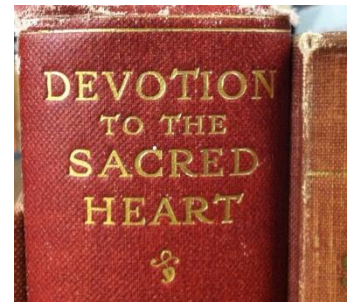


## Salesian Missions

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# SALESIAN SPOTLIGHT



JUNE 2016

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SALESIAN  
MISSIONS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA FOR 28 YEARS



## Message from Fr Angel, Rector Major of the Salesian family

"I DREAM OF A SALESIAN FAMILY THAT CARRIES THE POOREST IN HER HEART

Because of this, dear brothers and sisters of our family and dear friends of Don Bosco, I once again repeat to you my conviction that *the poorest are the reason for our existence as Salesian Family, in the Church and that our dedication to them is the reason of our lives.*

I am convinced of how precious is the witness of so many confrères who every day donate their lives with true educative and evangelizing passion in favour of the young; I am convinced that many are the

Salesian presences that look with predilection at the poor.

I give thanks to the Lord for this and I repeat: Dear brothers and sisters, "we must go further on, we must go beyond". We must all have a heart as the one of the Good Shepherd, and the one of Don Bosco, as the one of the holy men and women of this religious family that aims at giving the best of yourselves in favour of the youth. We must unite this commitment of ours to the one of all persons of good will. Pope Francis in his message to consecrated people says: "Wake up the world, illuminate it with your prophetic and countercultural witness!"



## THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF SALESIANS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

(Front row from left: Fr Alberto Villalba, Brother Clarence Watts, Fr Francois Dufour, Fr Michael Connell.)

(Back row from left: Fr Joy Sebastian, Fr Robert Gore.)



**THE LOCAL ANIMATORS, BURSARS AND SOUTHERN REGION TEAMS, OF SALESIAN SISTERS** came together, over a three day period, to share life and experiences on their respective ministries.

## SALESIAN CO-OPERATORS CELEBRATED 140 YEARS ON 9 MAY



On this day in 1876, the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, Don Bosco's project to form a lay branch of educators committed to the salvation of the neediest young souls received the seal of Pope Pius IX. The Association of Salesian Co-operators now has over 30 thousand members in about 1,400 local centres in 11 regions of the world.

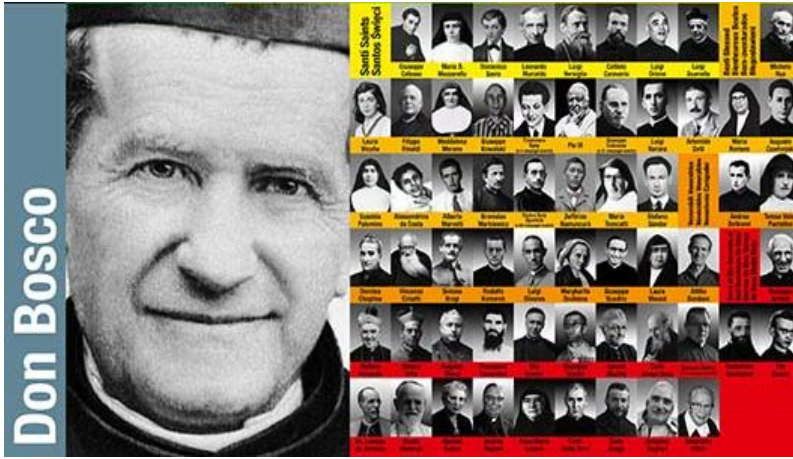
When, in April 1876, Don Bosco went to Rome to submit the final draft, he accepted the Pope's suggestion not to set up a separate institute for female co-operators but to merge them into a single formation. "They are by natural inclination more effective and enterprising than men. Excluding them, would deprive [the Association] of its most valuable help," said the Pontiff (MB XI 73-74). Don Bosco welcomed the pope's suggestion and amended the text.



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

**Margherita Occhiena, St John Bosco's mother, was considered as the first Salesian Co-operator.**

# FIRST SEMINAR ON SALESIAN FAMILY SAINTS IN ROME



During the month of April a historical Seminar on Salesian Saints was held in Rome. The theme of the seminar was divided into three sections:  
To know and to make known the Salesian saints and those who are in the process for beatification and canonization;  
To imitate our Saints, and to pray to the Salesian Saints and to help others to pray to them.

The seminar was specifically for vice-postulators, promoters and collaborators of causes, for members of the Salesian Family, and for people of the places where the candidates for sainthood were born, have lived or where there is a lively devotion to them. Presently, the Salesian Family has Saints (9), Blessed (117), Venerable (14) and Servants of God (27), making a total of 167.

## SAINTS IN THE MAKING



The [Salesian Youth Movement](#) Cape Town launched the New Year with a celebration of Don Bosco at [Lansdowne](#).



Today the [ORATORY IN HA CHAKA](#) was re-opened officially. The Salesian Sisters are taking the responsibility to see that the children and young people will be well attended with a week-end oratory.

Ha Chaka is an out-station of the parish. It is not far from Mapotsoe (5kms) and it is the centre for other many villages around it. The youth have no form of entertainment during the week end, therefore they are prone to hang around with the wrong crowd, and children risk their lives spending time on the river which divides Lesotho from South Africa.

The first day of the oratory was a great success. There were many happy children and young teenagers who participated in all the activities that were presented to them. There were 7 young leaders from the same village (pupils of Sr. Boniface) who really showed a great commitment and enthusiasm in the activities.



The newly elected Salesian Youth Movement Animation Team had an exhilarating weekend, culminating in being introduced to the [PARISH IN MASERU, LESOTHO](#), and commissioned by the Parish Priest to be mission apostles.

God speaks in the silence of the heart, and we listen. And then we speak to God from the fullness of our heart, and God listens. And this listening and this speaking is what prayer is meant to be. Mother Teresa



The SYM team organised a Social Justice Awareness workshop with the youth from **Ennerdale, Lawley and Finetown**. Group discussions and role-plays helped the young people to have a better understanding of social justice. We also highlighted the Church's teaching on social justice. On the question: "What are the social issues in your communities?" the youth responded with the following: Crime, Unemployment, Pollution, Abuse (women and children), Drugs and Education. We hope to run more of these workshops with the youth and this would lead to action with regards to the issues in their communities. Let us continue to guide the youth to be Good Upright Citizens in the manner that Don Bosco wanted. *Brother Clarence Watts*



Sr Susan (MSMHC) with children about to get their Easter Eggs before closing School for Easter holidays!  
**MALKERNS SWAZILAND**



18 girls (all from **Michael Rua School**) who were attending a study camp at Clonlea with MSMHC sisters, went on a mini hike around Bosco Centre. It was their first time to explore the natural beauty of Bosco Youth Centre landscape. It was also to educate the girls about the importance of preserving and caring for our environment. They thoroughly enjoyed it as they were singing along on the trail.

**"Self-pity brings tears to the eyes quicker than anything else." Light a Penny Candle- Maeve Binchy**

Dear Friends

As I write to you we have just celebrated the Feast of Pentecost – the feast of the Holy Spirit. Everybody knows the Gospel story about the fear of the Apostles who were hiding in the upper room. They had reason to fear. Their Friend and Saviour had gone, and they were aware that they were probably going to be persecuted. But the promise had been given "I will send the comforter!" We also know of their courage and zeal once the Comforter had been. The situation in the country today, and yes the world, is much the same. Most people are insecure and they have reason to fear. As one mother said to me, "It's not the same as when we were children. There is no more security; there are so many dangers that children are exposed to." We all know what the dangers are. And so I think that what we all need is to open ourselves to the Holy Spirit. We need the gifts of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. We need to bring Christ's Love back into our beautiful world, which has been turned upside down. I give you the prayer to the Holy Spirit and ask that we all say it each day:



"Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth Your Spirit and they will be created, and

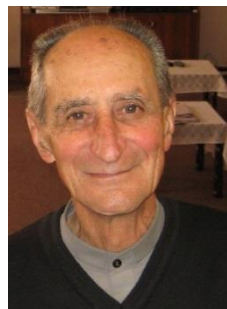
**You will renew the face of the earth."**

From the bottom of my heart I Thank You All for your prayers, loyalty and donations, and I ask you to increase the **prayers – we need vocations** – strong, reliable people who can carry on the work that was started over 100 years ago in this country. We also need your donations - big or small, we appreciate every cent that we get. We can't do without **YOU**. Don't forget it is the month of the Sacred Heart, even though I have spoken about the Holy Spirit, and don't forget Our Blessed Mother. What wonderful treasures we have for our comfort.

I ask for your prayers for my brother Michael who died on 16<sup>th</sup> May. God bless and reward you all. Please pray for me as I do for you. Much Love Denise Hards

**SMILE** You just have to appreciate this one. Young people forget that old people had a career before they retired..... Charley, a new retiree-greeter at Bunnings, just couldn't seem to get to work on time. Every day he was 5, 10 or 15 minutes late. But he was a good worker, really tidy, clean-shaven, sharp-minded and a real credit to the company and obviously demonstrating their "Older Person Friendly" policies. One day the boss called him into the office for a talk. "Charley, I have to tell you, I like your work ethic, you do a great job when you finally get here, but your being late so often is quite bothersome." "Yes, I know boss and I am sorry and am working on it." "Well good, you are a team player. That's what I like to hear." "Yes sir, I understand your concern and I will try harder." Seeming puzzled, the manager went on to comment, "I know you're retired from the Armed Forces. What did they say to you there if you showed up in the morning late so often?" The old man looked down at the floor, then smiled. He chuckled quietly, then said with a grin, "They usually saluted and said, Good morning, Admiral, can I get your coffee, sir?"

**FR IVO PISACANE**  
**BORN 12-4-1928**  
**DIED 24-4-2016**



Eternal rest give unto him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him, may he rest in peace.



**Father Ivo** was born in Scotland. As a teenager he went to a Salesian boarding school in Shrigley, England. He applied to join the Salesians at the age of 20 and after his ordination he was sent to South Africa, where after his studies he taught the boarders at St John Bosco College in Daleside.

He then taught for several years in Lansdowne before returning to Daleside as Rector. He continued to teach at Daleside where he was much loved by his pupils who continued to keep in contact with him years later.

When Bosco College closed as a boarding school in 1993, Fr Ivo adapted to parish ministry in Booyens and Robertsham for eight years and then in Lansdowne and Hanover Park for another seven.

In 2007 he "retired" to Bosco, now a Youth Centre. In December 2015 he was admitted to the frail care section at Nazareth House. He was admitted to hospital on his 88<sup>th</sup> birthday, where he died peacefully in his sleep twelve days later.

**FEAST DAYS**

- 03 June Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
- 04 June Immaculate Heart of Mary
- 24 June Nativity of John the Baptist
- 29 June Saints Peter and Paul
- 16 July Our Lady of Mount Carmel
- 26 July Ss Joachim & Anne
- 31 July St Ignatius of Loyola
- 06 Aug Transfiguration of Our Lord
- 15 Aug Assumption of Our Lady
- 22 Aug Queenship of the Virgin Mary

**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 information can be given to you.  
**Tel: 27 (0) 11 476 8315**  
**We would be extremely grateful.**

**Putting your phone away and paying attention to those talking to you? There's an App for that, it's called "RESPECT."**



**Bratislava, Slovakia - May 2016 - The International Salesian Youth Games (PGSI 2016)** began on 4 May with a press conference which saw the participation of various "partners" and the media. Young athletes arrived in Bratislava during the day and were met by their guides in the area called "Valdocco". The opening ceremony of the games took place in the evening.



**Learn To Live School** continues to nurture and educate learners to become GOOD Upright Citizens as peace ambassadors of society.



**Bosco Youth Ministry Team** under the guidance of Fr Alberto, who will guide young at Don Bosco Centre



**If Mercy Doesn't Reach Your Pockets, It's Not Real, Pope Says.**

For Pope Francis, mercy isn't just spiritual, but is something that ought to be expressed in concrete acts of service and in sharing one's goods with the poor. **AND** 'Those who want to build walls instead of bridges cannot be called Christians'

**"OH MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS I PLACE ALL MY TRUST IN THEE"**



**SALESIAN MISSIONS**

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

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