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FRONT AND BACK COVERS



The depictions that appear on the front and back covers of this Bulletin are the original art works of Brother Manuel Gutiérrez from the District of Valladolid.

His works are immediately recognizable for their unique style, elegant and sure strokes, and their abundance of symbolism and color.

Drawing and painting is something natural for Brother Manuel who signs his name as an artist with just the beginning of his surname: "Guti". He is the designer of many posters depicting Lasallian events, and an illustrator of books and magazines as well as an indefatigable sketcher whose works have been anonymously used and reproduced in many Institute publications.

We thank Brother Manuel for his kindness and generosity in agreeing to design the front and back covers of this Bulletin.

He himself has summarized an explanation for us of what he wanted his work to express.

The front cover is an allusion to Shared Mission. Rooted in the charism of the Founder, which is represented by the shining star of FAITH about his face, there are so many today who are members of the vast Lasallian Family: Brothers and lay partners, men and women, young children and adolescents. By using two hands, one masculine and the other feminine, the light of the Lasallian charism is seen descending on those who make up this "family" and who are rooted in the evangelizing mission of Christian education...

But this "family" is not one that is static or immobile but one that is mobile and in the middle of a journey; nor is it a family of separate members but one where everyone is united, together, in association, hand-in-hand, marching along the path towards a future which is never closed to the horizon; a path that fades away in the distance, in Providence, and that is discovered step by step, while journeying from commitment to commitment just as it happened in the life of John Baptist de La Salle.

The back cover complements the thought of the front cover. It is an original drawing by Brother "Guti" that has already been reproduced in many publications and he has again sketched it for the Bulletin. It represents the result of Shared Mission for Christian education.

Christian education is education for freedom. The chevrons of the Lasallian coat of arms gradually become birds, then doves that are flying towards the infinite, towards the sun that is God, freeing themselves from their earthly ties.

The drawings that appear within the Bulletin are from several different artists. Some are signed and others are not and so we are not always able to determine their origin. Nonetheless we are able to identify the work of Brother Fermín Gainza from the District of Argentina, Brother Roberto Roberti, from the District of Rome and Brother Julio Parada from Abidjan. Their works have been selected from various Institute bulletins and magazines.

H.J.M.V.

