strengthening Catholic identity, increasing tuition assistance, improving faculty/staff compensation, and upgrading the campus and facilities.

From 1991-96, Mr. Barnes served as the Assistant to the President at his alma mater, Loyola High School of Los Angeles. Prior to that, he taught, coached, and participated in retreat work at Loyola H.S. and St. Mary High School in Jersey City, New Jersey. He holds a B.A. from Loyola Marymount University (Los Angeles) and an M.B.A. from Woodbury University (Burbank). Mr. Barnes and his wife, Patti, are native Californians. They have three sons, ages 10, 8, and 5. Their extended family is peppered throughout the state.

Mr. Barnes was drawn to Christian Brothers and Sacramento for several reasons. Professionally, he was impressed with the forward looking approach to Catholic education exemplified by the Christian Brothers. He was taken in by the enthusiasm and stewardship of the Board of Trustees. He was comforted in knowing the Principal, Mr. Schulze, and his staff were experienced and dedicated professionals who enjoyed widespread respect. He found Christian Brothers to be more financially sound than other schools. He saw a school with a stable enrollment and a strong reputation in all the important areas. Personally, Sacramento achieved his personal goal of being closer to his extended family. In sum, Mr. Barnes felt that this is the type of school to which he would proudly send his own children.

As President/CEO, Mr. Barnes' role is to make sure the mission of Christian Brothers H.S. is vibrant and tangible for today's students and to take the steps necessary so that this educational ministry serves our Church and broader community for generations to come. To this end, he is involved in governance relationships (Board of Trustees, the Christian Brothers' District of San Francisco, etc.) financial oversight, fundraising, public relations, strategic planning, campus development, and other matters. In the President-Principal model of school leadership, the President delegates the daily operation of the school to Principal. Christian Brothers is very fortunate to have a strong Principal in Mr. Rudy Schulze

and he is supported by a capable and dedicated staff. Part of Mr. Barnes' responsibility will be to provide Mr. Schulze and staff with the vision and the resources to provide today's students with a first class Catholic education in the Lasallian tradition.

Mr. Barnes has been spending much of his first few months listening to faculty/staff, students and parents, alumni, trustees, the Brothers, and broader community leaders. He is taking his time to learn what makes Christian Brothers H.S. a unique community so that he can lead the school with a healthy balance of respect for tradition and a desire to remain a leader in Catholic secondary education in Sacramento and beyond. ■



Mr. Barnes extends
the signs of peace
to students at the
Mass of Holy Spirit