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# SALESIAN SPOTLIGHT

JUNE  
2013

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SALESIAN MISSIONS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

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## DONATIONS ARE MADE TO THESE SALESIAN PROJECTS

### CAPE TOWN:

Salesian Institute Street Youth Projects  
Learn to Live  
Lansdowne Youth Ministry

### GAUTENG:

Bosco Oratory  
Bosco Youth Programs (Love Matters)  
Don Bosco Educational Project – Ennerdale  
Michael Rua School  
Salesian Sisters – Finetown/Ennerdale

### LESOTHO:

Maputsoe Oratory and Youth Ministry  
Maseru Oratory and Youth Ministry  
Missionary Sisters of Mary Help of Christians - Youth Projects  
Salesian Sisters – youth educational projects

### SWAZILAND:

Manzini High School – Part bursaries to needy scholars  
Manzini Youth Care  
Missionary Sisters of Mary Help of Christians – Malkerns Projects  
Malkerns Oratory

FORMATION of future Salesians and vocations promotion.

**SALESIANS CELEBRATING 154  
YEARS WORKING WITH CHILDREN  
AND YOUTH THE WORLD OVER**

## “YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHISEDECH”

With great joy and thanksgiving to God, the Salesians of Don Bosco will be celebrating the Priestly Ordination of Deacon Vincent Hoang Quang Thai, by His Grace Buti Tlhagale Archbishop of Johannesburg on 15 June 2013, at St John Bosco Catholic Church in Robertsham. He will be the third Vietnamese Salesian ordained by the Archbishop. (Deacon Vincent with a group of young people – picture left).



## ACT OF CONSECRATION TO THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, Who made known to Saint Margaret Mary Your ardent desire to reign over Christian families, behold us assembled here today to proclaim Your absolute dominion over our home. Henceforth we resolve to lead a life like yours so that amongst us may flourish the virtues for which you promised peace on earth, and to this end we will banish from our midst the spirit of the world which you dislike so much. You will reign over our understanding by the simplicity of our faith. You will reign over our hearts by an ardent love for you, and may the flame of this love be ever



kept burning in our hearts by the frequent reception of the Holy Eucharist. Bless our undertakings both spiritual and temporal. Banish all worry and care. Sanctify our joys and soothe our sorrows. If any of us should ever have the misfortune to grieve your Sacred Heart, remind us of your goodness and mercy towards the repentant sinner. Lastly when the hour of separation will sound and death plunges our home into mourning, then shall we all and every one of us be resigned to your eternal decrees, and seek consolation in the thought that we shall one day be reunited in heaven, where we shall sing the praises and blessings of your Sacred Heart for all eternity. May the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the glorious Patriarch St. Joseph Offer you this, our Consecration, and remind us of the same all the days of our life. Glory to the Divine Heart of Jesus, our King and our Father! Amen.

## FATHER GUILLERMO BASANES WITH THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

Father Guillermo Basanes (bottom row 2<sup>nd</sup> from right) visited the AFM vice-province, one of the smallest circumscriptions of the congregation in terms of its numbers, but one of the most diverse and multi-national, living up to the characteristics of the rainbow nation. There are representatives of all 8 regions of the congregation among the members of AFM, and the 53 confreres originate from 16 different nationalities. The council itself consists of confreres from 6 different nationalities! Father Guillermo spent two days attending the installations of new rectors and parish priests, and part of the first meeting of the renewed council 2013, saw the appointment of new rectors in all the communities of the vice-province. *Father Francois Dufour*



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May 24th. Feast of Mary Help of Christians.



The celebration of the Solemnity of Mary Help of Christians in this Year of Faith reminds us again of the trust that Don Bosco had in Mary our Help. He expressed this trust in an extraordinary way in the building of the Basilica in Turin.



(Picture above)

His confidence was motivated by a profound conviction that fostering devotion to Mary was a valid instrument for growth in faith and the defence of the faith among the young and the Christian people. With great realism Don Bosco could say: "The experience of eighteen centuries enables us to see in a very clear manner that Mary has continued from heaven and with even greater success, her Mission of Mother of the Church and Help of Christians which she had begun on earth."

"As the Salesian Family" says Fr Pierluigi Cameroni, "we ask Mary Help of Christians to help us to persevere in faith and to be able to bring the love of the Father to those who do not know him, and we pray that the young may be strong in their fight against evil, and able to make definitive choices in life."



Rosary procession for the feast of Mary Help of Christians, before the Vigil Mass in Robertsham. (picture left)

"Have a great devotion to Mary Help of Christians and you will see what miracles are."

One of the pillars of the parish, who has been there for many years - parishioner Marlene Lavers, wife of Deacon David Lavers, greeting the new parish priest of Robertsham - Father John Thompson. (picture right)



"Kindness is the language the blind can see and the deaf can hear." Mark Twain

DON BOSCO EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS - ENNERDALE

The blessing of the DBEP in Ennerdale by Archbishop Buti Tlhagale took place in the presence of about 200 guests, learners and students... (picture below).



The completion of the building is due to the generous donations and support for the on-going schooling and training of many marginalised young people. However, the problems are not only restricted to the weather, building and security. The mission of the projects is to provide a place for young people who have for many social and personal reasons been unable to register at the nearby schools or skills training courses. With now almost, if not more than three hundred people on campus, it is obvious that a great need is being fulfilled.

As yet, while great good is being done, the challenge is to ensure that for those young people who wish to further their learning, that the projects will be able to issue a certificate in accordance with the demands of official bodies such as the Gauteng Education Department. Applications have been made, and research is on-going to ensure that the Don Bosco Education Projects will be compliant with all the requirements in the near future. The need is certainly recognised and is being attended to, and at the same time, the necessary registrations are also being addressed.

CHUCKLE

A six-year-old boy told his father he wanted to marry the little girl across the street. The father, being modern and well-schooled in handling children, hid his smile. 'That's a serious step,' he said. 'Have you thought it out completely?' Yes,' his young son answered. 'We can spend one week in my room and the next in hers. It's right across the street, so I can run home if I get scared of the dark.' 'How about transportation?' the father asked. 'I have my wagon, and we both have our tricycles,' the little boy answered. The boy had an answer to every question the father raised. Finally, in exasperation, his dad asked 'What about babies? When you're married, you're liable to have babies, you know.' 'We've thought about that, too,' the little boy replied. 'We're not going to have babies. Every time she lays an egg, I'm going to step on it!'



## PAST PUPILS REUNION - BOSCO COLLEGE RECOGNISE A FAMILIAR FACE



Past pupils from the 1980's who attended Bosco College, Daleside, gathered for a reunion on the 26th April at the Country Club, Johannesburg. Organised by Des Mahony (Headboy - 1985) past pupils came from near and far... Johannesburg, Durban, Canada and Australia... to name a few places. It was an awesome evening of chatting and exchanging stories about the days at Bosco, "Jailside", as well as catching up "what have you been doing the last thirty years or so?" Des worked out that there were just more than 600 pupils at Bosco during those years... and 10% of those pitched up for the reunion, which was a good turnout. Difficulty, of course, was the many more who were untraceable! Also in attendance were Fathers Ivo Pisacane, Eugene Hennessy and Robert Gore, teachers at Bosco during those years. *Father Robert Gore.*



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## SALESIAN INSTITUTE NEWS - CAPE TOWN



On 10 May we had the second graduation of the new Waves of Change Life Skills program, aimed at young men preparing as Seafarers. The Life Skills runs for one week where the youth are taught the following: Self Awareness, Trust & Team Building, Life Style Budgeting, Vision & Goal Setting, Assessment & Evaluation. From the last group of 35, 19 of the young men are now employed. (Picture right).

Our Learn to Live girls soccer team have started their Amandla Soccer League in Khayalitsha. The league is held every Friday and on Thursdays the girls attend Life Skills which forms part of the program. (Picture left). *Brother Clarence Watts.*



*Peace starts with a smile*

A Good Heart Can win Many a Relationship,  
A Good Nature Can Win Many Good Hearts



Dear Friends  
The leaves have changed their coats to rustic browns, reds and yellows, and winter has already

knocked on the door, and added to the creaking of the bones as we get older. Some of the braver little sparrows are still having their bath in the mornings and the lizard still comes out, when the sun's rays slant across the brickwork, to have his tiny piece of ham.

If we take the time to appreciate it, nature is spellbinding. It is a little bit of the heaven that we look forward to.

We had a great response to our last Spotlight and I am not sure whether that is due to St John Bosco or Pope Francis, but I am hoping that this edition will bring in even more than the last one.

It is cold out there and it is preferable to put food in the childrens' mouths rather than leave them to get warm on thinners and drugs.

In some of my letters I have mentioned the Sisters new project in Delft in the Cape. They desperately need the means to keep the children off the streets.

Many a good person has come out of a Salesian home somewhere and YES there have been many rogues as well, but we can only do the best we can – with your help.

There are so many ways in which I could write about how much we appreciate your generosity, but I sincerely think that 'THANK YOU KINDLY AND MAY GOD BLESS AND REWARD YOU' sums it up completely. June is the month of the Sacred Heart. There are so many graces and blessings that we can receive if we put our minds to it.

Until next time, keep warm, and look after yourselves. Much love. Denise.



Recycling at its best, but there are many hungry mouths to feed

**FEAST DAYS**

- 2 June The Body and Blood of Jesus Christ
- 7 June Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
- 8 June The Immaculate Heart of Mary
- 24 June Nativity of John the Baptist
- 20 June Saints Peter and Paul
- 6 July St Maria Goretti
- 11 July St Benedict
- 16 July Our Lady of Mount Carmel
- 26 July Saints Joachim and Anne
- 31 July St Ignatius of Loyola
- 2 Aug Bl Augustus Czaratoryski SDB
- 6 Aug Transfiguration of Our Lord
- 15 Aug Assumption of Our Blessed Lady
- 22 Aug Queenship of the Virgin Mary

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Please send these by email, post or telephone to Denise on 011 476 8315. Many thanks



**POPE FRANCIS**

Among the most striking experiences of the last decades is finding doors closed. Little by little increasing insecurity has made us bolt doors, employ means of vigilance, install security cameras and mistrust strangers who call at our door.

None the less in some places there are doors that are still open. The closed door is really a symbol of our today. It is something more than a simple sociological fact; it is an existential reality that is imposing itself as a way of life, a way of confronting reality, others and the future.

The bolted door of my house, the place of my intimate life, my dreams, hopes, sufferings and moments of happiness, is locked against others. And it is not simply a matter of the physical house' it is also the whole area of my life, of my heart. All the time there are fewer who can cross that threshold. The security of reinforced doors protects the insecurity of a life which is becoming more fragile and less open to the riches of the life and the love of others.

The image of an open door has always been a symbol of light, friendship, happiness, liberty and trust. How we need to recover them. The closed door does us harm, reduces and separates us. God always takes the initiative and He does not want anyone to be excluded. God calls at the door of our hearts: Look, I am at the door, calling: if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I shall enter his house and dine with him and him with me (Rev.3.20).

**MANZINI - SWAZILAND**



Father Joseph Nguyen with three Salesian aspirants, Malibongwe, Similo and Nhlanhla, and three local boys, including a young reader of the Spotlight!

**MALKERNS - SWAZILAND**

The Sisters in Malkerns, Sisters Mary Clara Topno, Susan Soren, Sabrina

Hynniewta and Elsa Joseph, started a Social Apostolate for young women in February 2012. The Apostolate is flourishing and they now have 30 registered members. Along with social values, the women are taught moral and spiritual values as well. They are also taught skills such as soap making, pickling, etc. They are very happy and have said that they now have much less stress in their families as they have learnt how to earn a living. *Sr Mary Clara Topno*



**CLOSURE OF SALESIAN REPOSITORY**



Sadly the Salesian Catholic Repository at the Salesian Institute in Cape Town, permanently closed its doors on the 28 February 2013. The general business decline made it impossible to justify keeping the business open.

It was established in the 1920's and initiated by Brother Peter Simmonds, who was assisted by Esme Heyns and Elaine Johnson for over 40 years. Many a

customer has spent happy times in 'the shop,' and laughter resounded on many an occasion. The Staff would like to say a fond farewell to all of them and wish everybody well, in the future.



**SALESIAN MISSIONS**

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