Publication of the Missions Sector for the Salesian Communities and Friends of the Salesian Mission

THE SALESIANS SET THE AMAZON IN FIRE!

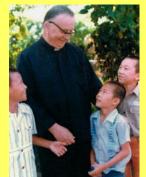
is true, the Salesians set the Amazon on fire... but not with the fire that has been burning there these last few weeks destroying vast tracts of forests, but with the fire of the Spirit: "I have come to cast fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already lit! (Lk 12:49). This year the Rector Major will send ten new missionaries to the Amazon - to Brazil, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela. Certainly, they will be for the communities and for the young, as "dew that brings the Lord's blessing" (cf. Ps 133:3). It is a sign of our commitment to the Panamazonic Synod.

However, the 150th Missionary Expedition will also send another 26 missionaries to Albania-Kosovo, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Central America, Great Britain, Lithuania, Middle East, Mongolia, Pakistan, Paraguay, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey.

26 of these young missionaries are in their regency, 9 are perpetually professed (7 priests and 2 brothers) and one is a former bishop. We thank the generosity of the provinces of Vietnam, which sends 7 missionaries; India, which sends another 7; and the new provinces of Africa, which send 12 confreres. The provinces of Europe (4) and America (4) are also committed to the missionary spirit.

After the first expedition in 1875, this will be the 150th time that the sons of Don Bosco will leave from the Sanctuary of Mary Help of Christians together with 13 missionary Daughters of Mary Help of Christians.

We pray that our "incendiaries in the Spirit" will always keep alive and contagious the flame of faith and pastoral charity wherever the Lord sends them.



Witness of Salesian Missionary Sanctity

Fr. Pierluigi Cameroni SDB, Postulator General for the Causes of Saints

The Slovenian Servant of God Andrea Majcen (1904-1999), a missionary in China and Vietnam. His diocesan process will close on September 30. He testified: "I am grateful to God for calling me and for giving me courage to follow His call." The adventure of life, to which God sends us, is very significant. He lived a daily struggle towards holiness documented in his spiritual diaries, meditations and notes. There are 6,500 pages of manuscripts. Every day he drew up precise plans to check his own spiritual commitment. Four events in his life were very significant for him: the day of his baptism when he became a son of God; the day of his religious profession when he became a Salesian; the day of his priestly ordination when he became a priest of Christ; the day he received the missionary crucifix when he became a messenger and apostle of Christ.



