

SALESIAN SPOTLIGHT



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EASTER 2017

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

Easter spells out
beauty,
the rare beauty
of new life.

S.D.Gordon

"The Church throughout the world echoes the angel's message to the women: "Do not be afraid! I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised... Come, see the place where he lay" (Mt 28:5-6).

This is the culmination of the Gospel, it is the Good News par excellence: Jesus, who was crucified, is risen! This event is the basis of our faith and our hope. If Christ were not raised, Christianity would lose its very meaning; the whole mission of the Church would lose its impulse, for this is the point from which it first set out and continues to set out ever anew. The message which Christians bring to the world is this: Jesus, Love incarnate, died on the cross for our sins, but God the Father raised him and made him the Lord of life and death.

In Jesus, love has triumphed over hatred, mercy over sinfulness, goodness over evil, truth over falsehood, life over death.

That is why we tell everyone: "Come and see!" In every human situation, marked by frailty, sin and death, the Good News is no mere matter of words, but a *testimony to unconditional and faithful love*. It is about leaving ourselves behind and encountering others, being close to those crushed by life's troubles, sharing with the needy, standing at the side of the sick, elderly and the outcast... "Come and see!" Love is more powerful, love gives life, love makes hope blossom in the wilderness." *Pope Francis*.



SALESIAN INSTITUTE YOUTH PROJECTS CAPE TOWN

The children and youth are learning to love themselves and we want them to grow and learn so that they can go out into the world to be better people and to love rather than hate.



BOOYSENS ORATORY GAUTENG As part of his time with the youth, Brother Clarence had a good discussion with young people on being peace ambassadors. Not just on the sports field but at school, within their families and everywhere they interact with others. "We must continue to educate our young people towards peaceful co-existence with one another," he said.



A very blessed and happy Easter
to all our readers and friends.





At the end of an audience on the 12th February 1870, the Pope asked Don Bosco: "Could you leave Turin and come to stay at Rome with me? Would your Congregation suffer by it?" 'Holy Father, it would be its ruin!' The Pope did not insist, but it was obvious that he wished to have him at his side in Rome as a cardinal. "I love my boys too much to leave them," explained Don

Bosco. "In every young person, a point of goodness is accessible, and it is the primary duty of the educator, to discover that sensitive chord of the heart, so to draw out the best in the young person." Don Bosco

Message from Father Francois



If you want to have influence for one year, sow corn.

If you want to have influence for ten years plant a tree.

If you want to have influence for a hundred years educate a child.

Although I'm not sure this ancient adage was ever quoted by Don

Bosco, it could have been! He was convinced that the holistic education of young people was the most vital component of any social transformation program. For most young people this ought to be taken care of within their family context. But like Don Bosco we are concerned for the child or teen who does not have a family or home to rely on.

We Salesians of Don Bosco and our many lay mission partners, aspire to continue to assist young people at risk through various educational and evangelising programs and projects. Our dream is to be able to guarantee them the chance of an education. An education, which helps each one to become fully human, through their growth in conscience, development of their intelligence, and the understanding of their own destiny. Our activities are aimed empowering young people so that they become the chief actors of their own development and be agents of progress in society. Education must not only liberate people, but needs to form 'liberators' who will be committed to combating injustice and striving for the creation of a more human environment, a more equitable social order, because every person is partly responsible for the destiny of every other human being. We are convinced also that education is a matter of the heart, and God is our "chief associate" in such a matter.

We also realize that we cannot do it alone, and so we keep looking for opportunities to network with likeminded partners, Christians and upright citizens." Like Don Bosco again, we wish to see the growth of a vast movement of people who conscientiously work together with us for the transformation of society, for the eradication of the causes of poverty, injustice and inequality, by promoting new mentalities in our young people, in the poor and in society in general.

Once again I wish to express my gratitude to all of you who support us in prayer, in kind and in funding this work, and are thus proxies for God's providence!

Message of the Rector Major to young people



"Today the world needs you. It needs the great ideals that are proper to your youth and your young dreams. The world, now more than ever, is in need of young people who are full of hope and courage, who are not afraid of living, dreaming, looking for that authentic and profound happiness through which God dwells in your heart. Young people who have the will to commit themselves and who are capable of committing themselves and of loving "to the point of suffering", as Mother Teresa of Calcutta used to say...

There are many young people who are "tired, bored or disappointed", or young people who never felt enthusiastic for anything, young people who are weak and frail. These young people need other youth. They need you who, speaking from experience and with a language that comes from life, may show them that there are other ways and other possibilities. Young people who help them to really understand that running away from the challenges of life is

never the solution. Young people who also as true disciples-missionaries, help them to discover Jesus in their life and to believe in Him. A Jesus who "does not sell you deceptions", but who offers Life, the authentic one, His own Life, His very Self.

I think, my dear youth, that



on this 31st of January 2017 Don Bosco would tell you something so simple, with the words and language of today... A better world can be built also as a result of your efforts, your desire to change and your generosity. Do not be afraid to listen to the Spirit who proposes bold choices. Do not delay when your conscience asks you to take risks in following the Master. Dear Young Friends, I have confidence in you and I pray for you. Have the courage to 'swim against the tide.'





**Booyens
Oratory
children
with
their
Bosco
booklets**



The parish of Our Lady of the Rosary, Hanover Park, experienced one of those grace-filled moments when the Papal Nuncio, His Excellency Archbishop Peter Wells visited the parish to celebrate Holy Mass with them.

**Fun and
games at
Bosco,
Randvaal**

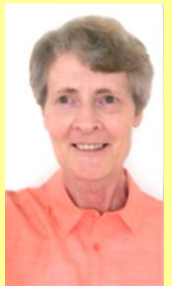


**Study at
Salesian
Institute
Cape
Town**



Dear Friends

Great emphasis is being placed these days on Family Life and there is great necessity for this. On Page 2 of this edition is a picture with the quote, "We are family! Every Home a school of life and love." This is the Strenna for 2017 from **Father Angel Artime**, the Salesian Rector Major.



Pope Francis has 10 quotes about family:

1. Family is the foundation of society.
2. The most beautiful thing God made – the family.
3. God sent his son into the world in a **family** which had its hearts open to love.
4. God wants families where members love each other and educate their children in goodness.
5. Difficulties in the family exist but they are overcome with love.
6. Pay attention to children and grandparents.
7. Holiness and love are manifested in the little gestures of each day.
8. The family, the home, is where faith is learned and grows.
9. Jesus encourages these little loving gestures as signs of his presence in the world.
10. There is an importance for parents to be good models of virtue.

Pope St John Paul II said: "To maintain a joyful family requires much from both the parents and the children. Each member of the family has to become, in a special way, the servant of the others."

Many years ago when I was at school there was a Priest, Father Patrick Peyton, who came to visit us. His message was, "The family that prays together stays together." He also preached - praying the Rosary.

Mother Teresa has told us that: "The greatest destroyer of world peace today is abortion."

On a recent visit to a friend's house, there were placards on the wall, designed by the children – they mentioned that the house was filled with laughter and love and that they communicated with one another. If only all homes could be like that one, then we would have no abused, lonely children who are mostly orphans, in this world.

Dear friends we need your donations, but we also need your prayers for families and for the children of our world.

MY VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO YOU ALL FOR YOUR WONDERFUL DONATIONS and also TO ALL THE UNKNOWN DONORS WHOM WE HAVE. SOMETIMES THERE IS ONLY A FIRST NAME AS A REFERENCE ON THE BANK STATEMENT.

Thank you all for your prayers, your loyalty and your love.

May this Blessed Feast of Easter bring joy, peace, laughter and love into your homes. This is my prayer for you and I ask that you please pray for me. Much love and God bless Denise Hards



Celebrating LoveMatters, which has reached over 20,000 teenagers over 280 weeklong programmes at Bosco.



PALM SUNDAY : It was Palm Sunday and, because of a sore throat, five-year-old Johnny stayed home from church with a sitter. When the family returned home, they were carrying several palm branches. Johnny asked what they were for. "People held them over Jesus' head as he walked by, said the family." "Wouldn't you know it," the boy fumed, "the one Sunday I don't go, He shows up!"





The year 2016 was a milestone in the history of the Salesian community at Ennerdale. The parish celebrated the silver jubilee of the reconstruction of the church building.

Don Bosco Educational Projects has made great progress, from the uncertainty of its existence to a good and strong collaboration with government organizations like CETA, SETA, MerCETA, etc. And the community had the silver jubilee of first profession celebrations of Frs. Emmanuel Kanuma and Vijumon Thomas.

The celebration of the reconstruction of the parish building, was a memorable event for the parishioners, as it coincided with the sacrament of confirmation and prepared the parish with nine days of novena for a spiritual renewal. The Archbishop of Johannesburg, Buti Tlhagale, presided and a large crowd of people gathered for the solemn Eucharistic celebration and fellowship meal thereafter.

Don Bosco Educational Projects has been struggling for accreditation and financial assistance from the government of South Africa and with Father Sean McEwen's help this actually materialized. On 14th November 2016 the Skill's

Centre was officially declared as official partner with CETA and SETA in imparting technical education to the youth of the area. The two organizations have signed an agreement with DBEP for the required funds and further collaboration. The Centre has already started with Electrical and Community House Building (CHB) courses under this joint venture. The other courses that we are yet to start are Plumbing, Building and Civil Construction (BCC), Hair Dressing and New Venture Creation. One thing I can firmly say that God has been with us to make the year indeed a milestone. **Father Viju Choorackal**

WALKING ON WATER, OR SO IT SEEMS –



SHARP PHOTOGRAPHY BY BROTHER CLARENCE

SWAZILAND
In an effort to raise awareness about HIV and AIDS, MYC Clinic participated in the International World AIDS Day 2016 Commemoration. *St Theresa majorettes during the march*



- FEAST DAYS**
- 13 Apr Holy Thursday
 - 14 Apr Good Friday
 - 16 Apr Resurrection of Our Lord
 - 23 Apr Divine Mercy Sunday
 - 01 May St Joseph the Worker
 - 06 May St Dominic Savio
 - 13 May Our Lady of Fatima
St Mary Mazzarello
 - 24 May Mary Help of Christians
 - 25 May Ascension of Our Lord
 - 27 May St Augustine
 - 31 May Visitation of Our Lady

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.

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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!

I enclose my gift of:
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 will be made by (please tick)
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 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:
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