



INTOUCH

May 2
2012

USA West Province Newsletter • Building Bridges Between Communities



May 3, 2012

Feast of Sts. Philip and James, Apostles

Dear Brother and Sister Salesians:
Summer Assignments

This issue of *InTouch* contains the list of summer assignments prepared by our provincial youth ministry delegate, Brother Al Vu. He has worked hard on these placements, dialogued with the people involved, and presented them to me and the council for approval. Thanks to him and all those accepting these assignments!

We have only one overnight camp in the province, so Camp St. Francis in Aptos has the largest concentration of personnel. There you see a total of 11 confreres and novices who will be working together to provide the upwards of 100 boys, mostly now from the Pajaro Valley region, a summer experience of oratory: home, school, parish, playground. And there our young men in formation, particularly the novices, will benefit from a unique experience of living the preventive system and growing in its spiri-

tuality for 24 hours a day! Not evident on this list are the other young adults from the Salesian Youth Movement who will also be helping to animate the camp.

All three of our clubs as well as six of our parishes are holding summer day camp experiences for local youth. They too have confreres, men in formation, and young adults assigned. Even our newest parish, St. Luke's in Stockton, is mounting a Salesian summer day camp. Assigned there to help Pastor Fr. Gael and CYM Paul DeValle will be newly ordained Deacon Chuyen Nguyen, back to his home parish to direct this new program and to gain a rich pastoral experience as deacon.

Before camp season even begins the province will once again put on our Salesian Youth Leadership Conference (SYLC), animated by fourteen confreres, the candidates and prenovice, and many other young adults.

In addition you see that this summer many of us will be engaged in further study. It makes me particularly happy that we will be sending two confreres for the National Youth Ministry Certification courses, now for the first time being offered through Don Bosco Hall in Berkeley. And as well, three more confreres taking the week long Salesian Education Seminar (SES). You recall that our Province Organic Plan (POP) stresses the importance of more and more SDB taking at least one of the S programs.

Province of New Rochelle

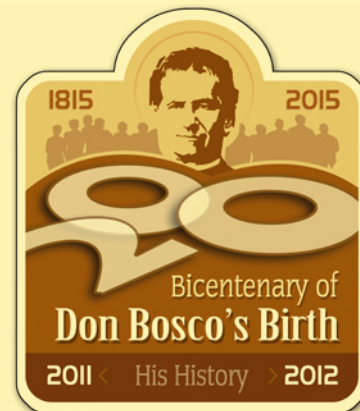
Finally, fraternal and prayerful greetings to our brothers and sisters of the New Rochelle Province as they keep the feast of their patron today. East or West, summer or school year, may we all be driven by the same spirit as Philip the Apostle!

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. Timothy C. Ploch, SDB
Provincial

Provincial's Calendar May 2012

- 3-9 Office and Personal Days**
- 10 Salesian Boys & Girls Club Board Retreat, Los Angeles**
- 11-12 Office Days**
- 13-15 Provincial Council Meeting, St. Luke's, Stockton**
- 16 Members Meeting, St. Francis CCCHS, Watsonville Board Meeting, West Contra Costa Salesian Boys & Girls Club**
- 17 Office Day**



AROUND THE PROVINCE



Don Bosco Service Day

By Juan Carlos Montenegro

On April 28, 2012 for the first time in any Don Bosco Service Day all our communities were present. We had over 130 young people there to serve the community of East Los Angeles. It is amazing to see how much of a difference we can make when we get together!

This event made me reflect on the importance of supporting each other, of being present, of accompanying our young people. We, as a Salesian family, are called to “be” there for our young people and to do wherever is needed to help them to grow as “good Christians and outstanding Citizens.”

Our Don Bosco Service Day started at 9:30 AM with an opening session where the young people had the opportunity to reflect on what the Bible says about Service and how they can or are applying this wisdom in their lives. After this one hour opening session, the young people divided in

many groups. One of them painted Don Bosco on a wall that borders the playground, another one cleaned the library, and the other groups went around the city cleaning up the streets.

At 12:30 p.m. all the groups came back for a well-deserved lunch. Thanks to a group of cooperators, young adults and many other people who love youth, we were able to give food to all the participants.

In the afternoon the young people were free to mingle and have some fun. At 2:30 PM the group gathered again for reflection and a good night given by Bro. Tom Mass.

From the bottom of my heart I want to thank all the CYMs, Cooperators, Young Adults from the Salesian Youth Movement, Benefactors and everybody who made this Don Bosco Service Day possible.



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AROUND THE PROVINCE



A Reflection on Group Mural Painting

By Travis Gunther

We began the Service Day looking at a huge wall with the ghostly outline of Don Bosco and a few words, but we ended the day with a 15 foot tall Don Bosco and a colorful mural of which to be proud.

More important than our work on the mural were the young people from all over who showed us how to work joyfully and together. We began our work by signing our names over Don Bosco's heart, as a reminder that we are each

loved by him. Then these twelve young people and a few young at heart went to work on the mural.

The young people's desire to help and their focus on the work at hand, left me in awe. They had everything under control and so for me it was just a time to be present. One 10 year old spent 45 minutes painting a "Y" and it was the best-looking "Y" you have ever seen. Others, without guidance, tag teamed to paint their section or stayed after the work time was officially over to complete what they had started. The last piece of work for the day was turning a misplaced comma into a smiley face, a beautiful image of how they brought joy to all aspects of their work.



May They Rest in the Peace of Christ

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

PETER SAUCEDO
former SDB member of the province
(1952-1959)



JOHN McINTOSH
father of SJB Track Coach Tim McIntosh

Pray for Our Sick

Fr. Pascual Chavez, SDB
RECTOR MAJOR

Mrs. Rita Liptak
wife of Bill Liptak, Fr. Ed's brother

SDB BIRTHDAYS MAY

Luis Gryzko	1
Ricardo Ramos	5
Joe Farias	8
Larry Lorenzoni	12
Bob Delis	13
Abel Zanella	14
Edward Liptak	16
John O'Brien	23
Lucian Lomello	27
Juan Muñoz	29
Lujan Kamienski	30

AROUND THE PROVINCE

Undocumented immigrant youth and youth in mixed status families find themselves in a unique predicament once they enter and settle in the United States. Unlike their parents, undocumented youth do not enter the United States with their identity intact (Noguera, 2006). How they adapt to their new setting (e.g., social and educational experiences) will depend largely on

their age of migration into the United States. These youth find themselves residing at the center of two worlds where education and immigration policies send mixed signals (Gonzales, 2007).

On April 20, California State University, Long Beach's Center for Language, Minority Education and Research in partnership with the Chicano and Latino Studies Department and the Social and Cultural Analysis of Education Student Organization hosted a spring symposium on the Ethics of Education in Immigrant Contexts: Examining the Educational Experiences for Immigrant Youth in P16 Contexts.

The theme acknowledged the need to rethink, redefine, and reframe the concepts of privilege, culture, language, power, and social justice especially for the



Dr. Jesus Rodriguez presents four key ethical paradigms to resolve dilemmas related to educational practices.

Ethics of Education in Immigrant Contexts

By Dr. Jesus Rodriguez

immigrant community of students in P16 settings. The purpose of the symposium was to bring together students, scholars, practitioners, policy-makers, and community partners to engage in critical discourse around those policies and practices that affect the immigrant community—including undocumented immigrants—in the areas of language policy, immigration status, mental health, and overall access to

education (P12 and beyond).

The goals for the symposium were to:

✦ Discuss potential issues and dilemmas faced by practitioners, community partners, and families when working with undocumented student populations by posing the question:

✦ How do we address issues of undocumented students in a manner that is ethical?

✦ How can we move beyond

thinking primarily in terms of law, rights, policies, and guidelines in addressing these issues and dilemmas more creatively?

✦ Raise new research and policy questions in the fields of language policy, access to education for undocumented students, and the overall ethics of education in immigrant contexts.

✦ Make recommendations for improvements in the preparation of



Participants of diverse educational backgrounds and roles listened closely and posed critical questions for dialogue.

Ethics of Education in Immigrant Contexts



Panelists discuss ethical dilemmas in immigrant education. (L to R): Gabriela Lohmann, Parent Advocate; Dr. Fred Navarro, Superintendent, Lennox; Ernesto Figueroa, Teacher, Santa Ana; Dr. Elena Macias, Legislative and Community Relations, CSULB; David Taylor, Principal, Long Beach; Jose Varela, Principal, Academia Avance.

teachers, school counselors, and administrators to better address issues of immigrant education posed in the symposium.

Given the recent events in states such as Georgia and Alabama, conference planners purposefully framed the symposium theme as one of ethics. In their work, Shapiro and Gross (2001) outline four key ethical paradigms in (re)solving dilemmas related to educational practices: ethics of care, critique, justice and the profes-

sion. At some point, instructional leaders, policy-makers, community partners, and families are faced with an authentic ethical dilemma. The ethic of critique asks educators to deal with the difficult questions regarding areas of difference including, according to Shapiro and Gross (2001), questions on who makes the laws, rules, or policies and who it is that benefits from these laws, rules, or policies and those voices who are silenced.

Gathering Information at the Symposium on Key Issues

By Judy Wilber Alvarez

Several Salesian educators were present for the symposium: Juan Carlos Montenegro and Taaj Lewis, Judy Wilber Alvarez and Dr. Jesus Rodriguez, SJBHS teacher and adjunct professor at CSULB who also served on the Symposium Committee.

While the program consisted of several panel presentations that prompted participant dialogue, the keynote panel, Education in Immigrant Contexts: Key Issues in Practice, Policy and Research, offered significant points for consideration and action:

Research - Input given by Dr. Enrique Murrillo Jr., professor of Education at CSU San Bernardino and Executive Director of the LEAD (Latino Education and Advocacy Days). Dr. Murrillo is also an alumnus of St. John Bosco High School.

- ✦ We are in a pivotal moment for immigration with urgent agendas and platforms.
- ✦ What we see is only the eruption of what is really going on, as so many more things are going on under the radar.
- ✦ We need to understand the neo-liberalism in which we live, a discourse that sees the unregulated free market as the solution for community development, giving definition to citizenship and the common good.
- ✦ As the demographics change in our society we may find that Hispanics have a unique set of skills to manage effectively in a diverse society, with more cultural capital, cross cultural skills, ability to endure sufferings and resiliency to succeed.
- ✦ It is important to become familiar with these California propositions that have shaped access to public education: Propositions 227, 187 and 209.

Practice - Input offered by Dr. Paz Maya Olivarez, Student Success Coordinator with the Titel V Encounter to Excellence Program at CSU, Dominguez Hills and teacher in the Rossier School of Education at USC.



The Busy Person's Retreat

By Judy Wilber Alvarez

On Sunday, April 22 through Thursday, April 26, over 40 people, mostly young adults and a few older, participated in a "Busy Person's Retreat" sponsored by the Vocation Office and hosted by St. Dominic Savio Parish. The five-day retreat was a great example of vocation accompaniment as encouraged in Pope Benedict's message for last

Gathering Information at the Symposium on Key Issues

- ✚ There are 12,000,000 undocumented immigrants nationwide. There is no policy that hinders their access to college education, but its difficult for them to get through the educational process.
- ✚ Financial access is limited through they may be in the top of their class.
- ✚ Undocumented Hispanic students and their families often have no access to the information they need to know to get into school.
- ✚ Best practices to serve undocumented students include 1) high academic expectations 2) Being well informed to move on to next step in education 3) Remedial programs such as AVID and Upward Bound 4) Early timing for when they hear about college options, as often it is too late 5) fundraising support 6) Networking with other undocumented students who are successful.

Policy - Input offered by Senator Alan Lowenthal who represents the 27th district of the California State Senate. A former educator and city councilmember, he currently serves as the Chair of the Senate Committee on Education.

- ✚ Senator Lowenthal recalled his teaching experience of running a mentoring program between college and high school students and discovering that 5 of the 15 high school students were undocumented. In 1998 he supported AB 540 that permits undocumented students meeting certain criteria to pay residential tuition fees for college.
- ✚ Whenever bills come before the Senate there are important questions to be asked: 1) What does it do? 2) Who does it effect 3) Who doesn't it effect? 4) What are the unintended consequences?
- ✚ Each person needs to work where we are to do what we can for undocumented immigrant youth.
- ✚ Fundamental questions: What is the role of government? What is the role of education? Is it all to be privatized or is there a social commitment to people?
- ✚ There will be new education tax initiatives on the September ballot that will require those who make the most to pay their "fair" share. **Education Tax Initiatives on September Ballot**

Sunday's World Day of Prayer for Vocation.

The committed participants engaged 30 minutes a day in prayer and met 30 minutes a day with a spiritual director. Each participant was also encouraged to attend daily Mass and to celebrate Reconciliation. Other than that each retreatant went about their daily lives and discovered a deeper sense of God's presence with them.

The blessings of the retreat were gathered for thanksgiving at the closing communal celebration of Eucharist on Thursday night. During the homily participants shared what the retreat had been for them. Here are some of those reflections:

- ✚ I liked the time I took to slow down, read scripture and have my silent moment with God.
- ✚ It gave me peace. A peace I had not experienced for a long time. I felt less anxiety in my daily life.
- ✚ It really helped me regain some of my faith that I felt I was losing. It was nice to come to my spiritual director after a long day and talk to her and pray with her.
- ✚ I liked the 30 minutes a day of prayer we had to do because I feel like I don't give a lot of my day to the Lord, so it was a nice change to pay more attention to Him.
- ✚ I want to read my scripture daily and attend Mass more often so I'm going to allow myself to take that time in my schedule. I'm also going to be more open to how God works in my life.
- ✚ Reading scripture is something I had never done before. I realized that it is very helpful and one way I feel that God really speaks to me.

The task of fostering vocations

Excerpt from Pope Benedict's Message for the World Day of Prayer for Vocation

The task of fostering vocations will be to provide helpful guidance and direction along the way. Central to this should be love of God's word nourished by a growing familiarity with sacred Scripture, and attentive and unceasing prayer, both personal and in community; this will make it possible to hear God's call amid all the voices of daily life.

But above all, the Eucharist should be the heart of every vocational journey: it is here that the love of God touches us in Christ's sacrifice, the perfect expression of love, and it is here that we learn ever anew how to live according to the "high standard" of God's love. Scripture, prayer and the Eucharist are the precious treasure enabling us to grasp the beauty of a life spent fully in service of the Kingdom.

It is my hope that the local Churches and all the various groups within them will become places where vocations are carefully discerned and their authenticity tested; places where young men and women are offered wise and strong spiritual direction. In this way, the Christian community itself becomes a manifestation of the Love of God in which every calling is contained.



DESALES HALL UPDATE

What a week for DE SALES HALL remodeling!!!

By Bro. Joe Lockwood

Last week there were two important meetings. The first took place on Wednesday, April 25, 2012 at Barrios Planners Office in Los Angeles.

The contractor's perception of the working relations between the building inspectors and themselves were very poor and this was affecting the progress of the remodeling. Mr. Frank Villalobos explained the duties and the authority of the building inspector from the UBC (Unified Building Code), stating that the building inspector has "complete authority over the construction of a building". After lengthy discussion, the erroneous perceptions were clarified.

The next topic was to decide on the finishing materials for the common areas, bedrooms, and the corridors. Fr. Marc Rougeau's experience was very valuable in choosing the paint finishes, flooring, etc. After the meeting the contractor took the group out for lunch at King Taco.



The Candidate Julio Beltran is reviewing the floor plans of his future home.

The second meeting took place on April 26, 2011 at the City of Bellflower Building and Safety Department. The meeting was called by Mr. Steve Patterson, City of Bellflower Building and Safety Department Chair, and his assistant Mr. Chris Christopoulos. There were two agenda items for this meeting:

the first was the relationship between the inspector(s) and contractor, and the second was fire protection. After a very profitable discussion, a clarification was given by Mr. Steve Patterson regarding the first item, and he also stated that the inspector(s) must follow the inspection procedures.

Mr. Christopoulos addressed the second item expressing concern about two points: first ADA compliance and second, fire protection. He explained very clearly why there is such a concern about the remodeling of the De Sales. The concern focused on incorporating fire protection and

DESALES HALL UPDATE

the safety of all of the residents of the building. He explained that the building is an old wood structure dormitory building with very dry structural members without a fire sprinkler system. The residents live on the second and third floor and we must protect them. Of course, the Province's insurance carrier will be very happy with the fire protection being installed.

As you can see from the photos, the exterior North side wall is being opened for the construction of the elevator structure.

The work for next week is the installation of the window smoke detectors located on each of the South side windows. The purpose of the smoke detectors is so that in cases of a fire, the windows will close automatically protecting the occupants.



The Carpenters are removing the stucco and opening the wall for the elevator structure.



Termites - The wall separating the dining room and kitchen needs to be treated for termites. The red area is termite invested.



The Carpenter is using a "jumping jack" compactor to compact the back filled soil.

Scripture, prayer and the Eucharist are the precious treasure enabling us to grasp the beauty of a life spent fully in service of the Kingdom.



Summer Ministries Assignments

Summer School

Cerritos College

Jhoni Chamorro
Joaquin Oliveros

SYLC

Salesian Youth Leadership Conference

Bro. Al Vu (Program Director)
Bro. Jared Anderson (Presenter)
Bro. Itchan Laygo (Presenter)
Fr. Jose Lucero (Presenter)
Bro. Khoa Luong (Financial Administrator)
Fr. Chinh Nguyen (Presenter)
Deacon Thien Nguyen (Presenter)
Bro. Chuyen Nguyen (Presenter)
Fr. Jesse Montes
Fr. Jim Nieblas
Fr. Luis Oyarzo
Julio Beltran
Jhoni Chamorro
Joaquin Oliveros

YM Certification

Don Bosco Hall Berkeley

Bro. Jared Anderson
Fr. Jesse Montes

SES

Salesian Educator Seminar

Fr. Nick Reina (Facilitator)
Fr. John Roche (Presenter)
Fr. Tho Bui
Bro. Gustavo Ramirez
Fr. Steven Way

Summer Ministries Assignments

Camp St. Francis

Aptos, CA

Camp Director
Fr. Tom Juarez

Economer
Fr. Joseph Mathew Paradayil

Program Director
Bro. Al Vu (Prep Week-Week 3)
Fr. Joe Nguyen (Week 4)

Asst. Program Director/AC Supervisor
Bro. Gustavo Ramirez

Registration
Fr. Luis Oyarzo

Counselors
Sean Bryan Steve DeMaio
Chris Carlson Travis Gunther
John Langan Duoc Le

Camp Savio

Bellflower CA

Chaplain: Fr. Tho Bui

Assistants: Jhoni Chamorro
Joaquin Oliveros



Camp Maria Auxiliadora

Watsonville CA

Assistant: Julio Beltran

San Luis Rey Day Camp

Laredo, TX
Bro. Jared Anderson

St. Ambrose Day Camp

Berkeley, CA
Bro. Steve Standard

Corpus Christi Day Camp

San Francisco CA
Bro. Itchan Laygo
Fr. Jose Lucero

Salesian Boys and Girls Club

Los Angeles CA
Fr. Steve Way

St. Luke's Day Camp

Stockton, CA
Bro. Chuyen Nguyen

Ss. Peter and Paul

San Francisco, CA
Deacon Thien Nguyen

West Contra Costa BG Club

Watsonville CA
Bro. Ricky Ramos