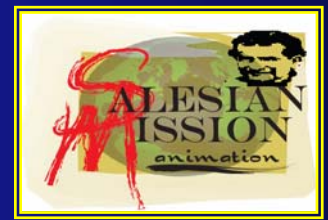


AUXILIARIES OF THE MISSION



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Soul of the Apostolate:

INTIMACY WITH CHRIST

The religious teaching given by Mamma Margaret to young John, is expressed in the "the living sense of the presence of God, candid admiration of his works of creation, gratitude for his benefits, conformity to his will, and fear of offending him". And so, for Don Bosco, God is a personal God who is reached through events to whom recourse is had in daily life. He built the holiness of his boys on a solid evangelization, based on these truths sustained by the "Word of God". In this way the Salesian, immersed in the world and in the cares of the pastoral life, **"learns to meet God through those to whom he is sent"** and **"to recognize the action of grace in the lives of the young"** as Don Bosco did.

God awaits us in the young to offer us the grace of meeting with him and to dispose us to serve him in them, recognizing their dignity and educating them to the fullness of life. In this way, the work of education becomes the preeminent context in which to meet him. If we want to live contemplating God, if we are willing to hear his voice and listen to his Word, we must be with the young and stay among them. Then God will speak clearly to us. In fact, "we stay among the young because that is where God has sent us, and we examine the condition of youth with all its problems because that is precisely the channel through which **we are challenged by Christ himself**".

Hence to be with God and hear his Word, there is no need to separate one selves from young people affectively and/or effectively, and to abandon the Salesian mission. When this is carried out by us as representatives of Christ and at his command, it is the best way for going to him and remaining with him.

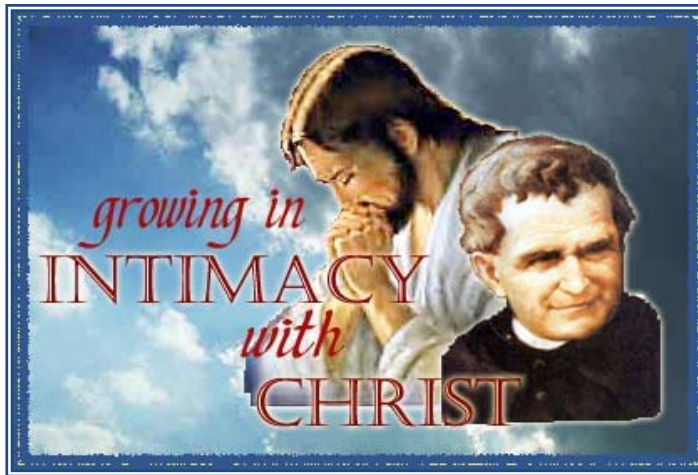
Not even in moments of deepest contemplation must the Salesian community fail to keep in mind the vision of young people with souls to be saved! To be with the young, to feel their needs and share their requests, can never be an obstacle or an excuse for not seeking God and willingly accepting his Word. From whom can we learn compassion for young people who are

poor, abandoned or in danger, if we do not contemplate how much Christ suffered for them and if we fail to hear the "many things" he has to tell us? The imitation of Don Bosco and the conviction that we are "missionaries of the young", are the necessary preconditions for listening to God contemplating Christ. It is the intimacy with Christ that pushes us to be true to the mission of service.

"Prayer is the soul of the apostolate, but the apostolate also gives life to prayer and stimulates it". And so there is no conflict between mission and contemplation, between apostolic life and prayer life; on the contrary the former flows from the latter and is nourished by it.

Thus the life of prayer which is a *gift* of God and a *response* to him maintains an intimate link with every element of our

missionary vocation and remains its permanent stimulus: one who neglects **intimacy with Christ**, one who has no time for him, will sooner or later leave the young aside from his pastoral activity, neglect the common life and community fraternity, and abandon the following of Christ by the evangelical counsels.



SIMPLE HINTS: INTIMACY with CHRIST

1. Do not pray for easy lives. Pray to be stronger men.
2. Live your life getting to know the manner and lifestyle of Christ.
3. Trust that "God trusts you"
4. Shoot darting prayers to God often, Like " My Lord is my God."
5. Offer your work to God. Work is prayer.
6. Treat Jesus as a person. Do something special for Him every day.
7. The gauge on how much you love Jesus is how often you visit him in the Blessed Sacrament.
8. Let nothing disturb you; let nothing frighten you. All things are passing. God never changes. (St. Teresa of Avila)
- 9 I will have an hour of adoration in front of the Blessed Sacrament and I will not give it up for anything.
10. "Never seen a man so much taken up by God." (Pope on Don Bosco)
11. Mention the powerful and holy name of Jesus always, anywhere and anytime e.g. even going down the stairs.



FR. VACLAV KLEMENT SDB VISITS THE SALESIAN MISSIONS ANIMATION OFFICE (FIN)



Fr. Vaclav Klement is the youngest of the General Councillors at age 50. He speaks Czech, Slovakian, Korean, Italian, and English.

having crossed the Alps with his brother Michael. There, he studied from 1984 to 1986 at the Salesian Pontifical University, finishing his Degree in Theology and starting studies in Social Communication.

In 1985, he was incardinated in the Province of Korea and was ordained deacon and, on the 25th of May the following year, received priestly ordination in Rome. After ordination he transferred to South Korea where he studied the Korean language, working with the boarders in the professional centre in Seoul.

He was Rector in 1995 in the house of formation in Seoul-Dae Rim Dong, a work for boys in risky situations, becoming the Provincial of Korea in 1996. In 2002, during the GC25, he was entrusted with the new region of Asia East-Oceania set up during that Chapter session in order to help the operation of governing and animation of the Congregation.

In carrying out the formal questioning of Don Klement, the **Rector Major** thanked Don Alencherry for the work done in his term of six years and the availability shown in taking up the animation of the Africa-Madagascar region after the vacancy left by Don Valentin De Pablo which occurred on 16th April 2006.

In his acceptance, Don Klement made his own the motto of a Chinese martyr: "**All for Jesus, Jesus for all**".

A Short Biographical Sketch on the New Councillor for the Missions

The Chapter Assembly has entrusted the office of Councillor for the Missions to Don Vaclav Klement, who was the former Regional Councillor for Asia East-Oceania.

He was born on the 7th of October 1958 at Brno, in the Czech Republic, he lived for 26 years in communist Czechoslovakia facing the difficulties incurred with the impossibility of freely professing his religious faith. He secretly entered the Salesian Congregation, making his religious vows on the 4th of September 1982, officially studying in the Diocesan seminary while keeping secret his Salesian choice even from his parents. In order to complete his vocational choice to be a missionary, he hastily left after the fourth year in the seminary and arrived in Rome in August 1984 after



The Salesian Missions Animation Office under Fr. Salvador Pablo (Missions Animation Delegate - FIN) and the staff is graced with the presence of the new Councillor for the missions Fr. Vaclav. During the meeting, we presented to him souvenirs in the form of the Auxiliaries Newsletter and the Formation Kit.