



SALESIAN SPOTLIGHT

E-NEWS AUGUST 2024

Salesian Missions

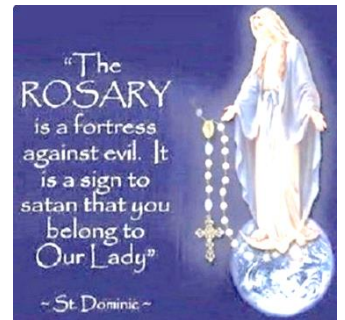
Trading under the name of
Salesians of Don Bosco
Box 3209 North Riding 2162
66 Nelson Road Booyens
Johannesburg 2091
Tel: 27 (0) 11 476 8315
Cell: 27 72 299 2809
missionoffice@bucknet.co.za
www.salesianmissions.co.za

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SALESIAN MISSIONS SOUTHERN AFRICA FOR 35 YEARS

Dear Friends

It has been a while since our last newsletter and in between a few dear friends have passed on to the afterlife, and it reminds us of how fragile life is. With some a slow and painful process and others, no time to say goodbye. It is also a reminder that we should stay in touch with family and friends. It is so easy to communicate these days, with all the modern conveniences at our fingertips, and yet there are still so many broken relationships. Partings are so painful and the final wrench can be heartbreaking, and more so if we have not been on good terms with the one who has gone. Our guilt can consume us. World peace could be attained if all families and communities were loving and kind. August is the month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Our Blessed Lady travelled long distances in her lifetime; for the sake of her Child, to visit her cousin Elizabeth and to fulfil her duty to the Government, and then on the roads following her Son. We have cell phones and laptops and it is much easier for us to stay connected with our loved ones. Let us ask Our Lady to intercede for us and pray with us for world peace and peace in our families.

My thanks once again to all you wonderful people for your prayers and donations. Pray for me please, as I do for you. Much love and God bless. Denise



This month we celebrate the Feasts of:

The Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major - 5 August. (Pope Francis prays there before a Journey)

The Transfiguration of the Lord – 6 August (St Peter said: "It is good for us to be here Lord.")

St Dominic – 8 August (According to tradition the concept of the Rosary was given to Dominic in an apparition by the Blessed Virgin Mary during the year 1214. This apparition received the title of Our Lady of the Rosary.)

The Assumption of the Virgin Mary – 15 August (This is one of the four Marian dogmas. Pope Pius instituted this feast in November 1950 in his apostolic constitution *Munificentissimus Deus*.) **St John Bosco's Birthday – 16 August**

St Bernard – 20 August (In a sermon St Bernard calls Mary "Star of the Sea.")

St Pius X – 21 August (He was devoted to the Eucharist and lowered the age for young people to receive the Eucharist)

The Queenship of the Virgin Mary – 22 August **St Rose of Lima – 23 August** (Took the habit of the Third Order of St Dominic)

St Monica- 27 August (Mother of her prodigal son, St Augustine)

St Augustine – 28 August (Credited with writing the beautiful verse: "Late have I loved Thee, O Beauty so ancient and so new.")

Prayers Please

For all Readers, Donors and Friends of Salesians.
For Priests, that Our Lady will place her mantle round them and protect them. For families and for those in doubt.
For a greater reverence for the Blessed Eucharist.
For all those suffering with cancer and depression.
For those who have gone before us. May they rest in peace:
Shirley Hon, Father Stan and Sister Kindo.
For world peace and an end to corruption.
"Give us perfect peace Lord, so that we may delight in serving
You all the days of our life, and at last, with our Lady's help,
come safely to your presence. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen."



Father Stan Jagodzinski was entombed next to the chapel of The Mother of Divine Mercy, Walkerville. 7 July 2024



Sr. Saroj Kindo MSMHC, had been working in the Apostolic Vicariate of Gambella as secretary to the Bishop. Her sudden death from Typhoid, on 8 August 2024, came as a great shock to all.

"When the storms of temptation burst upon you, look up at the star, call upon Mary. In danger, in doubts, in difficulties, think of Mary, call upon Mary. Let not her name depart from your lips. Never suffer it to leave your heart. And that you may surely obtain the assistance of her prayer, neglect not to walk in her footsteps. With her for guide, you shall never go astray. While invoking her you shall never lose heart. So long as she is in your mind you are safe from deception. While she holds your hand, you cannot fall. Under her protection, you have nothing to fear. If she walks before you, you shall not grow weary. If she shows you favour, you shall reach the goal. **ST BERNARD**



DON BOSCO EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

Proud students show off their diplomas and certificates in electricity, construction and merchandising from the Don Bosco Educational Projects in Ennerdale, South Africa. During the graduation ceremony, the principal encouraged them to use their newly acquired skills to help improve and develop their communities. **ANS**



First missionary days in South Africa – WELCOME to Steven Kambale and Chris Bukenge with Father Odise Lazri in the centre. (Picture above)



**MALKERNS
ESWATINI
JULY 2024**

The 10 July was a day of joy for the Blessed Michael Rua Vice-Province of Southern Africa (AFM). On this date at the St John Bosco parish, Malkerns, Salesian Nhlanhla Nxumalo made his Perpetual Profession before Fr Václav Klement, AFM Superior. He is the fourth Swazi Salesian, joining Fr Bonginkosi, Fr Bhembe and Salesian Brother John Thusi: a good contribution for the 70th anniversary of the Salesian presence in eSwatini. **Father Vaclav Klement**

THE MESSAGE OF THE RECTOR MAJOR, CARDINAL ÁNGEL FERNÁNDEZ ARTIME

I cordially greet all Don Bosco's friends. Today, I greet you for the last time. As of August 16, the day on which we commemorate Don Bosco's birth (August 16, 1815), my service as Rector Major of the Salesians of Don Bosco ends. There's always a reason to give thanks, always. Thank you! Thank you—to God, above all, to the Congregation and Salesian Family, to so many dear people, and to so many friends of Don Bosco's charism, many of them benefactors.

That's why, my friends, I thank you, thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the good we're doing together. No matter how little it is, it helps to make our world a little more human and more beautiful. May the good Lord bless you.



The Salesian presence in **LESOTHO** is a great hope among thousands of young people. Father Peter Nguyen with three young children.





MASERU – LESOTHO Forty four years after the beginning of this mission, the youngest in the Southern African Vice-Province, it is possible to see concrete signs of genuine hope. In 1980 when Fr Matteo Agostinelli began the mission in Lesotho, he would not have dared to dream of the current extension of the Salesian work and the impact on the local Church and society.

There are two Salesian mission stations which are entrusted with two parishes, which have about 12,000 faithful, and 7 Salesian primary and secondary schools, with almost 5,000 students, involving 4 different groups of the Salesian Family (3 Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, 2 Missionary Sisters of Mary Help of Christians, 22 Salesian Cooperators and some Past Pupils of Don Bosco). Most of the lay collaborators of the mission are Catholics and the only daily Oratory active in the AFM Vice-Province, in Maputsoe, is a living icon of Valdocco, which welcomes hundreds of young people every day, including those of other religions and Christian confessions.

ANS (Father Xolile Galata with young students – Picture right)



CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

A group of 13 students from the Salesian school in Treviglio spent an unforgettable study holiday in Cape Town, organised by the "Helkin" agency. Accompanied by Fr Luca Paganini and Professor Marco Locatelli, the children had the opportunity to improve their English and immerse themselves in South African culture, having unique and enriching experiences. The typical day for students began with English lessons at the "LAL School", renowned for the excellence of its language programmes.

The morning hours were dedicated to the study and deepening of the language, with qualified teachers and innovative teaching methods. The afternoons were reserved for discovering Cape Town and its surroundings. There was no shortage of excursions to the Cape of Good Hope, where the Atlantic Ocean meets the Indian Ocean, and a visit to Robben Island, the prison island where Nelson Mandela was held for many years. A particularly significant aspect of the trip was exploring the question of apartheid. Thanks to the collaboration with the Salesians in Cape Town, the students had the opportunity to better understand this dark chapter of South African history. It was also an opportunity for them to learn about a Salesian place outside Italy and to see how the charism of Don Bosco is universal. Visits to the "District Six Museum" and the "South African National Gallery" offered ideas for reflection and a greater awareness of the injustices of the past. **ANS**

The work of Salesian Missions is supported by the generosity of benefactors, whose contributions small or large make a difference to the young, especially the poor, disadvantaged and marginalised. This is most effectively manifested through education and evangelisation. Please consider giving us a donation.

OUR BANK DETAILS ARE:

STANDARD BANK CLAREMONT 025109
ACCOUNT NUMBER 07 256 1572
ACCOUNT HOLDER – SALESIAN MISSIONS

THANK YOU

People can destroy your image, damage your personality, create rumours about you, but they can never take away your good deeds. Because no matter how they describe you, you will always be admired by those who know you best. Morgan Freeman

*We aren't called to be like other Christians.
 We are called to be like Christ.*

A friend is one of the nicest things you can have, and one of the best things you can be.