

### HOW BEAUTIFUL IT IS TO SING A SONG OF LOVE TO JESUS!



earest Salesian missionaries and friends of the salesian missions!

Cordial greetings during the last month of the year 2010, when we are awaiting the coming of Jesus to save all on earth.

I thank the Lord for giving me the opportunity to meet many frontier missionaries in 2010, to assist at the send off of 42 new missionaries, to accompany the initial proclamation of Jesus in the European continent. I look with gratitude to so many opportunities to communicate missionary experiences. The synergy of Youth Ministry, Missions and of Social Communications Departments for the a more effective Salesian mission has already brought about many benefits. I have been converted also to have greater sensitivity for communication in the field of missionary animation.

Every week I do my best to share a meeting, an event on the blog Cagliero11 (*http://say.sdb.org/blogs/c11*). Thanks to a new missionary of 2010 we have in the Agora section of our website a complete section of the 30 modules for the formation of missionaries in the Vietnamese language (*http://say.sdb.org/agora/index.php?board=17.0*). Thanks to our colleagues from the Social Communication Department the quality of audiovisual materials for World Mission is developing every year. Finally, I heard a African testimony in YouTube ANSchannel (*http://www.youtube.com/user/ANSchannel # p/u/3/79Cq9ePEdII*). A young brother who recently arrived in Europe shares his dream of helping young people to sing a song of love to Jesus. Some have forgotten the melody while other have forgotten the lyrics, but he is ready to walk with them sing the song of love to Jesus.

I wish to sing every day, again, a song of love to Jesus!!

Vdclav Clev Fr. Václav Klement, SDB

Councillor for the Missions

# **MISSIONARIES SOUGHT FOR PROJECT EUROPE**

Province - Country	Required languages	Features of the setting and qualities required by missionaries
AUS - Austria	German	Youth centre, oratory, parishes, work for migrants, Salesian Youth Movement
BEN – Belgium North	Flemish	work for migrants, need to build up internationa communities
BEN - The Netherlands	Dutch	work for migrants, need to build up internationa communities
CEP - Bulgaria	Bulgarian, Rom	Work for gypsies, need to build up internationa communities
FRB - France	French	Parish work for migrants
FRB - Belgium South	French	School, youth centre (Brussels)
GBR - Great Britain	English	School, retreat centre, work for migrants, need of young SDBs from Africa and Europe
IME - Albania, Kosovo	Albanian, Italian	Initial evangelisation, few personnel, specially lay brothers
IRL - Ireland	English	School, youth centre , parishes, apostolate for university students

# ... from a Missionary in Holland



he first time I learnt that I will be sent to the Netherlands, I was so surprised. I could not say anything, but I wondered about the obedience I have received. Many said that the Netherlands is not an advisable place

for a young cleric like me. I was frightened at hearing a variety of comments about the religious situation in Europe and especially in the Netherlands. I was afraid that I would not last long.

What they have said is true, from their point of view. Indeed, great challenges lay before us. However, if we avoid and give up, who would walk with the young people in their spiritual journey in this world? Maybe the term 'spiritual' is not interesting to our youth here, but that is the fact. They lack it. It is missing, or better, it was stolen from them. They will never realise this unless someone shows them, points out to them this precious treasure.

Our happiness in this life will never be truly complete without God. God is the only imperishable joy every human being could ever have. For he himself is the Joy. If God is joy and he loves these young people, who am I to say "no" to his will? If it is his will that I be here, I ought to remain and be myself. Maybe I would not be able to do here as much as I imagine I would do if I were in another place, but to be a sign of God's love here is, in itself, already a great challenge.

Here ... It's hard and painful. It seems that our efforts produce no results. What we expect seems unattainable and the usual questions arise: Why do I have to do this? Why do I have to be here? There is no hope here... These are expressions of dissatisfaction and disappointment. But why do we feel this way? Actually, lack of faith is the answer.

In this situation community life is tremendously important. The feeling of being accepted and being part of the community is really important and, I could even say, is the lifeline of Salesian missionary life. After all, we are the community!

We missionaries often expect that the community would take care of us, because as newcomers we have become again "children" who need to relearn everything in this new culture. It is true! However, the lack of communication and openness between the new missionary and the local community could ruin everyone's good intentions.

In this brief reflection, I would like to thank my community for helping me to feel at home, and for showing me trust in sharing with me the Salesian mission in this beloved land.

Bro. Andreas Jebarus Indonesian, missionary in the Netherlands

### **EUROPE: MISSION LAND**

on the Salesian Mission in Frontier Situations and Initial Proclamation

of Christ in Europe Today, in Prague from November 4 to 10 2010 in order to deepen reflections regarding a more effective initial proclamation in Europe. Great attention was given to the formation of those who proclaim, who need to be able to adapt themselves to the different situations with "creative imagination and an open heart" and yet always maintain an attitude of respect and trust towards their neighbours. Last November 26 to 28 the Rector Major also gathered together the Provincials of Europe, for the third time, to assess the steps taken regarding *Project Europe* as well as reflect common lines of action to be taken in the future.



September 2010 - Missionaries for Europe with the Rector Major

### Salesian Missionary Intention

#### Salesians of Europe

That the Salesians of the three regions of Europe may renew their commitment to evangelisation with patience and courage in the context of a consumer and secularised society as their specific contribution to Project Europe

The future of our charism depends on the sharing of faith and the renewed enthusiasm of the confreres, in being with young people, and in knowing how to accompany them with an explicit proposal of evangelization, being able to personally invite, with patience, the young to the Salesian consecrated life. Let us pray that the lines of action of the third meeting of the Provincials of Europe with the Rector Major and his Council (Rome, November 26-28, 2010) may be welcomed by all the confreres and bear fruit in all our apostolic works.