

# SALESIAN SPOTLIGHT

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**



**HE IS RISEN  
 “PEACE BE WITH YOU -  
 DO NOT BE AFRAID”**

**EASTER BLESSINGS AND THANKS  
 TO ALL OUR READERS, DONORS  
 AND FRIENDS**

## Worldwide Salesian Indaba

I was privileged to be one of 220 Salesians of Don Bosco representing the 15, 2000 plus members Worldwide in 1,890 Salesian presences across 132 countries at the 27<sup>th</sup> General Chapter in Rome. (McDonald’s is only in 118 countries!)

It was a tremendous bonding experience for us as we shared our joys and hopes, our griefs and pains in striving to pursue the mission of Don Bosco in so many different contexts. To hear first-hand of how the Salesians in Aleppo, Bangui, Beijing, Juba, Ukraine,... are ministering under extremely difficult circumstances, was most inspiring and made us realise how fortunate the rest of us are.



**Rector Major with Bosco Team Gauteng**

This 27<sup>th</sup> General Chapter focussed on renewing the dream of Salesians worldwide to not only be part of a great multi-national providing the best education possible to needy young people, but to first of all be witnesses to the radical values of the gospel, and not simply assist them to become honest and productive citizens, but also good Christians living purpose driven lives. Please pray that this major “indaba” will initiate a new springtime in the history of the growth of the Salesian Family. *Father Francois Dufour*



Every six years the Salesian congregation does a stock-taking exercise called a General Chapter – at which an evaluation of the previous six years and planning for the following six is done. This year, the Rector Major, Fr Pascual Chavez, ninth successor of Don Bosco completes his 12 year term of office, and so we are also discerning who will be the tenth successor! The election will take place just after this edition goes to press, so look out for breaking news!



**Rector Major’s arrival at the Lesotho Border**

# NEWS FROM CAPE TOWN

## SALESIAN INSTITUTE

THE FEAST OF DON BOSCO was celebrated with joy and fun. The staff had a prayer service in honour of Don Bosco in our chapel led by Father Jeff Johnson. (Above)



LEARN TO LIVE

PUPILS watched the film of Don Bosco followed by games and a festive lunch for all learners and staff.



SPORT is one of the ways of guiding the young people towards their full potential. Mr Lungu organised a cricket match as part of their physical education class,



and some of the Ajax Cape Town Coaches assisted our youth with basic football skills.



A few of our girls started the COREFIT PILATES FITNESS PROGRAM sponsored by Sisanda Foundation.



## LANSDOWNE



SALESIAN YOUTH in the Cape had a special Bosco Day at Lansdowne, which started with games, followed by a spiritual DVD. (Above)



FATHER MIKEL GARMENDIA celebrated mass for the youth in the Community chapel. (Above)

## HANOVER PARK



HANOVER PARK YOUTH GROUP, who form part of the Salesian Youth Ministry team in the Western Cape. (Above)  
(Pictures courtesy of Brother Clarence Watts)



## SWAZILAND MALKERNS

### ACCOLADES FOR ST JOHN BOSCO'S SAMUKELISO

Leonard Shongwe, the head teacher of St John Bosco High School was over the moon when he was told that one of his pupils, Samukeliso Malwinde Dlamini had come first in the country. He said that the boy was committed to his school work and was a role model even to the other pupils at the school. Shongwe said his



teachers were dedicated to their work, hence such a performance from one of his pupils. Samukeliso beat 10 922 pupils who sat for the Swaziland General Certificate in Secondary Education exams. He got six A\*. The star is very important. It means he got over 90% in all subjects. He is seen in the picture with some of his teachers (left to right) Mrs Sibia, himself, Mr Leonard Shongwe the head teacher and Mrs Dlamini. *Fr. Jonathan T Daniels*

### NEWS FROM LIKHAYA LA MARIA - MALKERNS

The Missionary Sisters of Mary Help of Christians held a Pre-School graduation ceremony at Likhaya in Swaziland. This year they had 46 children who graduated for Grade I. Sisters Susan Soren, Teresa Krocha and Miss Xolile Mathola prepared the children for the graduation. After the graduation ceremony a packed lunch was given to the children and their parents. The graduation gowns were donated by Mrs Patricia Johnston.



There was a great need in the community for a Social Apostolate. The Sisters formed one and then organised a workshop on disability and stress for the Social Apostolate women. The workshop was a great benefit to the women as many people in the locality suffer from the effects of Strokes and other disabilities. The women are now able to reach out to these patients and also to train the

family members on how to deal with these situations. *Sr. Elsa Puthenpurackal MSMHC*



There Is Always  
 A Little Truth Behind Just Kidding  
 A Little Emotion Behind I Don't Care  
 A Little Pain Behind Im OK  
 A Little Need Behind Leave Me Alone



Dear Friends  
 Easter is a time for celebration, a time for peace and for happiness; and yet there is so much sadness and hurt everywhere. Fear and insecurity seem

to be so dominant in our lives that we seldom see or hear anybody laugh any more, and smiling is a thing of the past. After reading the paper the other day I thought of the film Camelot – ever see it? There is a lesson to be learned from it – it takes only one man/woman's ambition and selfishness to start a war and ruin a nation.

Another lesson I learned was many years ago in Ireland. There was one sweet left in the bowl and I asked the little girl who should have the sweet. Her brother was not present, but she looked at me and said: "We'll cut the sweet in half." I have never forgotten the generosity and wisdom of that 4 year old child.

Pope Francis' message to the World Economic Forum was: "I ask you to ensure that humanity is served by wealth and not ruled by it."

And Arthur Schopenhauer tells us that 'compassion is the basis of all morality.' And there you have it – compassion and generosity – we all have these wonderful virtues and so we can live, laugh and love. We have God's infinite protection and love with us always. This was brought home to me only recently when I was almost mugged. 'Instinct' prevented me from going into the lift.

Only afterwards, breathing a sigh of relief, did I realise that it was not 'instinct' but God's protection. More and more, we should seek His protection and the guidance of His Blessed Mother, and we won't find the going so tough. Karl Barth said that "To clasp the hands in prayer is the beginning of an uprising against the disorder of the world." Let us do it. My belated wishes to all our Irish readers for St Patrick's Day.

'May the Irish hills caress you  
 May her lakes and rivers bless you.  
 May the luck of the Irish enfold you.  
 May the blessings of St Patrick behold you.'



AND MY SINCERE THANKS TO ALL THOSE GENEROUS PEOPLE WHO DONATE ANONYMOUSLY.

Thank you all for your kindness, prayers, and donations. Happy Easter and God bless you. Love Denise



**Calvary**

Jesus Christ, 33, of Nazareth, died Friday on Mount Calvary, also known as Golgotha, the place of the skull. Betrayed by the apostle Judas, Jesus was crucified by the Romans, by order of the Ruler Pontius Pilate. The causes of death were crucifixion, extreme exhaustion, severe torture, and loss of blood.

Jesus Christ, a descendant of Abraham, was a member of the house of David. He was the Son of the late Joseph, a carpenter of Nazareth, and Mary, His devoted Mother. Jesus was born in a stable in the city of Bethlehem, Judea. He is survived by His mother Mary, His faithful Apostles, numerous disciples, and many other followers.

Jesus was self educated and spent most of his adult life working as a Teacher. Jesus also occasionally worked as a Medical Doctor and it is reported that he healed many patients. Up until the time of His death, Jesus was teaching and sharing the Good News, healing the sick, touching the lonely, feeding the hungry, and helping the poor.

Jesus was most noted for telling parables about His Father's Kingdom and performing miracles, such as feeding over 5,000 people with only five loaves of bread and two fish, and healing a man who was born blind. On the day before His death, He held a Last Supper celebrating the Passover Feast, at which He foretold His death.

The body was quickly buried in a stone grave, which was donated by Joseph of Arimathea, a loyal friend of the family. By order of Pontius Pilate, a boulder was rolled in front of the tomb. Roman soldiers were put on guard.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that everyone try to live as Jesus did. Donations may be sent to anyone in need.

**SINCERE THANKS TO FATHER PASCUAL FOR HIS INSPIRATION AND EXAMPLE**

Many commendations and a tremendous outpouring of thanks were given to Father Chavez, "the outgoing Rector Major," and his message to Salesians is: "What concerns us is not the future of the Congregation, almost as it were a matter of survival, but rather our prophetic capacity, meaning our charismatic identity, our apostolic passion which are of true social and ecclesial relevance, following the criterion which Jesus Himself gave us: "By this will everyone know that you are my disciples, that you love one another." (John 13:35).



**MANY HAPPY RETURNS TO FATHER JOHN MEYERS**

of Manzini Swaziland, who joined the Salesian Octogenarian Club on 17 February.  
*Father Joseph Nguyen*

**ROBERTSHAM/ BOOYSENS -GAUTENG**



The traditional open air festivities at BooySENS took place in perfect weather, together with the feast of the Presentation, and the commissioning of the catechists - it was not the launch of another political party even if it

had some resemblance - but we were assured the red t-shirts represented the fiery passion of the teachers for the transmission of the faith...

A brunch followed for all, including several dozen oratory children who pitched up after the almost 2-hour long mass.

*Fr Francois Dufour*



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

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

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

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- Account number: .....
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**FEAST DAYS**

- 13 Apr Palm Sunday
- 17 Apr Holy Thursday
- 18 Apr Good Friday
- 20 Apr Resurrection of Our Lord
- 27 Apr Divine Mercy
- 29 Apr St Catherine of Siena
- 1 May St Joseph the Worker
- 6 May St Dominic Savio
- 13 May St Mary Mazzarello
- 24 May Mary Help of Christians
- 29 May Ascension of Our Lord
- 29 May Bl. Joseph Kowalski
- 31 May Visitation of Our Lady

**GENUINE ANSWERS FROM 16 YEAR OLDS**

- Q. Name the four seasons**
- A. Salt, pepper, mustard and vinegar
- Q. How is dew formed**
- A. The sun shines down on the leaves and makes them perspire
- Q. What are steroids**
- A. Things for keeping carpets still on the stairs
- Q. What is a seizure?**
- A. A Roman Emperor.
- Q. What does the word 'benign' mean?**
- A. Benign is what you will be after you be eight