

December 29, 2011

Dear Brother and Sister Salesians:

As we come to the end of 2011, I'd like to give one more thought to vocations. The stenna for 2011 after all was "Come and See," the need for vocation ministry as a priority in our evangelization efforts. And I would like to reflect on this topic once again taking up the Rector Major's orientations to our Region at the conclusion of the InterAmericaTeam Visit in El Salvador last October.

We have already reflected on the first two of his four orientations: returning to Don Bosco the evangelizer, and then perspectives for the Region's future with an emphasis on the quality of our religious life, the reconfiguration of our presences to revitalize the Salesian charism, and the problem of religious discipline. The fourth one concerns immigration, but today let's reflect on the third: **Vocational Animation and Formation.**

In the area of vocation animation we need two paradigm shifts, the Rector Major suggests. The first is to change from the "fishing" model (just hoping for a bite from somewhere) to one of "sowing, cultivating, and reaping." This touches us, because the few

vocations we have been receiving lately are not the fruit of careful cultivation from within our own presences. Rather we are like the bear who just sits by the river side, passive, mouth open, ready to snag any fish that jumps too high out of the water. And the other paradigm shift is to go from vocation animation primarily on the provincial level to one that involves every local EPC. Let Chinh be the fisherman. But all of us need to be farmers!

The area of formation then is closely connected. It's all about **vocation.** That we have been called by God to follow Jesus is the reason we embrace a process of life long formation to fidelity to our vocation, both in the initial stages, and perhaps especially in the ongoing ones. From the very beginning of our formation we need to help one another develop an understanding of vocation as God's gift to us and not as our own personal project. Formation is less about following our chosen path, and all about responding to the Lord who calls us to follow his path.

The end of 2011 invites us to give thanks for so many things, chief among them our Salesian vocation. And as 2012 begins on the Feast of Mary Mother of God, the new stenna challenges us to make the young our life's mission, just like Don Bosco did. It's all about vocation.

Happy New Year to you all!

Sincerely in Christ,


 Rev. Timothy C. Ploch, SDB
 Provincial



Provincial's Calendar

December 2011

- 29 Personal Day
- 30-1/3 Visitation, Laredo

January 2012

- 4 Office Day
- 5 Drive to LA
- 6 Novitiate Curatorium, St. Joseph's, Rosemead
- 7 Personal Day
- 8-10 Provincial Council Meeting, St. Joseph's, Rosemead
- 11-19 Visitation: St. John Bosco, Bellflower



Pray for Our Sick

Fr. Bob Stein, SDB
 congestive heart failure
 awaiting stint and pacemaker



May they Rest in Peace

Wilfrid Rougeau
 Father of Marc Rougeau
 December 27, 2011

Irma Chavez
 Wife of Luis Chavez
 Employee for 40 years at
 SHS Richmond

December 2011

My dear confreres and friends of Social Communication,

As I write, we have the new provincials here for their introductory course. As part of it the Rector Major and each of the Sector Councillors offers a general overview and presents the priorities for the Congregation, the Mission and each Sector working in harmony with the others. For our part we have offered them the fundamental points of the change of mentality which you already know about and are working for in your own provinces: the Salesian Mission as being at the core of each Sector's concerns and teamwork amongst the sectors within the framework of the OPP; the importance of a Delegate to animate SC in the province, along with a team and in accordance with the SC Province Plan; formation to SC as a priority for our Sector; information in and beyond the Province, and production and enterprises in function of our mission to the young, always developed in a professional way as indicated in the SSCS.



Amongst the good things we are hoping for in 2012 will be the Synod of Bishops meeting on “New Evangelisation for handing on the Christian Faith”. In the working document, six scenarios for evangelisation have been laid out cultural, social, media, economic, scientific and technological research, and political. As well as stating that these six scenarios are profoundly linked, with regard to SC it offers a broad and exciting field for reflection, socialisation and work, and notes particularly the duty to form and be formed, as well as indicating the challenge of solid preparation for sustaining a constructive dialogue between faith and new culture. I invite each Delegate to be ready with his or her team to work with the Church and the Congregation in New Evangelisation; our baptism and our charism call us to this task.

I conclude by wishing you, for my part and on behalf of the members of the Department, that Jesus' coming may find the doors of your being open when he arrives, and that when he enters he may fill you with joy, love, hope and peace. As Communicators may you feel yourselves sent to proclaim the most important news that any human being along with creation itself could hear: God became man, He is Emmanuel, He will be with us and will make of 2012 something new.

Happy Christmas and every blessing for the New Year,

Fr Filiberto González, Councillor for SC, along with team members: Donato, Julian, Jaime, Mario, Bruno, Alessandro, Gian Francesco, Fabiana

Information: #db2015

Thanks to an exchange amongst Salesian webmasters around the world, using the Google group 'sdbdigital', and led by the energetic Sebastian di Mateo from ARN, there appears to be general agreement on use of the twitter hash tag **#db2015**. As Sebastian put it:

twitter



"consolidate our messages to really put energy in our tweets and posts from here to 2015".

For those who are wondering what a hash tag is, it would be sufficient for anyone sending a post or tweet (and for that matter it could be used anywhere - email included) to include **#db2015** anywhere in the message. If everyone begins to use it 'goes viral' and is easily searchable. Anyone wanting information on the Bicentenary only needs to search on the hash tag and they will find whatever anyone has written about it.

Special Message *(Sent after receiving last week's InTouch)*

Dear Fr. Tim and Brothers,
dear Judy:

Thank you very much for your holiday message of the Nativity Savior's love of God made human flesh, thrown into the reality of a poor manger, a bad smelling stable and a scandalous cross ... poverty, sin and scandal, really our humanity in need of the Savior. If delivered to a humanity like this is not love, then what is love?

My best wishes for your Province and your family during the New Year...

Fr. Filiberto

INTOUCH End of the Year Survey

InTouch production in the past year has been accomplished by a new team who would like your input on how effective it has been in offering news that builds bridges between communities, informing and forming the Salesian family for its mission. Please assist us in improving this communication channel by completing a simple survey in the following link:

[Intouch End of the Year Survey](#)

Funeral Arrangements for Dan Jiru

St. Gregory the Great Church - Telegraph Rd, Whittier
Thursday, Jan. 5th: 6:30 pm Vigil Service'
Friday, Jan. 6th: 10 am Funeral Mass
Interment: Rose Hills
Rumor only: The funeral may be shifted to
St. Paul HS, but no confirmation of it.

InTouch Provincial Newsletter

Salesians of St. John Bosco
1100 Franklin Street
San Francisco, CA 94109
Phone: (626) 280-8622 #35
E-mail: intouch@salesiansc.org
Weekly publications will be
distributed on Wednesdays. Please
submit news for publication by
Friday of each week.
Send contributions to:
intouch@salesiansc.org.



Newsletter for Salesian Missionary Animation
A Publication of the Mission Department for the Salesian Communities and Friends of the Salesian Mission

Dear Salesians and friends of the Salesian mission,

The 25th Salesian Mission Day (SMD) 2012 with the theme "Telling the Story of Jesus" is an opportunity of growing in following in the footsteps of Don Bosco the Saint - educator, pastor, communicator and missionary. Telling the story of Jesus to the young - we all agree on this! There are just some questions: How? When? Where? We know that from a heart full of Jesus there naturally flow words about our Master.

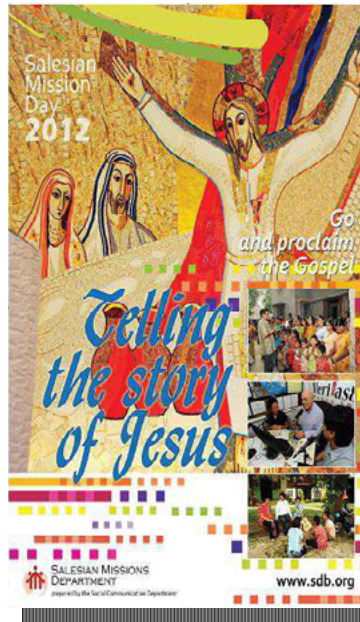
As Sons of Don Bosco, we are called to communicate everywhere: in educational meetings with the young, in small Christian communities, through the radio, the TV, on the Internet, on social networks or through blogs, by means of the theatre or music. The creativity of the great Missionaries shows us all the typical Salesian ways of communicating the faith to non-Christians. The young Churches of Asia, many of them with a life story of scarcely a few decades of first evangelisation inspire us with their dynamic approach in telling the story of Jesus!

Václav Klement
Fr. Václav Klement, SDB
Councillor for the Missions

2012



What is Salesian Mission Day all about?



Above all it is important to underline that the *Salesian Mission Day* (GMS) is primarily directed to each Salesian and to every local and Provincial Salesian community.

For us Salesians the period of preparation for the bicentenary of the birth of Don Bosco is a call to **rediscover** his great inspirations, his deepest motivations, his courageous choices, and especially his **missionary spirit**. And thus revive and keep alive the missionary flame that is an essential dimension of our Salesian vocation (Const. 30).

In a time when there are great needs but a numerical shortage of Salesians there is a **real danger that the confreres or a Province would close itself in within its territory** because looking beyond, with a sense of mission, would require a new energy that it does not have. But closing in would, consequently, **extinguish the apostolic zeal and enthusiasm for the Salesians life** which is noticed by young people, especially those who make their vocational discernment with us.

Since 1988 a missionary theme has been offered to the entire Congregation, so that **all the salesian communities** may get to know about a missionary situation in a particular continent and open its eyes to new missionary situations, overcoming every temptation to shut oneself off in one's own place and to remember the universal outreach of the Salesian charism and live it fully inserted in the heart of the universal Church.

That's why the celebration of the SMD is an important moment in the missionary animation of the Salesians in the Provinces and in the houses; of those who attend our schools, vocational training centres, parishes, oratories, youth groups, and of the Salesian Family, so as to **rediscover the missionary zeal of Don Bosco and the dynamic vitality of the Salesian charism!**

This is not about an isolated event or an occasional activity but an **educative pastoral journey** lasting some weeks, or a number of initiatives throughout the year, of which the SMD is its culmination.

Prayer is my strength to face many missionary challenges



I wanted to be a missionary but I had struggled to make the decision because if I were to become a missionary I would live far from my family and my friends. However, towards the end of the postnoviciate, I finally decided to write my application. My greatest desire was to spend my life for others in the mission land in gratitude to God and to Don Bosco for the many blessings I have received as a Salesian.

I was sent to Zambia where I arrived on April 1, 2010. After some weeks of introduction in the capital, Lusaka I went for English language course. Here everything was new and strange to me. Here I attended the longest Mass during the ordination of a priest - 5 hours! I was so surprised when I saw the people singing and dancing during the Eucharist. I was equally surprised when I saw

many poor village youth playing football without shoes and with the ball made of plastic bags.

I still consider myself a greenhorn missionary and I look forward to learning many more new things. So far my main challenge was language. In Zambia there are many languages. I felt really bad when people didn't understand what I was saying as well as when I could not understand what they were trying to tell me. The youth know English and their local language. I often felt alone in their midst because they prefer to speak their local language which I didn't understand at all.

This difficulty sometimes made me to get bored and even made me ask if I did the right thing being a missionary. But I overcame these doubts by sharing my difficulties with a fellow missionary, and some friends. Through our sharing I realised that I was not alone. So we encouraged each other and continue to pray for one another.

But my greatest strength was in talking to Jesus or just seating in front of the Blessed Sacrament. I knew that he perfectly understood what I wanted to tell him, as well as my difficulties and doubts. I continually pray to him to help me each day because I realised that although my problems, difficulties remain, now I have more energy and deeper motivation to continue my missionary vocation. I also believe that the prayer of so many people like my parents, classmates, and friends sustain me in my missionary vocation. And I am sure that God, our Lady and Don Bosco are always with me!



I am ever grateful to God for the gift of my life and missionary vocation. I am beholden to my parents for continually supporting me in my vocation as a Salesian lay brother. I am thankful to our Congregation for giving me the possibility to follow my missionary vocation!

Br. Martin Manh Hien Nguyen
Vietnamese, missionary in Zambia



Salesian Missionary Intention

SALESIAN MISSION DAY 2012 - "Telling the Story of Jesus"

That the Salesian Mission Day 2012 may stir up in all Salesian Provinces of the world, creative ways to share with young people one's own personal experience of Jesus, especially with those who are far from the life of the Church or with the followers of other religions .

The Salesian Missions Day 2012 is inspired by the words of the Apostolic Exhortation Ecclesia in Asia n. 20 of John Paul II: "the proclamation of Jesus Christ can most effectively be made by narrating his story, as the Gospels do". It is an invitation to be disciples of Christ, evangelised, before becoming apostles, evangelisers who continue the narration of the missionary presence in the Congregation which is at the heart of the mission of the Church. The Salesian Mission Day 2012 is ,therefore, an invitation to live much more in the heart of the universal Church..



The previous issues of "Cagliero 11" are available at <http://tinyurl.com/Cagliero>



Salesian Missionary Intentions 2012



[For the Pope's prayer intentions see: <http://www.fides.org/aree/news/newsdet.php?idnews=28235&lan=en>]

JANUARY: The SALESIAN MISSION DAY 2012 – Telling the Story of Jesus

That the Salesian Mission Day 2012 may stir up in all Salesian Provinces of the world, creative ways to share with young people one's own personal experience of Jesus, especially with those who are far from the life of the Church or with the followers of other religions.

FEBRUARY: HAITI – for the Journey of Rebuilding the Salesian Mission

That the Salesians of Haiti continue with courage the rebuilding of the Salesian Mission.

MARCH: India – for Christians in the State of Orissa

That Christians who live in areas disturbed by community violence in 2007-2008 may live in security and build-up relationships of mutual respect and trust in the territory which has suffered so much violence against Christians.

APRIL: For Young Salesians in Africa who are Preparing for the Priesthood

That Salesian candidates for the priesthood in Africa may grow as true disciples of Christ the good shepherd who lays down his life totally for the good of his sheep.

MAY: For the Church in China

That it may grow in ecclesial communion and that Chinese communities abroad may be evangelised.

JUNE: Young Christians in Poland

That young believers in Poland, confiding their daily life to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, may grow in being true witnesses of the Christian life in Europe.

JULY: East Asia -Oceania: For the Growth of Salesian Missionary Volunteer Service

That the Salesians in East Asia-Oceania region may help the young to be enthusiastically committed to the Salesian missionary volunteer service.

AUGUST: Salesians Working in Islamic Context, Especially in Indonesia

That the Salesians immersed in Islamic context, especially those of the young Delegation of Indonesia may discern the possibilities of the mission of witness.

SEPTEMBER: Salesian Missionary Vocation: the 143th Missionary Expedition

That the testimony of the new Salesian missionaries sent by the Rector Major in 2012 may inspire and foster, especially in the young Provinces, a renewed missionary impulse.

OCTOBER: For the Young catechists of Africa

That the Young catechists of Africa may continue to grow in their faith.

NOVEMBER: The Animation of the Project Europe in all 28 Provinces of Europe

That Project Europe may open new horizons and stir up new hopes to foster the endogenous revitalisation of the Salesian charism in the continent.

DECEMBER: Mission for Hispanic Migrants in the United States

That the Salesians of the American continent are made aware of the phenomenon of migration in order to prepare a regional plan in this regard.



DEPARTMENT

www.sdb.org

INSTITUTE FOR SALESIAN SPIRITUALITY PRESENTS...

A Special Retreat on Don Bosco

The Don Bosco Retreats are offered for young adults and adults of the Salesian Family: members of Salesian parishes, youth centers, school faculties and staff, adult past pupils, and collaborators in the Salesian Mission. This weekend experience will offer reflection, discussion, and prayer around the life of Don Bosco, his place in history, and his impact on our lives and ministries today



“Don Bosco In History”

January 6-8, 2012
Don Bosco Hall
Berkeley

Early Spring
Los Angeles Area
Location & Dates TBA

The retreat begins at 7:00 PM on Friday evening and concludes at lunch on Sunday.

Cost for materials, meals and lodging for 3 days inclusive, \$60.00

Retreat Registration

Mail registration to Don Bosco Hall 1831 Arch Street, Berkeley, CA 94709 or Fax to (510) 704-1925

Name: _____ Email: _____

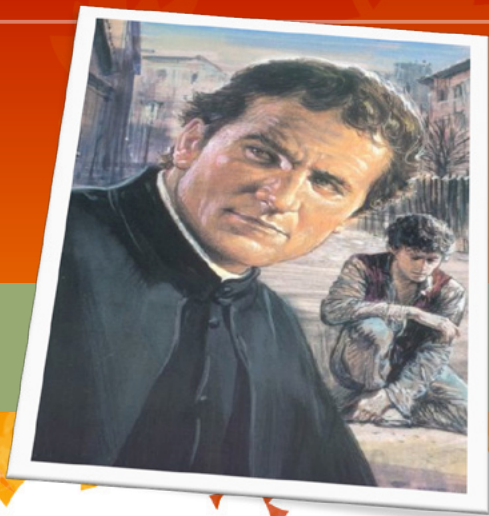
Address: _____

Check which retreat you would like to attend.

January 6-8 Berkeley

Early Spring 2012, Los Angeles

*Checks payable to Salesians of Don Bosco. Space is limited. Register by **December 29, 2011.***



Exploring Don Bosco

A Three Night Study and Reflection Series
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Evening One

Evening Two

Evening Three

**Don Bosco
in His Time**

**Post-modern
Don Bosco?**

**The Young
Adult Bosco**

In Northern California: DON BOSCO HALL BERKELEY

Monday January 9, 2012

Tuesday January 10, 2012

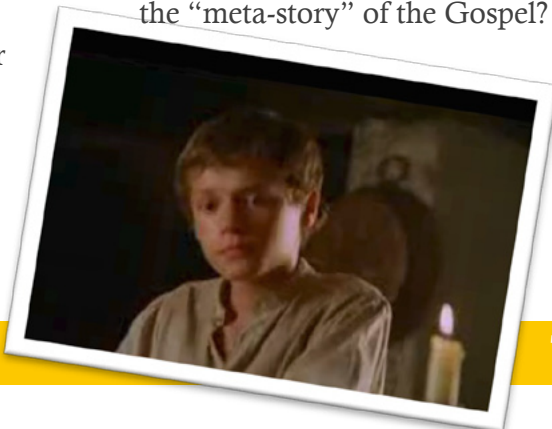
Wednesday January 11, 2012

In Southern California: SALESIAN RESIDENCE LOS ANGELES

Tuesday January 17, 2012 **Wednesday January 18, 2012** **Thursday January 19, 2012**

This evening explores Don Bosco's historical and cultural settings which shaped his vision and mission. Understanding those influences help us to "begin afresh" from his perspective to enable our times to intersect with his.

Can the historical figure of Don Bosco offer insight for our own time and place situated within a post-modern crisis of meaning? What clues has this saint left us for navigating our way back to the "meta-story" of the Gospel?



Examining the young adult Giovanni Bosco, on his way to his mission and taking the first steps in his dreams, offers us a rich model of discernment and faith. Looking at his friendships, his seeking out mentors and spiritual guides, and his own ascetic choices offers today's young adult a roadmap for mission and an itinerary for everyday holiness.

There is no fee for this series.

ROCK OUT

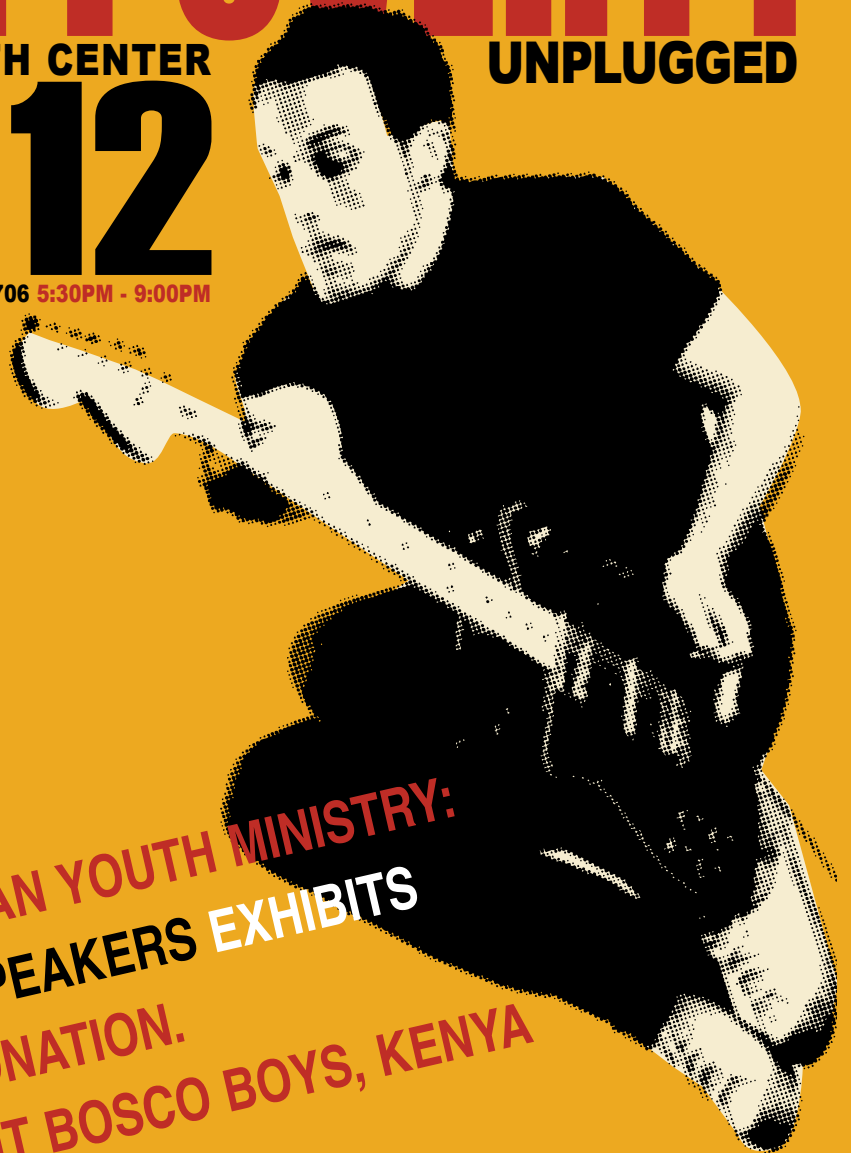
YOUTH POVERTY

ST. DOMINIC SAVIO YOUTH CENTER

UNPLUGGED

01.21.12

13400 BELLFLOWER BLVD, BELLFLOWER, CA 90706 5:30PM - 9:00PM



**SPONSORED BY SALESIAN YOUTH MINISTRY:
EUCHARIST MUSIC SPEAKERS EXHIBITS
\$10.00 DONATION.
ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT BOSCO BOYS, KENYA**

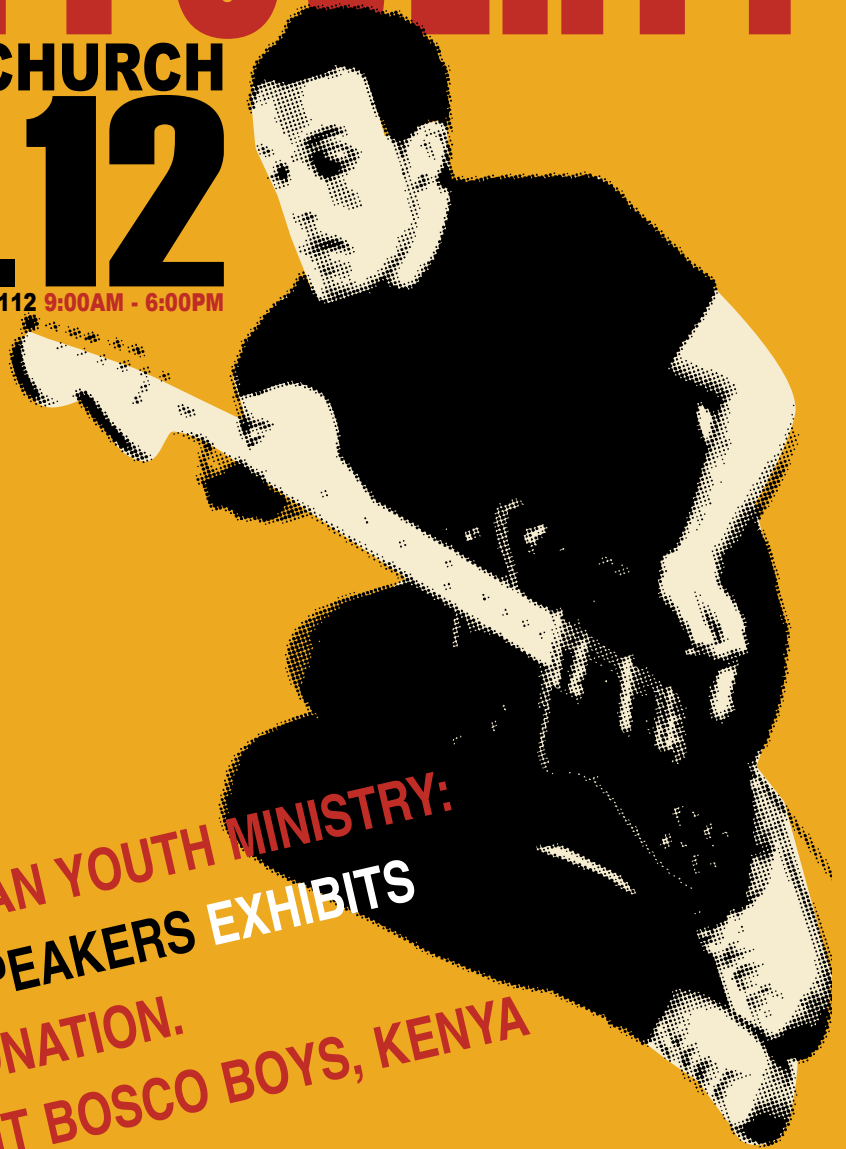
ROCK OUT

YOUTH POVERTY

CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH

01.28.12

62 SANTA ROSA AVENUE, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94112 9:00AM - 6:00PM



**SPONSORED BY SALESIAN YOUTH MINISTRY:
EUCHARIST MUSIC SPEAKERS EXHIBITS**

\$10.00 DONATION.

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT BOSCO BOYS, KENYA