

## Salesian Missions

Trading under the name of  
Salesians of Don Bosco

Box 3209 North Riding 2162

66 Nelson Road Booysens

Johannesburg 2091

Tel: 27 (0) 11 476 8315

Cell: 27 72 299 2809

[missionoffice@bucknet.co.za](mailto:missionoffice@bucknet.co.za)

[www.salesianmissions.co.za](http://www.salesianmissions.co.za)

# SALESIAN SPOTLIGHT

## E-NEWS CHRISTMAS 2023



**OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SALESIAN MISSIONS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA FOR 34 YEARS**



*“One silent night, out over the white-chalked hills of Bethlehem, came a gentle cry. The great ones of the earth did not hear it, for they could not understand how an Infant could be greater than a man. At the Christ Child’s birth, only two groups of people heard the cry: the Shepherds, who know they know nothing, and the Wise Men, those who know they do not know everything. The very simple, the very learned ...Never the man who thinks that he knows everything.”*



Humility. It is a core virtue that we must attain, but often the most lacking and understood. Without humility, we are unable to see the face of God, because he humbled himself in order to walk among us.

Only the humble of heart saw the face of God on Christmas night. Kings and priests didn’t line up at the mouth of the cave he was born in order to adore him. Only those with eyes to see him.

In all of the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season, it’s very easy for us to lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas. Let us take some time to reflect on the beauty and the gift that we have every day throughout the year in Jesus Christ. Let us remember that even though we fail and we fall and we don’t deserve any of the blessings that we receive through His Grace, His love for us is so astounding and so profoundly immeasurable that through His Mercy we are saved.



So how can we share this blessing? How can we share this gift? According to the Venerable Fulton Sheen, “the role of man to God is that of mirror to light, echo to voice.” So let’s echo His Voice of Love and mirror His Light of kindness and compassion and truth. If truth needs to be declared, let’s declare it with love. If unrest exists, let us face it with compassion and kindness. If people are hurting, afraid, lost, let us show them the love the Father first showed us through our patience, kindness, generosity, and gentleness. If we are rejected, we can brush the dust from our shoes and move on. Joseph and Mary were turned away at the Inn, but God had a stable waiting for them. We may well have to search for a stable some day. Our Lord deserves our worship, no doubt, but He isn’t great because we make Him so. He is Who is, even without our love and devotion. Yet He came to us out of His Love for us first. No other historical ‘god’ has ever claimed that. Let us

reflect upon this when we come into His Presence this Christmas and ask Him to help us to love as He loves today and for all the days to come. *Venerable Archbishop Fulton J Sheen*

*May the beauty of Christmas bring Peace and Contentment to all our donors, friends and their families. May its message of Joy and of Promise abide with you all the year through.*



*Happy Christmas.*

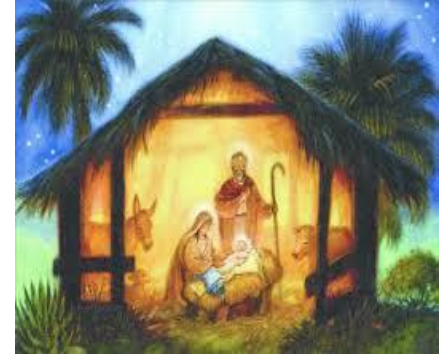


# SALESIANS OF DON BOSCO

Vice-Province of South Africa, Lesotho and Eswatini (AFM)

Salesian Provincial, 66 Nelson Rd, Booysens, 2091 South Africa

## Christmas Message from the Provincial



*Dear Friends of Don Bosco and Supporters of the Salesian Mission!*

I'm glad to greet you again, one year after my appointment as Southern Africa Salesian Superior (2023-2029). I'm aware that through these pages of the 'SPOTLIGHT' more than 2000 different supporters are getting regularly in touch with the Salesian Mission in this part of the World.



First, I would like to express our heartfelt thanks for your constant contribution to our Mission on behalf of the young people in Eswatini, Lesotho, and South Africa. Without our donors, benefactors, supporters, and friends would be impossible to continue the mission that Don Bosco started more than 180 years ago in Italy. We are very grateful for your prayers, for your financial support, and for inviting other people of goodwill to contribute to this Mission. The Salesians pray every evening for all of our benefactors!

After my arrival in Southern Africa in February 2023, I have already visited, more than five times, all our Salesian presences in Cape Town, Gauteng, Lesotho, and Eswatini. I have met hundreds of our lay mission partners in schools, parishes, social works, and youth centres. I have realized, how much our young people suffer from the lack of families, or adults who would journey with them. I have also discovered that Don Bosco, his ways of education and sharing of the Gospel, are not very much known, even in 'our circles' by the lay people and the young.

The next year 2024 as a Salesian family and Don Bosco Friends, we remember 200 years of his first dream about his Mission entrusted by God, to 'change the wolves into sheep'. The worldwide motto for 2024 given us by Don Bosco's successor invites us to 'The dream that makes you dream'.

I would like to invite you on this journey to learn a little bit more about the heart of Don Bosco, who is the first motivation for our Salesian mission, now spread in 135 countries. The most recent is our new presence in Botswana and in Niger.

Don Bosco was telling his supporters: 'Without you I can't do anything!' Yes, also today, we need your support – to pray and spread the need of vocations, to contribute to one of our small or larger projects, to pray for the present Salesian works, facing so many challenges. I would very much appreciate it, if you would invite one of your friends to join our network of supporters!

May I take this opportunity to wish you, one and all, a very blessed and happy Christmas and a successful and prayerful New Year. God bless you!

**Fr Václav Klement, SDB**  
**Provincial Superior of Southern Africa**  
**(eSwatini – Lesotho – South Africa)**





## MY NOMINATION AS CARDINAL

“Dear friends of the Salesian charism, I send to each of you my sincere, fraternal, and affectionate greeting.

After the unexpected news (for me, especially) by which the Holy Father Francis announced my name, too, among the 21 persons whom he has chosen to “create” cardinals of the Church at the next consistory on September 30, thousands of people have asked me, especially Salesians of Don Bosco and members of the Salesian Family around the world: “What will happen now? Who will accompany the life of the Congregation for the near future? What steps await us?” You can well understand that I’ve put to myself these very questions, while I’ve thanked the Lord in faith for this gift that Pope Francis has given us as the Salesian Congregation and as Don Bosco’s Family.

Reading with our faith, aware of the great deeds God has done and what we know through his Word, we can say that God loves surprises. It’s usual in the Bible for God to say: “Go! The road will be revealed to you.” One important thing that Don Bosco has taught us is, “Let nothing upset you, and put your trust in God’s Providence.”

I feel that I share what our holy Founder stated in 1884: “I see ever more what a glorious future has been prepared for our Society, how it will spread and what good it will be able to accomplish.”

I was able to speak personally with Pope Francis after he made his Angelus announcement, assuring him of my availability, that he can count on me for service of any sort. I answered as Don Bosco did when he was asked to build the Sacred Heart Church in Rome—in this case, an aged and sick Don Bosco, who was also aware of the burden and the responsibility for a Congregation being born. Don Bosco answered: “If this is the Pope’s order, I obey!”

With simplicity, I told the Holy Father that we Salesians have learned from Don Bosco to be always available for the welfare of the Church, and in particular for anything the Pope might request. So, while I thank God for this gift that’s for the whole Congregation and the Salesian Family, I express my gratitude to Pope Francis by assuring him that all the members of our great Family will pray for him more fervently and intensely. As I said, our prayer will always be accompanied by our sincere and profound affection.



What will happen now? The Pope has decided that, for the benefit of our Congregation, after the consistory on September 30, 2023, I may continue my service as Rector Major until July 31, 2024. After that date, I’ll present my resignation as Rector Major, as our Constitutions and Regulations require, so as to put myself into the hands of the Holy Father for the service that he’ll entrust to me.

Pope Francis hasn’t told me yet. Furthermore, I think this is ample time for what’s to be done most opportunely. In any case, I ask all of you, dear confreres and members of the groups of our Salesian Family, to continue and intensify your prayer – above all, for Pope Francis. He asked specifically for that at the end of the private audience he granted me. Finally, I ask also that you pray for me, as I face the prospect of a new service in the Church.

I feel addressed to me the same words that the Madonna said to Don Bosco in his dream at nine years of age – whose second centennial will be celebrated next year: “In due time you’ll understand everything.” From the basilica of Mary Help of Christians I send you an affectionate and grateful greeting, entrusting everything and everyone to her, our Mother, who will continue to accompany and sustain us. As always, I greet you with immense love.”

## COAT OF ARMS

### His Most Reverend Eminence Cardinal ÁNGEL FERNÁNDEZ ARTIME SDB

#### THE FIGURES

##### MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

It was Mary, sent by Jesus, who inspired and sustained Don Bosco in all his endeavours

##### THE ANCHOR

The anchor promised stability and security and therefore a symbol of faith and hope

##### JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Jesus is the Good the shepherd who leads his people to life

SUFFICIT TIBI GRATIA MEA

##### MOTTO

MY GRACE IS ENOUGH FOR YOU





STRENNA 2024  
of the Rev. Fr. Angel Ferrandiz, Atime

# THE DREAM THAT MAKES YOU DREAM

A heart that transforms 'wolves' into 'lambs'



## STRENNA FOR 2024

THE DREAM THAT MAKES YOU DREAM.

A HEART THAT TRANSFORMS WOLVES INTO LAMBS.

AFM Province is dedicated to blessed Michael Rua, the first successor of Don Bosco, who sent the first Salesians to Southern Africa in 1896.

**WHO IS A SALESIAN OF DON BOSCO (SDB)?**

WHAT IS HE ACTUALLY DOING? LOGO COAT OF ARMS

**PROFILE OF A SALESIAN**

- FRIEND OF CHRIST
- SIGN AND BEARER OF GOD'S LOVE
- PIRIEST OR BROTHER
- FOLLOWER OF DON BOSCO
- FRIEND OF YOUTH
- FOR THE YOUNG ALL THE TIME ANYTIME

**St. John Bosco**  
Founder

Born: August 16, 1815  
Died: January 31, 1888  
Canonized: April 1, 1934  
Feast Day: January 31

Italian Priest who lived and worked in Turin, Italy.

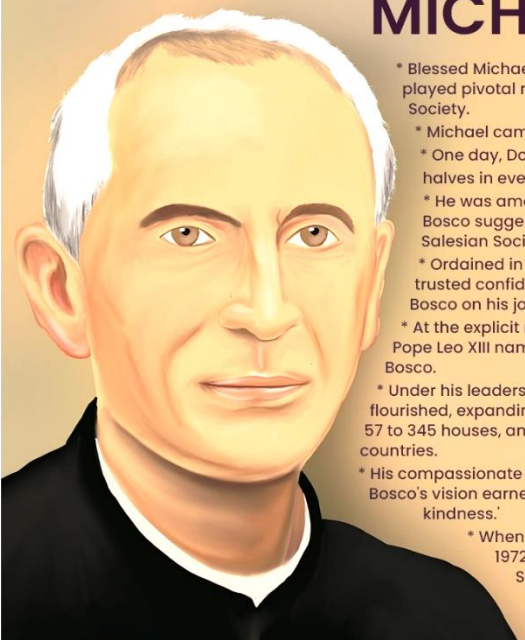
He lived during the industrial revolution in the 19th century.

His mission in life is to make the young "good Christians and upright citizens".

"Give me souls, take away the rest."

Salesian Brother, Salesian Priest, Youth

29 OCTOBER  
**BLESSED MICHAEL RUA**



- \* Blessed Michael Rua, born in Turin in 1837, played pivotal roles in the early Salesian Society.
- \* Michael came to the Oratory in 1852.
- \* One day, Don Bosco told him, "We will go halves in everything."
- \* He was among the first group to whom Don Bosco suggested the formation of the Salesian Society.
- \* Ordained in 1860, he was Don Bosco's most trusted confidant and accompanied Don Bosco on his journeys.
- \* At the explicit request of the Founder, in 1884, Pope Leo XIII named him as the successor to Don Bosco.
- \* Under his leadership, the Salesian Society flourished, expanding from 773 to 4000 members, 57 to 345 houses, and 6 to 34 provinces across 33 countries.
- \* His compassionate spirit and dedication to Don Bosco's vision earned him the title 'a king of kindness.'
- \* When beatifying him, on October 29, 1972, Pope Paul VI stated: "The Salesian Family owes its origin to Don Bosco, to Fr. Rua its continuation...He turned the spring into a river."

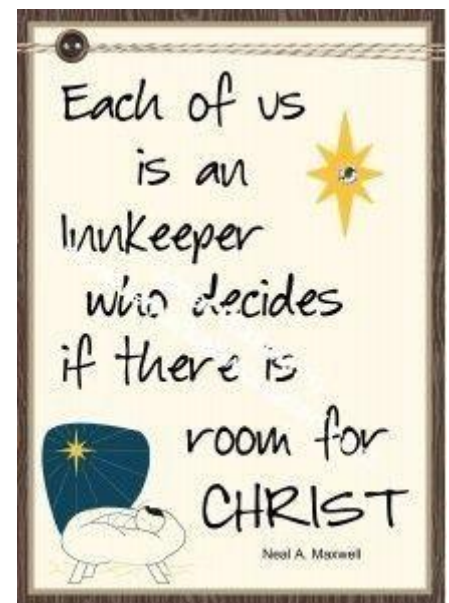
## VOCATIONS



Ennerdale, South Africa – December 2023 – A short local workshop led by the Delegate for Youth Ministry for the Southern Africa Vice-Province (AFM), Fr Lingoane Tlaile, took place in the Salesian community at Ennerdale, near Johannesburg, from 1 to 3 December. The event was attended by 7 young people from South Africa and Lesotho, between 16 and 31 years of age. Five Salesian priests, a practical trainee and a

Salesian brother were involved in the seven interactive sessions of the workshop. The rich variety of interconnected sessions involved all participants, most of whom were attending a vocational event for the first time.

The multicultural educative and pastoral context of the Salesian community in Ennerdale offered participants an insight into the activities of the work. Similar vocational workshops will be held later this year in Swaziland, Lesotho and Cape Town. **ANS**





# JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS



All Saints Parish, Ennerdale,  
celebrated their Golden Jubilee



And a Platinum Jubilee was  
celebrated in  
Manzini, Eswatini



On the 2nd October 2023, Monday, SAPPAS (Salesian Past Pupils Association), had the incredible honor of joining the Salesian Community and esteemed stakeholders at the launch of our Salesian institution's 70th Anniversary. It was an unforgettable day filled with blessings, jubilation, and reminiscing on the

powerful impact that Salesian education has had on countless lives.

The program commenced with a beautiful Mass in the Chapel, where we felt the spirit of St. John Bosco guiding us. Afterwards, we gathered at Somers Hall for heartfelt speeches, uplifting music, and delicious refreshments. We were humbled to have the presence of distinguished guests including the Provincial Council, the Provincial Fr. Vaclav Klement, Principals of schools, school management, and our cherished students.

This event served as a testament to our vision of creating a robust network of Salesian past pupils who contribute to the betterment of society. Together, let's continue promoting St. John Bosco's spirit, staying connected with one another, being informed about our beloved "Alma Maters," and supporting Salesian work wherever we can.

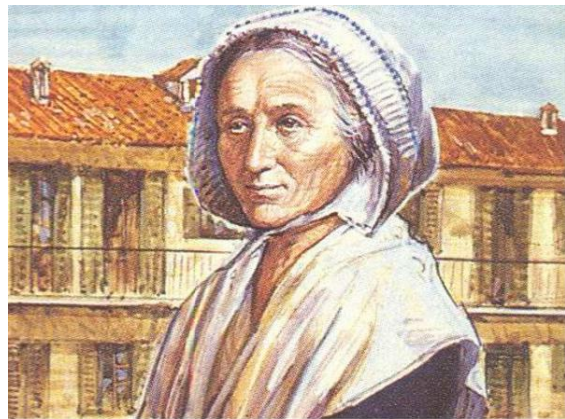
Here's to 70 years of excellence, inspiration, and making a positive impact...





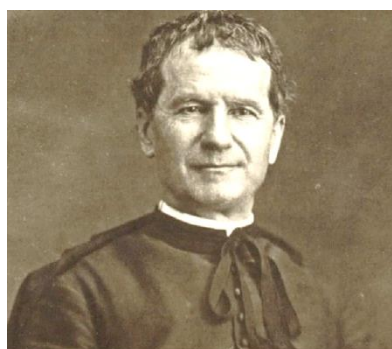
# MAMMA MARGARET

(ANS – Rome) – On 25 November, the day of her birth into Heaven, the Salesian Family around the world remembers the figure of Margaret Occhiena, "Mamma Margaret", as hundreds of children called her when she helped her son Don Bosco at the time of the first Oratory at Valdocco. Declared Venerable by Pope Benedict XVI in 2006, the mother of the founder of the Salesians was, without knowing it, the first cooperator in the educational work of the Salesians, who recognise that the Congregation was born also through her accompaniment and thanks to her contribution to the Preventive System.



Margaret Occhiena was born on 1 April 1788 in Capriglio, Piedmont. At the age of 29, after five years of marriage, she was widowed and had to provide for the family in the midst of a famine that was devastating Europe, taking care of her mother-in-law and Anthony, the son of her husband's first marriage, while also raising their children, Joseph and John Bosco.

She died in Turin at the age of 68, on 25 November 1856, and a crowd of young people mourned her like a mother, accompanying her remains to the cemetery. For this reason, the Salesian Family celebrates Cooperators' Day on this date and also remembers all the deceased relatives of the Salesian Family.



On 23 October 2006, Pope Benedict XVI declared Mother Margaret Venerable and began the process of beatification because "it is proven that she heroically exercised the theological virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity, both towards God and towards her neighbour, as well as the cardinal virtues of Prudence, Justice, Fortitude and Temperance, and the other virtues connected to them". Mamma Margaret has thus passed from Servant of God to Venerable and her beatification process is still underway.

# 2023

Santidad en la Familia Salesiana  
Sanctity in the Salesian Family  
Santità nella Famiglia Salesiana  
La Sainteté dans la Famille Salésienne  
Santidade na Família Salesiana

<p><b>Santi</b> Saints Santos Święci</p>	
<p><b>Beati Blessed</b> Bienheureux Beatos Bem-aventurados Błogosławieni</p>	
<p><b>Venerabili</b> Venerables Vénérables Venerables Veneráveis Czcigodni</p>	
<p><b>Servi di Dio</b> Servants of God Serveurs de Dieu Siervos de Dios Słudzy Boży</p>	

## SANCTITY IN THE SALESIAN FAMILY



**FATHER DINO MIOTTO CELEBRATED 60 YEARS OF CONSECRATED LIFE THIS YEAR ON 16 AUGUST. HE IS CURRENTLY RESIDING AT THE PROVINCIAL HOUSE IN BOOYSENS**







Salesian Institute  
Youth Projects



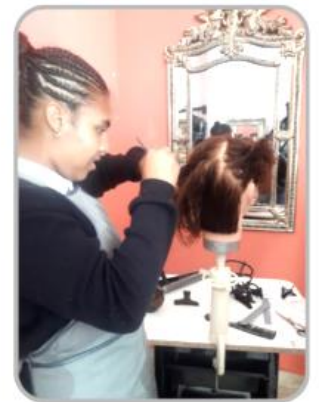
**WAVES OF CHANGE**



**NEETS**



**STITCH AHEAD**



**LEARN TO LIVE**

**The Learn to Live School Choir and Marimba Band** shone at the Music Eisteddfod receiving Honors and Merit Certificates at Tygerberg High School.

**A graduation ceremony for Neets students** was held at the Old Mutual building in Pinelands. This event aimed to honour the hard work of our students. A ceremony was held to hand over their SETA certificates.

**Stitch Ahead** Cohort 2 for 2023 celebrated their 2nd graduation. It was an occasion that garnered significant attention and excitement, due to the additional conditions applied by the National Development Agency (NDA) through their funding.

**The Waves of Change** Maritime Training Facilitation Programme confirmed that through their tireless efforts of empowering youth, a total of **242** beneficiaries successfully completed Life Skills training to date, leading to **200** SAMSA Letters of Intent for employment, and the issuance of **70** Seaman's logbooks.





## WHO ARE WE?

We are women consecrated by God for the integral education of the most disadvantaged young people with particular attention to the condition of women



## Our presence in Africa

In the African continent, there are 596 Salesian Sisters in 27 countries, forming 107 international communities for an educative and evangelizing mission.

In West Africa, we are in 7 countries: Benin, Burkina – Faso, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Mali, Togo and Nigeria, spread out in 11 communities



We live together, in a community and with the young, the spirituality of St. John Bosco and St. Mary Dominica Mazzarello.



## The FMA in the World

The Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (FMA) or The Salesian Sisters of Don Bosco are 10,962 spread throughout 67 Provinces, 5 Visitatorie present in the 5 continents in 98 countries. (Statistics as of 2022)

To know more about us and our mission in the world, visit our website: : [www.cgfmanet.org](http://www.cgfmanet.org)

And you, what do you want to do with your life?

FMA

SALESIAN SISTERS

DAUGHTERS OF MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS



## CHRISTMAS PLAY AFRICAN STYLE



On Friday evening 1 December, Mary Help of Christians School in Booyesen, held their Christmas Play – African style.

This was the first time that the school had organized such an event on the school playground. All the children from pre-school to Grade 3 took part. The theme of the play was: JESUS PRINCE OF PEACE, LOVE, JOY AND HOPE.

There was much excitement at school during the day, as the children were remaining until after the play in the evening. It was very well attended by the parents who enjoyed seeing their children perform, and the message that Christmas is about being a gift to others, especially those most in need, came across clearly.



Many thanks to Sr Patricia Finn who coordinated the Play, and to all the teachers and staff who worked extremely hard in putting the children through their paces.

A huge round of applause also goes to the children who practiced unceasingly and uncomplainingly. They sang and they danced with all their hearts. Even 'Mary' forgot about baby Jesus and, leaving him in the manger, danced her heart out!

It is no exaggeration to say that everyone enjoyed a wonderful evening where the atmosphere was one of joy, hope, love and peace. Hopefully this Christmas message will be carried into the homes of our children as well. **SISTER MARIA NGUYEN FMA**







MARY HELP OF  
CHRISTIANS SCHOOL  
BOOYSENS  
GRADUATIONS AND  
FEAST OF THE  
IMMACULATE  
CONCEPTION



On Friday 8 December, the feast of the Immaculate Conception, the Salesian Family worldwide, celebrated in a special way, because it marked the beginning of Don Bosco's most significant works, especially in the Oratory.

In the BooySENS Community, the children of Mary Help of Christians School had a prayer service at the Salesian Chapel. We thanked the Lord for the gift of His Mother and Her Protection during the year. Father dino Miotto blessed the children and staff, and a rainbow picnic Christmas party concluded the school year 2023. *Sister Maria Ngunen*



# Prayers Please



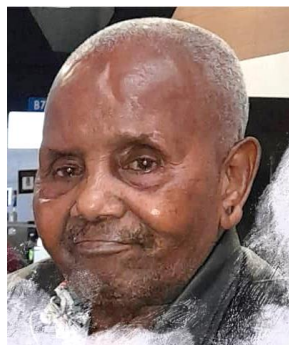
For all Readers, Donors and Friends of the Spotlight.  
For those who have been retrenched and have no money.  
For the starving children and families, the world over.  
For all women who are used and abused.  
For children who suffer at the hands of abusive adults.  
For the protection of Our Blessed Mother and Her Son.  
For all carers, nurses, doctors and those in religion who help without expecting thanks. For the sick and suffering.  
For an end to corruption in our Government.  
For our dedicated Priests, Brothers and Religious.  
For all those who will be lonely this Christmas.  
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:  
Mrs Angela Ramona Villalba, Robinson Boniface Nhleko  
"Ngcayizivele", Father Sean Murphy SDB and Sister Helen  
Hartnett FMA.

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 than we dare to ask. Through Christ our Lord. Amen"*



Mrs Angela Ramona Villalba, the mother of Father Alberto.  
13 September 2023.  
Rest in peace.



Robinson Boniface Nhleko  
"Ngcayizivele" the father of Father Bonginkosi SDB.  
12 November 2023  
Rest in peace



Father Sean Murphy SDB  
24 July 1934  
21 November 2023  
Well loved and dedicated  
Salesian Priest



Sister Helen Hartnett FMA.  
3 December 2023  
Well loved and dedicated  
Sister who worked in Booyens  
for a number of years



"It costs so much to be a full human being, that there are very few who have the enlightenment, or the courage to pay the price... One has to abandon altogether the search for security and reach out to the risk of living, with both arms. One has to embrace the world like a lover, and yet demand no easy return of love. One has to accept pain as a condition of existence. One has to count doubt and darkness as the cost of knowing. One needs a will stubborn in conflict, but apt always to the total acceptance of every consequence of living and dying." Morris West





## A NEW SALESIAN PRESENCE IN BOTSWANA



(ANS – Francistown) – The Salesian Congregation is to be found in yet another country! On the afternoon of 26 November 2023, the Solemnity of Christ, King of the Universe, the first three Salesians arrived in Francistown, the second largest city of Botswana: Fr Vincent Tembo, Fr Irvin Lumano and Bro. Sylvester Makumba, who were warmly welcomed by the bishop of Francistown, Bishop Antony Rebello, SVD. Last July, the Rector Major with the consent of his Council, accepted the request of the bishop to establish a Salesian presence in his diocese.

## A NEW SALESIAN FRONTIER IN EUROPE - GREECE



(ANS – Rome) – On the 148th anniversary of the Salesian Missionary Expedition, Saturday 11 November 2023, Fr Alfred Maravilla, General Councillor for the Missions, announced that in the last winter session of the General Council the Rector Major, with the consent of his Council, accepted the invitation of Bishop Petros Stefanou, Catholic bishop of Syros, Santorini and Crete to open a Salesian presence in his diocese. “Greece is the most recent country in Europe where we are establishing a presence after many years. It is the new Salesian frontier in Europe”, Fr Maravilla explained. Meanwhile, volunteers to send to Greece are still being awaited. The plan is



that the first group of Salesian missionaries will be sent to Athens in September 2024 to study modern Greek for a year. Then around September 2025 the first Salesian community will take up pastoral responsibility in the parish of Pagos, on the island of Santorini.



**HANOVER  
PARK, CAPE  
TOWN**

**SALESIAN  
PARISH CRECHE,  
WHICH HAS 111  
CHILDREN AND  
8 STAFF**



**ENNERDALE  
ROSARY  
PROCESSION**

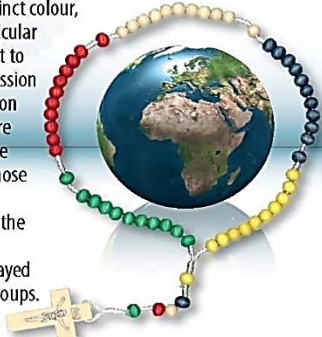




# THE MISSION ROSARY

As followers of Christ we are called to be missionaries - bringing Christ's message to the whole world.

The Mission Rosary was introduced by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, National Director of the USA Society of the Propagation of the Faith, in 1951. It enables our prayer to reach beyond the boundaries of our local concerns and to be united with the entire Church. It is prayed like a normal Rosary but has an added focus. While meditating on each decade represented by a distinct colour, the peoples of a particular continent are brought to prayer. During the Mission Rosary, we meditate on the life of Christ where He reached out in love and compassion to those in need and our own personal response to the world around us. The Rosary can be prayed individually and in groups.



## FIRST SALESIAN COMMUNITY TO ARRIVE IN NIGER

### FEAST DAYS

- 25 Dec Nativity of Our Lord
- 26 Dec St Stephen
- 28 Dec Holy Innocents
- 30 Dec The Holy Family
- 01 Jan Mary Mother of God
- 07 Jan Epiphany
- 08 Jan Baptism of Our Lord
- 24 Jan St Francis de Sales
- 31 Jan St John Bosco
- 02 Feb Presentation of Our Lord
- 14 Feb Ash Wednesday
- 19 Mar St Joseph
- 24 Mar Palm Sunday
- 28 Mar Holy Thursday
- 29 Mar Good Friday
- 31 Mar Easter Sunday



A Happy New Year to everyone in the light which shines out from Bethlehem upon the whole universe!

I wish you a year filled with peace; the peace proclaimed by the angels on that holy night. The peace of Christ, Whom out of love became a brother to every human being!

St John Paul II

Dear Friends

We have come to the end of another hectic and anxiety filled year. So many people are suffering and it makes for such sadness. The world is on the cusp of another war. The country is riddled with corruption and load shedding has brought loneliness to the elderly and misery for people working, who have to put food



on the table. The high cost of living has brought people to their knees, and the suicide notes have increased, especially amongst the youth. Whatsapp messages abound with requests for prayers, rosaries, Masses etc. What to do??? When the Sisters asked St Mother Teresa to curtail their hours of prayer, because of their workload, she refused, saying that their work would be blessed by their prayer.

We are not all Mother Teresa's, but for me life began with waking up and loving my mother's face. Now I am blessed to walk quietly into the church each morning and pray to Jesus in the tabernacle. All the irritations of the day fall away after this. "The Eucharist is the bread that gives strength... It is at once the most eloquent proof of His love and the most powerful means of fostering His love in us." Peace begins with a smile. We do not need guns and bombs to bring peace, we need love." St Mother Teresa. Perhaps if we could all begin our day with either spiritual communion or at Mass, the world would be a better place. Once again my sincere thanks to you all, for your loyalty, your prayers and your generosity. Without you we would not be able to help the children in our care. As I kneel at the crib, my prayers are with you all... for the lonely, the sick, for families suffering with wayward children and financial difficulties. I pray that the miracle of Christmas will make you smile and give you the courage to go forward with our Blessed Lady's mantle round you. HAPPY CHRISTMAS and God bless you all. Pray for me please. Much love. Denise Hards



### SALESIAN MISSIONS

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



**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:

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.