

ear Confreres,

November 11, 2011

On the anniversary of the first Salesian missionary expedition I invite you to contemplate the missionary heart of Don Bosco. From the courtyard of Valdocco he always dreamt of reaching out to young people around the world to bring them to Jesus. We are invited to understand his vision and his missionary heart if we are to know the full stature of Don Bosco. The more he sent missionaries, more young people asked to join the Salesians! I believe the Lord is calling many of the 500 novices entering the Congregation each year for a life mission *ad gentes - ad extra - ad vitam*. At present about 30 Salesians respond generously every year to the call of the Lord: "Go ... and make disciples of all nations"! (*Mt 28:18-20*).

Each of us can help the missionary activity of the Congregation especially through prayer for missionary vocations, communicating the great missionary needs of the universal Church. There are at least 5 billion people, who never met Jesus Christ. This is also an invitation to examine the way we live radically our faith and consecration. With this letter I send you the list of the urgent needs of the Congregation for 2012, as updated by the Rector Major.

There are a few steps to follow for missionaries *ad gentes* which are meant to help the confreres to discern well the missionary vocation within the Salesian vocation: (1) missionary formation, (2) an **initial discernment** (http://tinyurl.com/5wzjsqf), after which a written application is sent to the Rector Major. Each candidate makes himself totally available to the Congregation, however, one may express his preference or concrete predisposition for a



Members of the 142<sup>nd</sup> Salesian Missionary Expedition

specific mission territory, (3) the discernment process concludes with a dialogue between the Councilor for the Missions and the Provincial of the confrere, (4) After a positive outcome of the discernment process, the Rector Major assigns the candidate to a specific destination, (5) All new missionaries are invited for the Course for New Missionaries (Rome-Turin) in September 2012, (6) the 143<sup>th</sup> missionary expedition will take place in Valdocco, presided by the Rector Major, on September 29, 2012.

To facilitate a good discernment I invite you to send me the applications or directly to the Rector Major as soon as possible (before January 31, 2012).

I entrust this appeal for missionary generosity for 2012 to Mary, at Muniguda in Orissa (India), where recently many of our brothers and sisters bore witness to their faith in Jesus Christ with their martyrdom.

Fr. Václav Klement, SDB Councilor for the Missions



## Salesian Missionary Intention

## AFRICA

For men and women religious of the Salesian Family who live and work in Africa, especially in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, that they may be eloquent signs of the prophecy of communion among the young.

The Synod for Africa, underlined: "The Church expects much from the witness of religious communities, characterized by racial, regional and ethnic diversity. By their life in common they proclaim that God makes no distinctions between persons and that we are all his children, members of the same family, living in harmony in diversity and peace" (Propositio 42). Young Africans, not satisfied with the fatalism of tribal and ethnic divisions are particularly in need of this testimony.



## Missionaries for the 143<sup>rd</sup> Salesian Missionary Expedition sought

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	Country - Province	Languages	Characteristics of the context and necessary qualities of missionaries
	Ethiopia - AET	English, local language	Vicariate of Gambella since 2000, very few SDB personnel, great opportunities for first evangelisation, Church implanting stage
	Morocco - FRB	French	Islamic context, educational works, mission of witness and service, explicit form of evangelisation is not possible
	Nigeria - AFW	English, local languages	new Delegation of Nigeria, urban expansion in Lagos, few SDB personnel, sensitivity to vocation ministry is needed.
	Dem. Rep. Congo - AFC	French local languages	start of the $2^{\text{nd}}$ centenary of Salesian presence, area of first evangelisation with possibility of development
	Tunisia - IRL	Arabic	Islamic context, educational works, mission of witness and service, explicit form of evangelisation is not possible
	Uganda - AGL	English, local language	first evangelisation, war in the north has ceased, start of the 4 <sup>th</sup> presence
	Azerbaijan - SLK	Russian, English, Azeri	Missio sui iuris, about 600 local Catholics, 3000 migrant Catholics, moderate Islam; need to internationalise the communities
	China services - CIN	English. Chinese, Cantonese	need to rejuvenate the Province (Macau, Hong Kong, Taiwan), need of robust Salesian vocation, lay brothers, multi-language
	Indonesia - ITM	Indonesian, English	need of experts in technical schools and senior confreres (over 50 years) as formators, confessors, spiritual guides
	New Zealand - AUL	English, local languages	new presence in the country (2010), parishes and work for youth at risk
	Pakistan - FIS	English, Urdu	few SDB, challenging Islamic context, technical education, need of robust Salesian vocation, lay brothers, formator
	Timor Leste - ITM	English, Tetum, Portuguese	need of experts in technical schools and senior confreres (over 50 years) as formators, confessors, spiritual guides
	Bolivia - BOL	Spanish, local languages	presences among indigenous groups (Kechua, Aymaras), evangelisation focused on school and social-economic development
	Brazil - BMA	Portuguese, local languages	work among the indigenous groups, Amazon forest climate
	Brazil - BPA	Portuguese	challenges of evangelisation within modern society, commitment especially in the social work
	Cuba - ANT	Spanish	Delegation with few SDBs, communist regime, parish, youth centre, new-evangelisation
	Peru - PER	Spanish, local languages	Vicariate of Pucallpa, few personnel, different indigenous groups 2. Valle Sagrado (Kechua), 3. Yurimaguas (San Lorenzo missions)
	Uruguay - URU	Spanish	most secularised country of Latin America, evangelisation of youth
	USA - SUE - SUO	English, Spanish	work for migrants especially of Hispanic origin (parish, youth centre, oratory, social work)
	Austria - AUS	German	youth centre, oratory, parishes, work for migrants, Salesian Youth Movement
	Albania, Kosovo - IME	Albanian, Italian	first evangelisation, few SDBs, especially lay brothers
	Belgium - BEN	Flemish	work for migrants, need to build up international communities
	Belgium - FRB	French	school, youth centre (Brussels)
	Bulgaria - CEP	Bulgarian, Rom	need to build up international communities; work for the Gypsies
	France - FRB	French	parish, migrant population
	Great Britain - GBR	English	schools, retreat centre, work for migrants, need of young SDBs
	Ireland - IRL	English	school, parish, youth centre, apostolate among the university students
	Italy - ICC	Italian, Spanish, English	Project Genoa (Ecuadorians), Project Sacro Cuore (Rome-migrants)
	Russia - EST	Russian	Moscow, Gatchina, Rostov (school, youth centre, parish)