



**BICENTENARY OF THE BIRTH OF
SAINT JOHN BOSCO.**



This year the Salesian Family, a movement of persons inspired by our founder Saint John Bosco are overjoyed to celebrate the Bicentenary of Don Bosco's birth. Salesians worldwide: young, lay people, past pupils, collaborators, professed religious brothers, sisters and priests are celebrating in harmony our great educator and saint from Turin.

With deep appreciation for his dedication to young people especially the poorest of the poor we ask with humble hearts for your faithful support to keep his mission alive today and in generations to come.

“May the Spirit of Christ help us to pursue our path of preparation for the Bicentenary and may Mary Help of Christians support us; on the seriousness and the depth of the preparation depend in fact the spiritual, pastoral and vocational fruits which we are looking for from the Bicentenary year. May Don Bosco, as always, be our model and our guide.” (Fr. Pascal Chavez)

TEACHER OF THE YOUNG



Father Vincenzo Donati, SDB - SUDAN
Don Bosco Vocational Training school

Before schools, Don Bosco gathered his boys in the fields to teach. Thanks to loyal supporters both financially and spiritually, our missionaries in South Sudan have managed to fund schools. “The project of 100 schools for 50,000 children in South Sudan is becoming a reality.” (Br Jim Camino, SDB)

BUILDER OF COMMUNITY

Don Bosco believed in teaching the young a trade. The Salesian way fosters sustainability. Teach the young a trade so that they can support themselves and generations to come. Sr. Candide Asselin, FMA and her fellow sisters teaching and helping the members of the Gumbo community help themselves by learning the trade of gardening.



Sister Candide Asselin, FMA-GUMBO
Agricultural School

CIVILIZATIONS OF LOVE



Holiday camp Monrovia-Liberia

Don Bosco aimed to foster cultures of love. He welcomed all people into his community and offered them his unconditional love. The Don Bosco Youth Centre, located in Monrovia caters to approximately 9,000

children and young people in and around the area. The annual holiday camp brings a section of these young people together for educational and recreational programmes to enhance their academic standards. The centre which is free of charge is open to children and young people exposed to high risk; street children, orphans, school dropouts, the vulnerable who are between the ages of 8 and 14 and have never been to school or dropped out quite early due to one reason or the other. The camp lasts one month and the youth wait eagerly for July for the camp to start.

FOREVER YOUNG



Don Bosco Ongole, India holiday camp
Don Bosco Dance

Don Bosco attracted the young people with his undying youthful spirit. He played with them, performed tricks and ran alongside them. To reach the hearts of the young people in their care our Salesian missionaries faithfully follow Don Bosco's youthful approach and participate in the celebrations. The holiday camp in Ongole India responds to the needs of the young and they feel loved and worthy.

WITH THANKFUL HEARTS

General donations and donations for Mass intentions help support many urgent needs of our Salesian missionaries.

CAMBODIA



The Salesian Sisters of Cambodia extend their sincerest gratitude to their Canadian donors. The center has enhanced the curriculum by adding a new “Quickbook” program which is a requirement in today’s business world. The donations received were used to purchase new computers that could support the new program. Thus allowing the students to learn this new program and find competitive jobs at the end of two years of study. The young women in our care are the bread winners of their family. Your caring gestures make a tangible and meaningful difference in the lives of these young women. We know from experience that education drives lasting peace, dignity and long-term socio-economic security.

INDIA

Father Jose Palely, SDB expresses that the community of the Savio Home, Sechi, Zubza in Nagaland, India are very happy

with the musical instruments they were able to purchase thanks to the generosity of the Canadian donors. The children got ample opportunity to practice the various instruments regularly. The boys staying at our boarding-house and the apostolic school boys get regular occasions to practice the instruments and to perform for the various programs in the school, at the shelter and for the church choir. Through this, we have been able to train many candidates to learn some musical instruments, create a love for music and encourage those with musical talents.



MOZAMBIQUE

Father Manuel Leal Gomes, SDB in Mozambique explained that the support of the Canadian donors is for him “a sign of God’s presence and love.” Thanks to the scholarship support many young people have a prospective career in Mozambique. Having a chance to study is a secure way out of poverty.

Fr. Leal Gomes shared that they now encourage their scholarship students to give back to their own community. They challenged all those who have received the scholarships, to help others: by offering afterschool tutoring services in the elemen-



who have contributed in support of the Ebola crisis in the Salesian communities. There are still thousands of children who need our help. Please keep all the people affected by the Ebola epidemic in our prayers and thoughts.



tary school in the neighbourhood and by visiting the elderly and suffering. Its success among the young people and their entourage has started “The voluntary-work movement in our Institute.” In the words of a scholarship student: “The experience of volunteering helped me to realize that despite my many difficulties, there are other people going through much more difficulties than me and my difficulties are minimal in comparison of others.” (Nelson Azevedo)

EBOLA UPDATE

Excerpt from ANS January 20, 2015: The Salesians of the West Africa Province continue to work in Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea, trying to prevent the spread of the disease, distributing food and basic hygiene materials, and hosting children orphaned by Ebola. “In our center in Sierra Leone there are already more than 60 children, and another group of more than 40 are located in the quarantine zone,” says Fr. Jorge Crisafulli, SDB

The Salesians are already working on plans for when the epidemic is under control. “The post-Ebola situation will be as dramatic as the one we are currently experiencing because of the harsh social and economic consequences of this recession and years of isolation. It may even be worse,” he warns.

We would like to thank the many people

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