

Salesian Missions

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SALESIAN SPOTLIGHT

E-NEWS CHRISTMAS 2021



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SALESIAN MISSIONS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA FOR 32 YEARS



*“Come now, insignificant man,
fly for a moment from your
affairs, escape for a little while
from the tumult of your thoughts.*

*Put aside now your weighty cares
and leave your wearisome toils.
Abandon yourself for a little to
God and rest for a little in Him.*

*Enter into the inner chamber of
your soul, shut out everything
save God and what can be of
help in your quest for Him, and
having locked the door seek Him
out. Speak now, my whole heart,*

“speak now to God: ‘I seek your countenance, O Lord, your countenance I seek.’ Come then, Lord my God, teach my heart where and how to seek You, where and how to find you.” From the Prosligion of St Anselm

**SALESIAN MISSIONS WISHES ALL OUR
READERS, DONORS, FRIENDS AND
FAMILIES A VERY BLESSED AND HAPPY
CHRISTMAS. MAY THE BEAUTY AND THE
PROMISE OF THAT SILENT, HOLY NIGHT
FILL YOUR HEARTS WITH PEACE AND
HAPPINESS.**



“HAIL FULL OF GRACE”



Pope Francis says of Mary at the Annunciation: “Mary found herself faced with a crucial decision: to say, ‘yes’ to God, risking everything, even her life, or to decline the invitation and to continue her ordinary life.”

The Pope noted how Mary offered her assent to God’s invitation with a wholehearted *fiat*: “Let it be done to me according to your word.”

He pointed out that, in the original Greek, the expression attributed to Mary “indicates a strong desire, the firm will that something happen.”

“Hers was no simple, submissive ‘yes’, said the Pope. “Mary actively bound herself to God.

She is a woman in love prepared to

serve her Lord completely and immediately.

Mary does not hesitate or impose conditions on God.”

The Pope reflected on how often we procrastinate in life, even in our spiritual life.

He said we know it would be good to pray, but that we say we don’t have time.

“I know it is important to help someone, but today I can’t. I will do it tomorrow.”

Yet, as we cross the threshold into the Christmas Season, Mary invites us to offer our quick and courageous “yes”, no matter the cost.

Pope Francis urged Christians to consider in what ways God is inviting us to say “yes”, especially in the difficulties surrounding Christmas in

2020. “Instead of complaining in these difficult times about what the pandemic prevents us from doing, let us do something for someone who has less: not the umpteenth gift for ourselves and our friends, but for a person in need whom no-one thinks of!”

The Pope then warned against letting gift-buying consume our heart ahead of the holidays.

“Consumerism has stolen Christmas,” he said, pointing out that the Holy Family filled the stable in Bethlehem with poverty and love, not consumerism.

Pope Francis concluded by inviting everyone to prepare our hearts for Christmas through prayer, “like Mary’s: free from evil, welcoming, ready to receive God.”

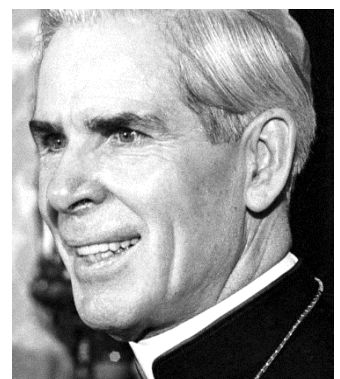


“While they were in Bethlehem the time gave birth to a son, her first-born. And the Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to town of David a Saviour has been born to sign for you, you will find a baby wrapped in



came for Mary to have her child, and she angel told the shepherds, “Do not be afraid. be shared by the whole people. Today in the you: He is Christ the Lord. And here is a swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.”

“As we gather about the crib of Bethlehem, we feel that we are in the presence of a new Paradise of Beauty and Love... and the name of that Paradise is Mary. And if we could have been there in that stable on that first Christmas night, we might have seen that Paradise of the Incarnation, but we should not be able to recollect whether her face was beautiful or not. for what would have impressed us, and made us forget all else, would have been the lovely, sinless soul that shone through her eyes like two celestial suns. If we could have stood at the gates to that Paradise, we would have less peered at it as into it, for what would have impressed us would not have been any external qualities, though these would have been ravishing, but rather the qualities of her soul—her simplicity, innocence, humility, and above all, her purity... Christmas takes on a new meaning when the Mother is seen with the Babe. In fact, the heavens and the earth seem almost to exchange places. Years ago, we used to think of the heavens as ‘way up there.’ Then one day the God of the heavens came to this earth, and that hour when she held the Babe in her arms, it became true to say that with her we now ‘look down’ at heaven.” *Fulton Sheen*



WAVES OF CHANGE – SALESIAN INSTITUTE



We have had 8 Graduations this year. Before Graduation is possible, participants complete an exit survey to ascertain their achievement in the Life Skills programme. They pass random drug tests and must succeed at a day of mock Job Interviews, to prepare them for the real-world expectation. Those who do not have

a smart set of clothes for the Job Interview, are provided with clothes from our donation cupboard of clothing. Father Pat opens the Graduation Ceremony with a prayer and welcomes all present. The event closes with the Graduation meal shared by family and friends.



Graduates share their stories about how the programme has changed their lives and their hopes for the future. They witness to their own transformation.

Parents also take the opportunity to share about the transformation they have seen in their “lost” children. After our most recent graduation ceremony, a young man was welcomed back into the family home, after having

been homeless for many months.



When graduates send us photographs like the one on the right and below, we know that we are succeeding. A life at sea is often an opportunity to break from old habits and unfavourable peer pressure.



SALESIAN CO-OPERATORS MASERU LESOTHO



On Saturday 18 September, Brother Mojela and Sister Cecilia guided nine Salesian Co-operator Aspirants through a day of recollection, with the themes of *God's grace in our lives* and *Belonging*.

On Sunday 19 September the Salesian Family in Southern Africa were blessed. The new Salesian Co-operators made their promises at morning Mass at the parish in ha Seleso, Maseru. The Mass was celebrated by the Parish Priest, Father John Thompson. After mass the celebrations continued with some speeches, words of encouragement and a festive lunch.



SALESIAN CO-OPERATORS - ENNERDALE AND FINETOWN

On Sunday 14th November 2021, the Salesian Co-operators of All Saints Parish (Ennerdale and Finetown) had a Retreat Day at Bosco Youth Centre in Walkerville, directed by Father Eoin Farrelly. There were 10 Salesian Co-operators, 3 Aspirants and 3 Salesian Sisters, divided into 4 groups. Discussions were held on the Religious, Social, Educational and Political situations, and how the youth responded to each of these, how Don Bosco, in his day, responded to these, and how we, as Salesian Co-operators should guide the young people today. Also discussed was Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, and how we should respond to the cry of the earth and to the poor.

The Salesian Co-operators were also encouraged to read, to reflect and live the Projects of Apostolic Life, as a call of Salesian Co-operators.

This was the first time the Aspirant group had joined the Salesian Co-operators. It was a beautiful experience to be together.

Sister Maria Nguyen





SANCTA MARIA EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT IN FINETOWN



GODS CREATION



“Cleanliness is next to Godliness.” In unity with the whole universe the Aspirants of Salesian Co-operators in FineTown and Ennerdale, celebrated God’s Creation with the children of Sancta Maria Early Childhood Development.

The day began with the presentation of God who is Creator and how we can take care of our common home. Nonkululeko Mngoma, one of the teachers and also an Aspirant explained to the children in a simple, interesting, and practical way the ‘3R’s’ in favour of the ecosystem: **Reuse, Reduce and Recycle**. The teachers, with the



children, also prepared some posters and the children enjoyed singing: “*Bit of papers,*” “*We recycle*” and “*God’s love.*” This



was followed by prayers, guided by Sr. Maria Nguyen. After that, we went out and cleaned outside of the school. After cleaning, we took a break and prepared for the Miss and Master Spring Competition and Games. Everybody had a wonderful day in celebrating God’s Creation. A big thank to the Aspirants of the Salesian Co-operators, the Staff of Sancta Maria ECD and some friends who were generous and made the day so enjoyable for the children. Together we will take care of creation. *Sister Maria Nguyen.*

Indoor and outdoor Educational equipment was purchased with donations from Salesian Missions. And each class in Sancta Maria is now connected to the Open View programme on Television, to assist the children to learn English.





DON BOSCO EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

Laura Vicuña Educational Centre



With the allocation of funds received from Salesian Missions, we were able to purchase some computers, which have made a huge difference to our learners. It has allowed them to expand their knowledge, and also permitted a few of our learners to participate in an online Mathematics competition.



Some of the funds were also used for the Science Kit. This has truly helped us tremendously. Having the equipment to teach the children has made learning so much easier for them.

Our thanks go to all the generous donors. May God bless you all and your families. The service rendered for the poor will always be remembered. *Sister Motselisi L. Maliehe*





FR PAT NAUGHTON - 50 YEARS OF DEVOTED SERVICE IN THE SPIRIT OF DON BOSCO

BY SYDNEY DUVAL

The fountainhead formed by St Francis de Sales flowed from Savoy into Turin in 1841 to be embraced by Don John Bosco, who devoted his ministry to creating practical and holistic support for young people affected by the industrial revolution – abandoned, lost, ill-educated and unskilled.

Don Bosco himself became a new fountainhead that flowed onward into night schools and trade schools, adding a new dimension to religious life and ministry that spread as a river of life from country to country – an

asperges of hope and renewal for the young people on street corners crying out to the world for help: teach me to write and read; show me how to make things, how to use a sewing machine; show me how to repair what's broken; show me how to be a printer, carpenter and bugler; show me how to use a computer to connect to the new world forming around me; give me a football that I may learn to pass and dribble; show me how to serve other young people vulnerable to drugs and crime; make me a servant of those afflicted by TB and HIV/AIDS.

From street corners across the world there rose a common cry: Show us how to rise above adversity to celebrate life through training, service, work and compassion.

The river of Salesian ministry flowed into Cape Town in 1896, first to Buitengracht Street, then in 1910 to the Salesian Institute in Somerset Road, a cherished landmark and lighthouse of compassionate ministry that pulses to this day with an empowering and inspiring message of hope for those who are lost and, through Salesian skills' training, find themselves.

On 27 June 2021 the river brought confreres and friends together at the institute chapel to attend the mass celebrating the golden jubilee of priesthood of Fr Pat Naughton SDB, known also as Pdraig, a former provincial and rector. Zoom technology connected his family in Spiddal, Galway, the USA, UK and Germany to the celebration, followed by a luncheon and tributes that ran from heartfelt to witty, painting a portrait of a priest renowned for his leadership, ministry, compassion and readiness to rescue the troubled from spiritual death.

Sharing the celebration were new rector Fr Joseph Nguyen SDB and longstanding confreres Fr Bart Walsh SDB and Fr Eddie O'Neill SDB.

Vice-provincial **Fr Alberto Villalba SDB** managed his allotted two minutes with great vigour, saying of Fr Pat's sacramental ministry: "Your 50 years of priesthood means 50 years of bringing the presence of God into the midst of the people you met along the way ... the mercy of God through Reconciliation ... Jesus himself through the Eucharist ... healing through Anointing of the Sick ... the covenant of God among us through Marriage."

Fr Alberto continued: "We need to mention your 50 years of Salesian apostolate ... St Paul was telling us this morning that we are encouraged by faith,

eloquence, understanding and goodwill to do good works ... moving us to do good things for others without expecting regard ... the gift of convincing people to support the Salesian apostolate ... seeing the reality of those seeking answers to their needs, especially the youth here at the Salesian Institute."

Fr Alberto ended with a special request to Fr Pat: "Take care of yourself in every sense: spiritually, physically and psychologically – because we Salesians need you to be healthy to continue doing the great work you have done."

Former Rector **Fr Jeff Johnson SDB** anchored his forwarded memento on Fr Pat's influence on his life as a Salesian over the past 25 years, which began in the mid-1990s as a newly ordained priest and Fr Pat was the second provincial of the newly formed Southern Africa Vice-province comprising South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland.

Fr Jeff recalled Fr Pat's pioneering work in shaping the new vice-province, saying: "He was all about paradigm shifts. Nobody knew what he was talking about, but that did not stop him from forging ahead with his vision of our Salesian mission to youth – a vision that remains undimmed today."

Fr Jeff described his six years as the institute rector from 2013 as the most challenging and fulfilling of his Salesian life – when he was privileged to join Fr Pat as the driving force behind the Salesian Institute Youth Projects in response to the needs of Cape Town's poor and disadvantaged youth. Fr Jeff expressed his "boundless respect and admiration" for Fr Pat's team of lay leaders, collaborators and benefactors – and for those who still soldiered on.

Fr Jeff summed up his experience of Fr Pat in words often used to describe Don Bosco – father, pastor and friend. Fr Pat's fatherly concern was to provide for his

children. He had images of Fr Pat late at night, early in the morning, long daytime hours, planning and scheming, improving projects or developing new ones, in meeting after meeting, consulting, appealing and cajoling, seeking options, shifting paradigms.

Fr Jeff valued Fr Pat as the pastor, the shepherd caring for his flock, the priest with passion and compassion for youth in need, for the old and sick, for those in trouble, for those needing a shoulder to cry on, for the parishes where he was beloved: “Fr Pat was pastor to them all.”

Old friend **Dermot Mullins** from Scotland first met Fr Pat 40 years ago at the institute. He was immediately struck by Fr Pat’s aura and spirit which exuded warmth, humility and love to all. People naturally sought his company and were only too willing to support Fr Pat’s work. “I often found myself asking myself how did I get roped into that?”

Describing Fr Pat’s devotion to tireless work as legendary, Dermot said he spoke on behalf of countless people whose lives Fr Pat had enriched – including the hundreds of children over the years with the Holy Cross Sisters at Brooklyn and Modderdam. As adults, many of those children had never forgotten Fr Pat, reciprocating with time and skills wherever Fr Pat needed help.

Dermot ended his tribute: “Thank you, Pat, for your unwavering wisdom, kindness and support. You have been my inspiration and mentor throughout our friendship.”

Maureen Naughton, translated from Gaelic, recalled her wedding in Rome to Pádraig’s brother Joe - when they first heard that Pádraig would prefer to be ordained at home in Galway and in his native Gaelic tongue. This had never been done before; but it was very much in keeping with the Gaelic cultural traditions the family had honoured all their lives.

Preparations included Maureen’s brother translating the Rite of Ordination into Gaelic which required the approval of the Dean of Maynooth College at that time. He was a Gaelic scholar and delighted with this creative innovation. One neighbour recalled how, as a young lad at the time, he collected peat-turf for lighting bonfires which lined the roads with flags to the local church and the hotel where the festivities would take place - all in honour of the first ever ordination in Gaelic.

Maureen said: “It was a grand occasion with celebrations lasting all summer - a testament to the person who is Pádraig and a central figure in all our lives. Through the years Pádraig has used the Gaelic traditions of spirituality and community, whatever the occasion or activity, whether it was fishing for mackerel and sharing the abundant catch with all, or working hard alongside us when he was home.

“Pádraig celebrated countless Gaelic masses around the kitchen table to ensure that these traditions were embedded in all our kids, whether through lighting the candles or ringing the bell at mass. He has brought so much joy to us - especially to his brother Joe.”

Close friend and former pupil and confrere **Patrick Boucher** viewed Fr Pat as a true example of his native roots on the west coast of Ireland, *Pádraig ÓNeachtain* could speak only Irish until he was 12 - and he rode horses bareback. Whenever Pat went home from Africa, you would find him in a small fishing Hooker on Galway Bay.

Priestly formation and practical training took Fr Pat to St John Bosco College, between Daleside and Walkerville, south of Johannesburg, where he was already showing signs of his warmth, mentorship and an irrepressible sense of humour, always strongly but fairly challenging the students to grow and better themselves.

Later, after returning to South Africa as a priest, Fr Pat served as rector of the Bosco community and school, then as provincial of the Salesian Southern African Province (AFM) – much to his dismay. An introvert by nature, he did not relish the public profile. But here he honed his skills in leadership and participation.

This was also at the height of apartheid when Fr Pat gave extraordinary witness to the Gospel, by exposing apartheid for the lie it was. One daring way, was to give critical interviews on *Radio NaGaeltacht* (in Irish, of course), and telling the apartheid government to – “*téigh go hilfreann!*” (“go to hell!”).

No matter where he found himself, Fr Pat was the same – deeply reflective and spiritual in his priesthood and humanity. His priesthood had impacted profoundly on thousands of people - students, parishioners, colleagues and friends: “The man is simply amazing.”

Pat Boucher closed by associating St Iraneus with the phrase, “Man fully alive, is the glory of God”. *Pádraig*, he said, continued to give God glory, by living his life fully, spiritually, inspirationally and with a heart as deep as his native Galway Bay.

Fr Jonathan Daniels SDB, rector at Lansdowne: “In the 31 years I’ve known Fr Pat he has not changed much. I don’t think I’ve ever heard him raise his voice in anger ... he is quiet and soft spoken yet firm; gentle and kind; stubborn and pig-headed; he has a great passion for the upliftment of young people.

“Did I mention that he’s stubborn? He works best behind the scene and, yes, he’s stubborn. Stubbornness seems to be a quality that goes hand in hand with all great men and women. The prophets of old were stubborn: Moses told God that he’s going nowhere for he had a speech impediment. Jeremiah said, leave me alone, I’m too young. Elijah said: ‘I’ve had enough.’

“It would seem that Fr Pat is in good company. He is stubborn because he is passionate. He is passionate for the work of Jesus as set out for us by Don Bosco. In 50 years of priesthood, Fr Pat has raised many a person from spiritual death and restored them to life again. He continues to do so. He will not stop, so let us stop telling him to do so. Fr Pat, continue being stubborn, continue being passionate, continue serving Jesus in the way set out by Don Bosco. You are a much needed role model for our day and age.”

Fr Pat’s response noted the privilege of being rector and provincial while facing many challenges with lots of help from his brother Joe - “I consulted him before taking on any position.” Fr Pat Lonagan SDB and marriage encounter had been a great help. His brothers and sisters in Ireland had been a lifeline, as were Lynn Stevens and the many boards he had served on: “I thank them all.”

Sydney Duval proposed this toast and presentation: “I went to Lentegur Clinic the other day for my first jab of Covid-19 vaccine. I got more than a shot of protection. I also got many jabs of memory. We passed through Westridge and Rocklands and neighbouring communities where I had interviewed several Salesian priests over many years about their ministry to distressed communities on the Cape Flats.

“The journey had started with Covid-19 and a clinic in mind. But it was to become a journey of rediscovery,

of recalling the many pastoral strands that connected the outlying Salesian parishes to their support resources at the Salesian Institute, at Mary Help of Christians, and at the chancery. This is a ministry that is so profoundly valued by the church community. So much good work. So many good pastors of the flocks around them entrusted to their caring ministry – in the spirit of St Don Bosco.

“This pyx has been with me some 30 years since getting it at Mariannahill. It has never been used. I got it as a souvenir of the many years I was an altar server in Durban and close to liturgical vessels. I value the pyx for its integral part in the Church’s ministry to the sick, infirm and helpless.

“The pyx looks empty, but for me today it is filled with the reality of your own shining ministry to the many youth in desperate need of care and compassion in and around Cape Town – ministry and work that brought us together for so many years. Today is your day of special celebration that will continue to fill this empty pyx with the fruits of your devoted, unforgettable and inspiring ministry to the vulnerable youth of Cape Town and far beyond.

“To the priest from Connemara, Galway, this pyx is a sign of my enduring gratitude and affection for our journey together. For Fr Pat Naughton SDB, on his golden jubilee of priesthood, in thanksgiving for his ministry as a homebuilder for youth needing a helping hand to ‘stand by me’, to imagine life beyond the tenements and shacks; to be township youth sharing life with bundu youth. *Hhamba kahle. Sláinte!*”



SHORT STORIES

“When I was in my early twenties, had a great job and everything was going my way, with a forever loving Mother, Church, family and friends....

They built the new wing at Groote Schuur Hospital and whenever I drove myself around Hospital Bend, I told myself that I would never land up there. However, my friends and I used to go clubbing every month when we received our pay cheques. One particular month, my one friend bought himself a Mazda 323 and persuaded me, unwilling as I was, to go with him. We partied right through the night to the early hours of the morning at CLUB Montreal – at that time drinking and driving was in fashion.

It was raining heavily, and he lost control of the car at the Langa off ramp (after the accident he told me that I said to him “I want to see how fast your car can go.”) The car was a total write off and I was flung out of the back. Thank God for the Paramedics and Hospital staff at Groote Schuur Hospital. Unconscious for three days, with a broken skull and two cranium clamps, I was hardly recognizable.

When I opened my eyes, everyone was in tears. My mother was extremely cut up.

With memory loss and all (I could not walk properly) through the grace of God and all the prayers I eventually went back to work.

LESSON: Don’t think that it will never happen to you. God humbled me.... “ Leon Peter Lewis

Leon is a member of the Legion of Mary and is actively involved in all the activities at Our Lady Help of Christians Parish in Lansdowne, except during Covid. ED.

Dear Denise

Thank you for the lovely messages and best wishes to you all for Christmas and may the New Year bring us Health and Happiness. I was able to visit Monserrat, which is outside of Barcelona, with my son (Stirling) in November. It is a most beautiful Monastery and there are alcoves around the piazza in front of the Church and in one of these alcoves is a statue of St Don Bosco and two children, which I have attached for you. Kind regards and stay safe. Mary Scholes



My friend Gail has been through a rough time in the last few months. Not being able to hold the hand of her daughter Tracy, whilst she donated her kidney to her husband, was truly stressful and traumatic. You see, both Andrew and Tracy live in Australia.

However, in the last week or so, Andrew received Tracy’s kidney and the news was that he and Tracy were doing well. Their little boy was being dressed for bed by a relative, when he said: “Dear God, I miss my Daddy, please let him come home.” No sooner were the words out of his mouth when Andrew walked into his room.

NOW THAT’S CHRISTMAS!!!





(ANS – Vatican City) – On 30 August 2021, Pope Francis recognized the heroic virtues of the Servant of God Mariacristina Cella Mocellin, a lay faithful and mother of a family born on 18 August 1969, in Monza (Italy). From 1982 to 1987, Mariacristina attended the Linguistic High School at Mary Help of Christians School of Cusano Milanino, then run by the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians of the Lombard Province of the Holy Family.

Pope Francis shows a Slovak child how to fold his hands in prayer. Vatican Media



The Rector Major, Father Angel, at work for the Salesian Family Spirituality Days 2022



(ANS - Rome) - The Salesian Family Spirituality Days are an unmissable event for those who, despite the multiplicity of different charisms, recognize Don Bosco as a beacon and guide for their life and mission in the Church and in society. In fact, they have been going on for 40 years and were also held last year, albeit with the necessary changes and attention, at a time when the Covid-19 pandemic showed its toughest face. Currently, the Secretariat for the Salesian Family, led by the Central Delegate of the Rector Major, Fr Joan Lluís Playà, is working on the next edition, which will be held in mixed mode - in presence in Turin-Valdocco, and with digital platforms - from 13 to 16 January 2022.

As per tradition, the Spirituality Days, on a thematic level, will serve to deepen the message of the Rector Major's Strenna for the new year. The guideline, therefore, will be drawn on the basis of the motto already announced last July by the Rector Major - "Do all through love, nothing through constraint" - a theme drawn from the wisdom of St. Francis de Sales, the Genevan bishop who Pope Pius IX proclaimed as a Doctor of the Church.

"In this way, we will approach the core of the spirituality of the saint who strongly inspired Don Bosco. This year is particularly significant because we observe the fourth centenary of the death of St Francis de Sales (1622-2022). It will undoubtedly be a precious experience for the Salesian Family worldwide. A good coordination by the local Provincials and their Councils will be decisive in helping all of us to feel and share the Salesian spirit which has its origin in the Saint of Annecy," explained Fr Joan Lluís.

As in 2021, also for the 'GSFS 2022', the fortieth anniversary in Salesian history, there will be three different "levels" of participation: one global, regional and the local levels.



(ANS - Rome) - The Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (FMA) gathered in Rome to participate in the FMA's 25th General Chapter have elected Sr. Chiara Cazzuola, currently Vicar General, as Mother General of the Institute. Mother Cazzuola succeeds Mother Yvonne Reungoat, who led the Institute since 2008. Fr Ángel Fernández Artime, Rector Major of the Salesians, present for the occasion, immediately congratulated the new Mother General.

Sister Chiara was born in Campiglia Marittima, Province of Livorno, Italy, in 1955. She joined the FMA into the then "Santo Spirito" Province in Tuscany. She lived the first years of her formation in Castelgandolfo, not far from Rome, and there, on August 5, 1975, she made her First Profession.

Italy – Pope Francis to FMA: "Do not forget the grace of your origins ... Mary Help of Christians will help you: You are her daughters!"

Suor Chiara Cazzuola

10° Successora di Santa Maria Domenica Mazzarello



Prayers Please



For Lyn who has had to close down most of her business.
For Jonathon and family, whose house was burnt down.
For a family who desperately need prayers.
For Gail and family. For Paola's friends in the Congo.
For an end to the pandemic and for peace in our country.
For all Readers, Donors and Friends of the Spotlight.
For a mother with 3 children whose husband is a drug addict.
For those who have been retrenched and have no money.
For the starving children and families, the world over.
For all women who are used and abused.
For children who suffer at the hands of abusive adults.
For the protection of Our Blessed Mother and Her Son.
For all carers, nurses, doctors and those in religion who help without expecting thanks.
For an end to corruption in our Government.
For our dedicated Priests, Brothers and Religious.
For all those who have gone before us. May they rest in peace.
And here we pray especially for the repose of the souls of:
Father John Butler, Sister Caroline Jafta FMA, Jeno Liptak,
Andre's two friends, Mr Temtem, Lucio Ciccotelli, Nel
Eternal rest give unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace.

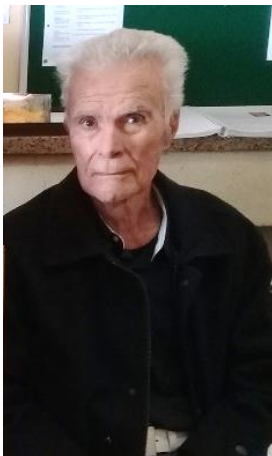
"Almighty, ever-living God, whose love surpasses all that we ask or deserve, open up for us the treasures of your mercy. Forgive us all that weighs on our conscience, and grant us more even



FATHER JOHN BUTLER SDB
1 October 2021 R.I.P.



LUCIO CICCOTELLI
4 NOVEMBER 2021



SISTER CAROLINE JAFTA
15 SEPTEMBER 2021 R.I.P.

**MAY THEY
REST IN PEACE**



JENO LIPTAK
22 NOVEMBER 2021



YOUNG CHILDREN AT SALESIAN INSTITUTE SHOWING THEIR TALENTS



HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL



Dear Friends

We have come to the end of a difficult and some would say, horrendous year. We have battled the odds of Covid, lock down, load shedding, exorbitant increases in the price of petrol and electricity, not to mention food, and blatant corruption at the hands of government. South Africans are a resilient people and with all the troubles they have had to endure, there is always the joke that does the rounds, helping to make light of the battle. However, it is not easy when there is no job to go to, and no money for the next plate of food. Life can be tough.

Sometimes we are not prepared for the load shedding and then, BOOM, the lights go off. That can be akin to the Gospel message, "Be awake, watch and pray...." Let us keep awake and pray in the silence that surrounds the crib.

My thanks once again, to all you wonderful people who have increased your donations, and to all of you who continue to help us by your prayers, your donations, and your loyalty. May God bless and reward you for your generosity.

To all those of you who are mourning the loss of a loved one, my prayers are with you.

My prayer for each of you this Christmas is that you will allow Our Blessed Lady to bring the Love of the Infant Child into your homes and your families, so that this Love may spread throughout the world like a beautiful fragrance. God bless and love you all.

Please pray for me, as I do for you.

Much love, Denise Hards

FEAST DAYS

08 Dec Immaculate Conception
 25 Dec Nativity of Our Lord
 26 Dec Holy Family
 28 Dec Holy Innocents
 01 Jan Mary Mother of God
 02 Jan Epiphany
 09 Jan Baptism of Our Lord
 24 Jan St Francis de Sales
 31 Jan St John Bosco
 02 Feb Presentation of Our Lord
 11 Feb Our Lady of Lourdes
 02 Mar Ash Wednesday
 17 Mar St Patrick
 19 Mar St Joseph
 25 Mar Annunciation

CHUCKLE: "What would it take to make your Mom perfect?" Answers given by 2nd Grade children. 1. On the inside she is already perfect. Outside, I think some kind of plastic surgery. 2. Diet. You know, her hair. I'd diet, maybe blue.

"What ingredients are mothers made of?" God makes mothers out of clouds and angel hair and everything nice in the world and one dab of mean.



SALESIAN MISSIONS

PO Box 3209, North Riding 2162 • Tel: 27 (0) 11 476-8315
 e-mail: missionoffice@bucknet.co.za
www.salesianmissions.co.za

YES! I want to support the Salesian work with needy youth!

I enclose my gift of:

R120 R175 R200 Other R.....

will be made by (please tick)

Cheque Debit Order Direct deposit*

Cheques payable to **Salesian Missions**

Please debit my bank account with R.....

Monthly Once only

Type of account: Cheque Transmission

Name of account holder:

Bank:Branch Code:

Branch name:

Account number:

Signature:

***STANDARD BANK CLAREMONT 025109**

A/C NUMBER 07 256 1572

A/C HOLDER - SALESIAN MISSIONS

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

Perhaps you would like to leave something to Salesian Missions in your Will.

An enquiry can be made, and the necessary form can be sent to you.

Tel: 27 (0) 11 476 8315

We would be extremely grateful.

Kindly fill in your Name, Address, Telephone Number and Email

Please pass this on to a friend if you don't need it!

