

TAVUR

AUGUST 2011



The newsletter of the Salesian delegation of Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands



15th August, 2011

Dear friends,
Peace be with you!

I thank the Lord for the great experiences I had for these past weeks in the month of July. The days, moments and encounters that we have every year are special, holy and moments of Grace - both for the Salesians and the members of the Salesian Family.

I am truly amazed of the deep spiritual experience I felt, first as a salesian and second as a member of the vast movement of people, gathered under the banner as sons and daughters of St. John Bosco. I am grateful to God for wonderful meetings with all of you. The Spirit lives on and the radiant light of our identity as one family comes out very clearly. I could also feel and see the big smile of our Blessed Mother, Help of Christians. She is the teacher and guide of all of us, given to us by our Father Don Bosco.

I want to remind all of us to let these experiences of grace be our point of renewal, to recharge and rekindle our zeal, our enthusiasm and motivation as individuals and as organizations. Our beloved Rector Major has asked us to prepare for the celebration of the bi-centenary of the birth of Don Bosco. And the Salesians in special way are tasked to know Don Bosco by reading his biography, his books and writings. This is a good activity that the members of the Salesian Family can certainly do.

In a few days we will be focus our attention on the World Youth Day 2011 in Madrid, Spain. The invitation for young people is to view their experience with the Holy Father as a Model of Hope. He himself asks everyone, the young people and even the world to take seriously the life of reconciliation, of forgiveness; and the responsibility of the ministers to be the agents of peace and forgiveness, and personally accompany young people. Our Rector Major is encouraging us and asking us the same. This is the threshold of conversion and change in the heart - in the lives of our young people, who will participate in this historic spiritual renewal with the Shepherd of the Church. Let us accompany them with our ardent prayers. It is very salesian, it is for sure very dear to the heart of Don Bosco.

Let us also ask the intercession of Blessed Augustus Czaritorisky and Blessed Ceferino Namuncura whom we remember in this month of August, without of course forgetting the Birthday of our Father and Teacher Don Bosco. My congratulation and greeting to all our schools, parishes and communities who will take this occasion for their salesian, spiritual encounter.

Happy Feast of the Assumption of Our Blessed Mother and HAPPY ANNIVERSARY of the BIRTH OF ST. JOHN BOSCO.

Affectionately,

- Fr. Raffy Galve sdb, Delegate PNG-SI



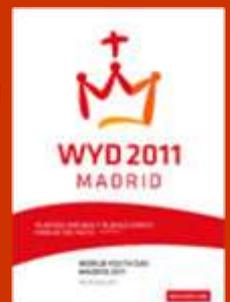
Planted and build up in Jesus Christ, firm in the faith *(Saint Paul)*

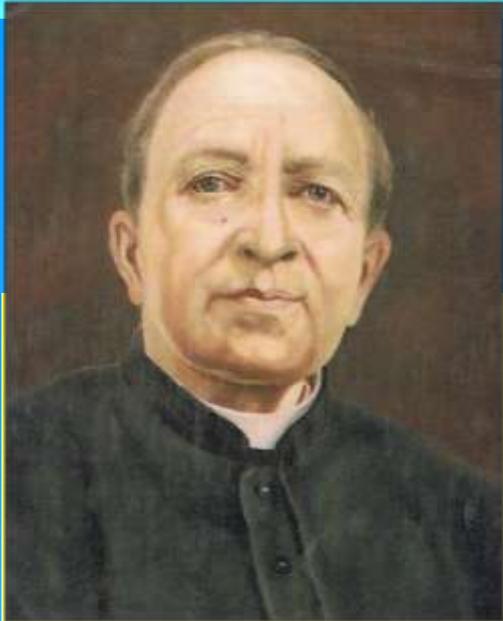
WYD 2011
16 - 21 AUGUST, 2011



Madrid, 11th August 2011- Always with the youth in mind and fully aware that they are the future of the Church and of society, Pope Benedict XVI will be giving a special gift for 2011 World Youth day pilgrims – a book called YOU-CAT (Youth Catechism). All pilgrims will find in their back packs this useful tool to help them live fully the motto of this year's World Youth Day: **“planted and built up in Jesus Christ, firm in the faith.”** This compendium of the faith is comprised of 280 pages and responds in a simple manner very basic questions of the Catholic faith. It deals with the main doubts and concerns

which preoccupy today's youth: “The youth of today are not as superficial as some think. They want to know what life is really all about,” affirms the Holy Father in the prologue of YOU-CAT. This unusual little book is an interplay of questions and answers written in a dynamic and light style, allowing the young to find responses to their questions in a fun and interesting manner. “This book is exciting because it speaks of our own destiny,” writes the Holy Father. “It places before you the **Gospel message as ‘the pearl of great value’** (Mt, 13:46), for which you must give everything.”





Blessed Bronislaus Bonaventure Markiewicz (1842-1912) The founder of the Michaelites

The Congregation of St. Michael the Archangel (CSMA)

The Congregation was founded by the Blessed Father Bronislaus Bonaventure Markiewicz. Its beginnings date back to the year 1897. From the very start of his priestly life, he was particularly sensitive towards the religious, moral, and material neglect of children and youth and to the misery of simple people. Following the divine voice, he went to Italy and became a follower of St. John Bosco. After seven years, in 1892, he returned to Poland and began work in Miejsce Piastowe (South-East Poland). In September, 1897, he petitioned the Church's authorities to allow him to found the Congregation of St. Michael the Archangel. On 29th September, 1921, Bishop of Kraków, Adam Stefan Sapiecha issued the Erecting Decree of the Congregation. On 15th June, 1966, the Congregation was affirmed under Papal Law. Today the Michaelites are working throughout Europe, the Americas and in the Pacific Region: i.e., in Canada, Germany, Italy, Austria, France, Paraguay, Argentina, Dominican Republic, Switzerland, Ukraine, Belarus, Australia, the Nederland Antilles, Aruba, and Papua New Guinea.

Michaelites in Papua New Guinea

The first Michaelite who arrived in Papua New Guinea in 1970 was Fr. Stanislaus Śnieżek. Later on in 1977 another two priests followed him: Zdzisław (Ziggy) Kruczek and Ludwik Wypasek. In the year 2000 our community was officially installed in Australia, Archdiocese of Sydney. Today, we Michaelite members from PNG and Australia make one delegation under the leadership of Fr. Janusz Bieniek residing in Sydney. There is one canonical community in Australia and one in PNG. In Australia the pastoral work in three parishes, Catholic University chaplaincy and hospital chaplaincy is done by seven priests (five from Poland and two recently ordained Australians). In Papua New Guinea four priests are missionaries from Poland, one from Simbu Province and one finally professed religious brother from Enga Province. In PNG we are working in two provinces: Western Highlands and Enga. In Enga we take care of two parishes: Wanepap and Kasap. Wanepap has 15 outstations and Kasap 10. In many cases the priests must travel to these outstations by foot for it is impossi-

ble to go there by car. At times it can take more than six hours to walk there. In Western Highlands Fr Bogdan Świerczewski (the community superior) looks after Kuli parish where currently at the outstation of Kartanim his parishioners are constructing a Shrine to the Divine Mercy. Since 1995 we have published annually the periodic "Michael CSMA" and have produced some articles and books on mission, social and pastoral matters.

Apart from our pastoral activity we Michaelites are working very hard on the field of vocations. Right now in Australia we have one novice and in PNG two temporally professed seminarians doing their studies in Vanimo Diocesan Seminary and one postulant in Kap near Madang. We also stress more and more on the importance of spreading the devotion to St. Michael the Archangel as PNG country is devoted to this Archangel. In some parishes the faithful are familiar with the Leo XIII prayer to St. Michael and recite the chaplet to his honour as well. There is an urgent need to invent some songs in honour of this Archangel.

In 1999 two Michaelites, victims of the Second World War were beatified and recognised by the Church as martyrs. These are Fr. Ladislaus Błądziński and Fr. Adalbert Nierychlewski. Right now the co-founder of Michaelite Sisters, the Servant of God, Mother Anna Kaworek's case is in Rome. There is a hope that within a few years she will be beatified. The Michaelite Sisters work in France, Cameroon, Germany, Ukraine, Belarus and Italy. Many years ago they got invitation from Papua New Guinea to work in this country as missionaries, but they could not make it so far.



Michaelites at their annual retreat in 2011 at Rebiatul (Mount Hagen).

Standing l-r: Fr. Z. Kruczek, Fr. Gregory Jasłowski, sem. Paul Porali (he had already left the community), Bro. Lambert Büter SVD (retreat master), Fr. Bogdan Świerczewski, sem Kenneth Kamalan, Fr. Joseph Pękala; kneeling l-r: sem Bernard Saka, Bro. Thomas Lasen and Fr. Peter Kaupa



VUNABOSCO, 07 JULY: – FEAST OF BLESSED PETER TO ROT, the First Martyr of PNG

Fr. Roger Miranda, the Rector of Vunabosco, represented the school and community at the Launching of the Centenary of the Birth of Peter To Rot which was held at Rakunai, in the Basilica of Pita To Rot. His Excellency, Coad. Arch. Francesco Panfilo, SDB was the main celebrant. Aux. Bishop John Doainnoel, SM together with several priests from the archdiocese and other dioceses of PNG concelebrated. Several pilgrims from the different dioceses of PNG came over; the highest delegation was the one of Madang Archdiocese and they were about 500.

Coad. Arch. Francesco Panfilo, SDB, presiding at the Launching of the 100 year birthday anniversary of Bl. Peter To Rot



- Fr. Roger Miranda sdb

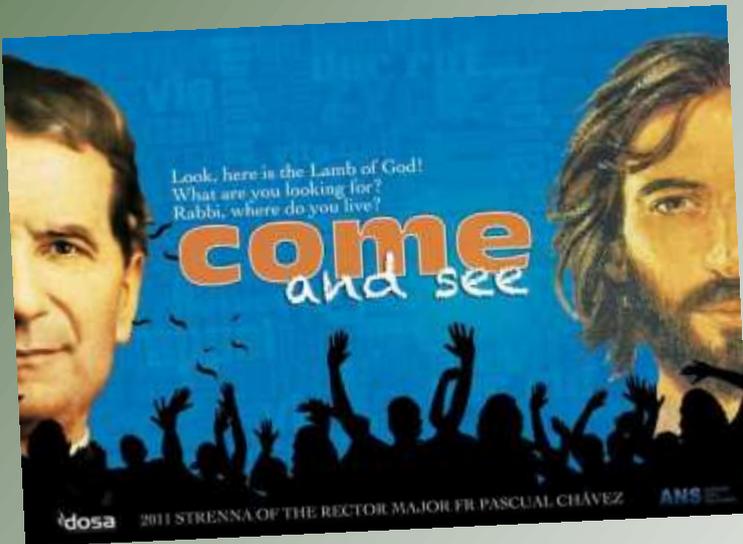
LOVE

as I have loved YOU

The theme of the whole celebration which is slated for 18 months (07 July 2011-30 Dec 2012) is "LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU!", dwelling strongly on the family and the importance of the Sacrament of Matrimony.

FMA Sisters in PNG: Come and See

- Fr. John Cabrido sdb

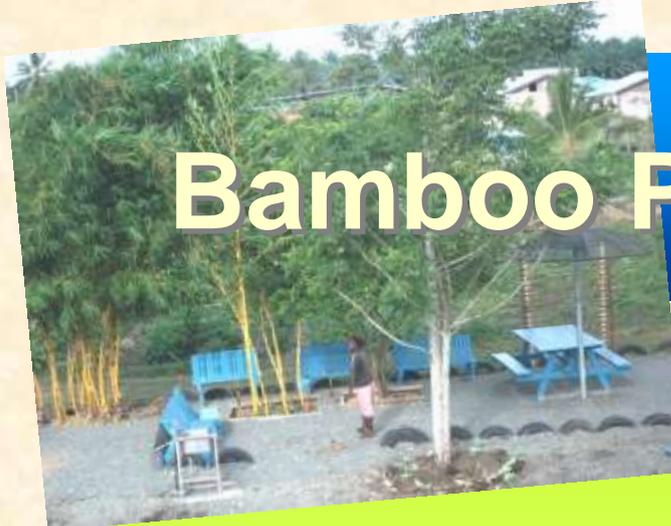


Port Moresby: 7 August 2011 -- Seven enthusiastic young ladies, all students of Don Bosco Technical Institute (DBTI) and boarders of the Sisters, attended the "Come and See" weekend organised by the FMA. This is the first of several scheduled until the end of the academic year. The "Come and See" is in response to the Rector's Major Strenna of creating a vocation culture in each Salesian setting. Since the overnight started on the evening of August 5, the FMA Institute Day, the timetable included a Eucharistic celebration followed by a simple agape and program and capped with viewing the film on Mother Mazzarello. The following day, the sessions were facilitated by Sr. Alice Fulgencio who spoke on life as gift and the universal call to holiness. The young ladies shared their understand-

ing of how young people succumb to the constant bombardment of noise leaving them neither time nor space to be still and to listen to God's call. They realised the importance of setting aside a regular time for personal prayer no matter how busy they are since prayer helps them to know and love God better. They also realised how fortunate they are that in DBTI they have the possibility of participating at the Eucharist daily, of regular confession and even of regular spiritual direction, all means of helping them grow in their spiritual life and in their vocation discernment. The encounter ended with the participants' resolve to take better care of their prayer life and they look forward to the next "Come and See" overnight!



Bamboo Park in Teterere, SI



TETERERE (SI): 5 July 2011 - The Don Bosco Rural Training Centre (DBRTC) used the occasion of its monthly collective celebration of students' birthdays to use a newly inaugurated

section of the expanding DBRTC enterprise - the Don Bosco Bamboo Park.

Situated just near the Don Bosco Haus (Salesian residence), where our correspondent Br. Moise Palaku, lives, the celebrations took place on Saturday 2 July. It was a moment which brought together a series of events. The DBRTC involves young men and women in a variety of skill training especially connected with agriculture and associated trades. The birthday celebrations covered the months of June and July, but the event also offered a chance for a blessing on the rice harvest. So what better place to do all this than in the newly developed Bamboo Park!

Although it was an evening event, the day was not considered complete without the morning Mass, but from 6 pm onwards, the festivities swung into action, beginning with the Rosary then leading to a special open air meal, garlanding of those celebrating birthdays, and of course, a showcase presentation of Solomon Islands culture with cultural dances from Guadalcanal, the islands on which DBRTC is situated, Makira-Ulawa (formerly San Cristobal) to the south east and nearby Malaita, the largest and most populous island in the group to the north east. All three provinces are present at DBRTC. Fr. Michael Lap, the Rector, concluded the event with thanks and encouragement by way of a Good Night.



Highlights at Teterere

5-11 July, - Youth rally for the young boys and girls of the Christ the King parish. Theme: *Christ's loyal Soldiers*.

25 July, Harvesting of Papayas. The Taiwan Technical Mission's staff was thanked for providing seeds and advice.

Mission group - DBRTC students volunteered to serve the others in action and word. Led by Mr. Joseph Aaron, the school deputy, they pray and work together.

Araimiri Truly Blest

- Fr. Edwin Genovia, Rector

ARAIMIRI: Don Bosco Araimiri is truly blest with good land... When it rains heavily, most of the ground is flooded and yet the seemingly useless land, where only tall grass grew, can provide food for the students of the school. With hard work and perseverance in cleaning and cultivating the land, students were able to grow rice. Proof that growing rice in the Gulf, is possible. It has saved the school some money as well as from the possibility of sending students home for lack of food. For this, we can say that we are truly blest...

This year, Don Bosco Araimiri is celebrating its 31st year not only in the Gulf Province but the whole of Papua New



Guinea. Its growth, development and progress have been slow and ham-

pered by so many difficulties... and yet in spite of it all, it continues to be a sign of hope

for the many young people who wanted to continue in their education. To reach this far is truly a blessing...

The isolated location of the school and the lack of luxury have not prevented our teachers and volunteers to come not only to share their knowledge and skills but to share their very life with our students is truly God's grace. Getting teachers to come and teach has been a perennial problem of the school. But a teacher who comes and stays is truly a blessing...

We may easily see the difficulties and dangers living in the Gulf Province like the dinghy capsizing putting the life of those who were in it at risk... and failed to notice the invisible hand that guided those who were in it to safety. Surely, this is a blessing....

Yes, in spite of it all, we are living in the land God truly blest.

These female students are not practicing a new dance step with a different beat but separating the grain of rice from their stalks.



The rice field ready for harvest.

SPORTS FEST *in KUMGI*



KUMGI: 24th June, 2011 - a cold chilly day in the highlands marked a special day for our Bosconians in Don Bosco Tech Kumgi - as they celebrated had their Sports festoon. The Savio Friends Club, under the leadership of Mr. John Puk, organizing and prepared the event. The Bosconians were divided into 13 classes to present their Trade Banner, their War Cry and their Creative Dance.

The whole celebration was a spectacular scene displaying the creative and colourful body decorations of the Bosconians - their shrill seeking war cry that re-echoes across the mountains.

The opening of the Sport Fest was held in the gymnasium. The community around delighted themselves and cheered for the Bosconians. The theme chosen for the event were the words that Don Bosco would always say to his boys.

The climax of the day was the sports enjoyed by everyone – Basketball, Volleyball, Football and Touch Rugby. To top up the day, all the Bosconians enjoyed a very delicious meal. The Sport fest was truly indeed an explosion and expression of how dynamic, creative and energetic our Bosconians are.

Savio Friends Club, you made this day SPECIAL.... More power to you!!!



“Where you go, I will go, where you live, I will live. Your people will be my people. Your God will be my God.” (Ruth 1: 16- 17)

Fr. Albert Lenon sdb

KUMGI: The 18th of June, 2011 marked a very special day for two teachers of Don Bosco Tech Kumgi – Danny Onge and Roselyn Kerenge made their promise to each other - for better or for worse, in sickness and in health... till death do us part.

Both Danny and Roselyn were Bosconians of our Tertiary School, Don Bosco Technological Institute, Boroko. According to their personal sharing they met each other 7 years ago while at school. Danny was a 4th year graduating student and Roselyn was a 2nd year student. Both felt that they were specially meant for each other. But as good students and Bosconians, they encouraged each other to finish first their tertiary studies and find a job for themselves.

This important day marked a special preparation and blessing to our school. Our Teachers and Bosconians (boys and girls) busied themselves in the mass preparations, choir practice and the cleaning of the Savina



Hall for the mass. Fr. Albert Lenon, sdb, Rector, presided at the Eucharist while Fr. Robinson Parappilly, sdb, the Admin-

Left: Parents of the couple

istrator concelebrated. It was indeed an occasion of joy and gratitude. Both parents expressed their best wishes to the two and thanked the teachers and Bosconians for their generous service in preparing the day.

After the wedding mass, a sumptuous meal awaited all. Everyone enjoyed the tasty food prepared by their family members and friends. The theme of the wedding was written artistically on the wedding cake. Mr. Danny thanked the Salesians, the Sisters of Charity of St. Anne, the Teachers and Bosconians for their cooperation and hard work.

As a token of appreciation to the new couple, Teachers, Bosconians, Relatives and friends gave their gifts and well wishes to the two.

The Sacrament of Matrimony was indeed a blessing to Danny and Roselyn, their families, to the Teachers and Bosconians of the school and to the community as well.

Right: The Wedding cake, the feast has begun



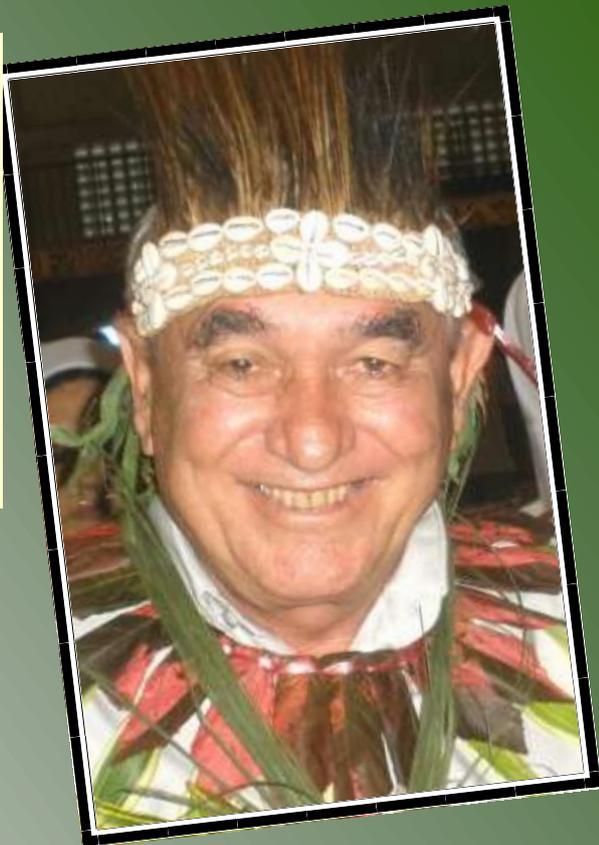
Danny Onge and Roselyn Kerenge



Tribute to the Pioneer

Salesian Family Day

Fr. John Cabrido sdb, Rector, DBTI, Boroko, Port Moresby



PORT MOREBSY: 17 July 2011 -- The country's tourism advertisement for Papua New Guinea calls it the "land of the unexpected". On the 17th July 2011, Sunday, the Salesian Family of Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands had a full dose of that!

The annual gathering of the Salesian Family is one that everyone eagerly longs for since for most, especially those living in far flung islands or deep in the "bush", this is the only time the members meet. And this year was no different.

Fr. Dominic Kachira and the community of Don Bosco Technical School in Port Moresby warmly welcomed the various groups of the Salesian Family. At the very first event, the unexpected happened! Fr. Rafael Galve, the delegation superior, who was to be feted that day and was scheduled to preside at the opening Eucharist, was suddenly struck down by malaria! Luckily, he was able to persuade Fr. Martin Macasaet SDB, who had come from Manila to preach the confrere's retreats, to stand in his stead. The Mass was festive with the music and choir provided by the Salesian Cooperators and punctuated with three colorful traditional dances by the aspirants of the Savio Haus, the Cooperators and the Salesianity Group from Don Bosco Technological Institute (DBTI). Vocational candidates to the various members of the Salesian Family were involved in keeping with the strenna "Come and See".

After the liturgical service, everyone trooped across to the school's gymnasium for fun and games. Mixed in four color camps, the participants competed in staple group games like tug-of-war, musical chairs, "the boat is sinking", "dressing for market" and the like. Led by the young people from the



Photographs:
*A time to pray and a time to play, a time to sing and a time to dance.
Moments of joy and happiness as we celebrated the Salesian Family Day.*

Salesianity Group, the games had everyone in stitches. It was a wonderful way of bonding and exuding Salesian joy.

The traditional kaikai or common meal was held underneath the mango trees. The potluck lunch was abundant with all the groups pitching in their generous share. There was even a roasted pig (from the Cooperators) and the much desired ice cream (from the Gabutu community) which helped to cool one off in the extraordinary heat.

The highlight of the day was the afternoon presentation which was a surprise tribute to the Salesian pioneer to Papua New Guinea, Fr. Valeriano Barbero, SDB, also lovingly called "Fr. Val". Fr. Val was the rector of the pioneering group of Salesians who arrived in Araimiri on 14 June 1980. Through the decades he had helped to establish other presences and had twice served as the delegation leader. The Salesian Family took pains to keep the tribute secret and was delighted in successfully pulling off the unexpected for such a worthy Salesian. Fr. Edwin Genova, SDB, who had been with Fr. Val, as a young practical trainee in 1986, recalled the early days as "the best of times, the worst of times". Sr. Alice Fulgencio, FMA, led Sr. Pam Vecina and Sr. Trinh Nguyen, together with the youth of the Salesianity Group in an original song and dance presentation with a PowerPoint presentation of Fr. Val's early mission apostolate. Sr. Florentina Cho, CSJ gave a heartfelt speech recalling the early days of the Caritas Sisters when they arrived in Araimiri in 1986. Sr. Florentina, who had been a young sister at that time, narrated numerous stories of Fr. Val's concern for them and capped this with stirring, operatic performance of "O Sole Mio".

A high point of the program was a medley of songs belted out by Fr. Zdzislaw Kruczek, CSMA who included the traditional Polish song "Sto lat" (One hundred years!) in his repertoire!

The Cooperators – both the Port Moresby and Kokopo Chapters, the Association of Mary Help of Christians and the Aspirants also presented their songs and gifts, while the Past Pupils donated the prizes for the games. Fittingly, the final group were the Salesians (SDBs) themselves who made the audience wild with their rendition of "Eres Tu" (with a Spanish solo by Fr. Heraldo Bosquez, SDB) and the 70's Carpenters' hit "Top of the World".

Finally, they brought the house down with an animated performance of the Los del Rio dance classic, "Macarena" — complete with all the gyrations. Tears welled in Fr. Val's eyes as the afternoon ended with a second (and more comprehensive) ten minute PowerPoint presentation of his mission life through the decades. Fr. Val thanked everyone for this truly unexpected tribute remarking that the afternoon would be a "picture which would remain in his heart".

The day concluded with a grand group picture taking. Kudos to Sr. Alice Fulgencio, FMA and the other members of the organizing committee for pulling off the unexpected and making it truly memorable!



Photos:
Registration of the Participants, Lively games, the feast, in song and dance, together as one, in smiles, Salesians in thanks.

Media Forum *brings Digital Age Awareness*



- Remegio Harold A. Argante



PORT MORESBY: Digital natives... digital immigrants ... digital tourists – these terms categorize the state each participant of the Media Forum currently belongs to. Dwelling on the theme for World Communications Day, “Truth, Proclamation and Authenticity of Life in our Digital Age”, the Media Forum for the Salesian Family got off to a lively start on 16th July, 2011, at the Emmaus Retreat Centre, spear-headed by Fr. Ambrose Pereira sdb, President of SIGNIS Pacific and Delegate for Social Communications for the PNG-SI Delegation.

The nearly 50 participants – Salesians, Aspirants and Salesian Family members - were led into an interesting and lively exchange of ideas on topic related to the implications of our digital world. The sharing of the participants weighed the positive and negative impacts of the so-called ‘Digital Age’. Various video clippings made the participants think critically so as to avoid being ‘Media Gluttons’ reflected in the immense popularity of the social networks. Highlighting the Salesian Social Communications System, he divided the participants into groups, which gave them

the opportunity to share their experiences of the social networks. Some of them aired out the need to be positive in sharing their views and comments on the net rather than being willing victims. The afternoon session was all about ‘Newspaper Analysis’ and the ‘Necessities of a Newspaper Article’ conducted by Fr. Edwin Genovia sdb. Once again the participants worked in groups and they had the opportunity to analyse a newspaper article. Representatives shared opinions on what led to the writing of the news, its accuracy and the writers ‘point of view’.

The showcase of the Salesian Identity Card followed the session by Dr. John Cabrido sdb. The various Salesian Family Groups presented highlights of their presence in Papua New Guinea.

The Media Forum has awakened in the participants a desire to understand more about the implications the Digital Age has on our lives.



Fun and Fraternity

- Fr Ambrose Pereira sdb

PNG-SI confreres on Delegation Day

PORT MORESBY: The Delegation Day commenced at 8.30am – as 22 confreres headed off – just 17 miles out and hence the name: ‘17 mile’ to

the Franciscan Fathers formation house a picture perfect spot with the beauty of nature all around. It was a day of fun, relaxation and entertainment – as all partook in every activity – in true Salesian Spirit. The testimonies below say it all....

I am happy and delighted cause we can feel the simplicity of Salesian Life. It is great that we can be faithful to our Salesian tradition.

- Fr. Raffy Galve sdb, Delegate, PNG-SI Delegation



It is nice that at least once a year we can gather to relax and enjoy ourselves. Everyone participated in the activities. It gives us a chance to know ourselves better and at the same time to share ideas and experiences and more important that we realize that we are together.

- Fr. Eduardo Revillia sdb, Rector, Savio Haus, Port Moresby.

Today has been a great day. We have come from different places of Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands and we are a big family. I am happy that we have been able to come together like this. It is a pity that all the Rectors are not here. It is a big sacrifice, but it would make a big difference.

- Fr. Dominic Kachira sdb, Rector, Don Bosco Technical Institute, PNG.



Its good to have so many young people enjoying themselves, and we hope that the delegation will be a union of people who are able to be together not only for prayer and work, but also to show happiness to ourselves and to the others.

- Fr. Valeriano Barbero sdb, Pioneer PNG-SI Delegation

The obvious fact is that I am in a new country, so everything is so new to me. I have just finished the first retreat of the confreres. And it is something so very wonderful to join in the joy, friendship and the brotherhood of the confreres. I realize that being assigned in very remote places, this is the only opportunity for them to be together like this and it is so nice to be with them. There is so much of fun and fraternity, and for that I am very, very grateful.

- Fr. Martin Macasaet sdb, Retreat preacher, Rector, Don Bosco Technical College, Mandaluyong city, Philippines.



Guess who's coming to Dinner?

– Fr. John Cabrido sdb



PORT MORESBY: 12 August 2011 -- Newly elected PNG Prime Minister Hon. Peter O'Neill graciously accepted the invitation of Fr. Valeriano Barbero and dined with the Salesians of the Delegation House Community on 11 August 2011. Fr. Val, had met the prime minister earlier in the week at a farewell party hosted by a mutual friend, Mr. Theo George Constantinou of the Hebou Group of Companies.

Mr. Constantinou, together with Mr. Mitch Lutchini (Hebou Construction Ltd) and his wife, Imana, joined the Salesian community celebration which was also participated in by Fr. Eduardo Revilla and Fr. Dominic Kachira, rectors of the Savio Haus and Don Bosco Gabutu, respectively. It was a homely affair where everyone pitched in and the atmosphere was relaxed and easy. Bro. Jess Garcia, the economist, served the appetizers which included Cacciatori salami and imported Italian Gnocchi. The prime minister was entertained by the stories of Fr. Eduardo Revilla, who regaled him with anecdotes from his early days as a missionary in the Philippines (almost 50 years ago!) to his idyllic years in Vunabosco in the '90s prior to the volcanic eruption up to the present.

Fr. Val oversaw the cooking of the main course - pizza, with the help of M. Constantinou who sweated it out over the firewood fueled oven. The guests thanked the prime minister for his initial actions of his administration and assured him that the people were filled with new hope. The meal was delicious and spiced up with much hearty laughter among friends. Twice Fr. Val counselled the prime minister: "those who help Don Bosco always become successful!" to which his good friend Mr. Constantinou teased "in that case, I guess I will become a billionaire!" The prime minister was amused that the desert wine was a bottle of Marsala, a fine Sicilian altar wine. After some souvenir photo shots, the Mr. O'Neill assured the Salesians of his full support.

Fr. John Cabrido, the community rector, then requested the prime minister if he could spare some minutes to greet DBTI's 130 male and 50 female boarders to which he unhesitatingly agreed.

He was greeted by the young people as they would a rock-star. They jostled for front places to listen to his brief, fatherly "good night talk" as he outlined his vision for the country and encouraged them in their responsibility of studies. The Salesians, FMA Sisters and students saw him off with three thunderous "Yes claps", cheers and promises of prayers.

The evening brought to mind Don Bosco's example of reaching out to government leaders and prominent benefactors in order to benefit the young. Mr. Constantinou expressed the sentiments of all to "do this more often" — a simple, hearty dinner among friends.



Above: Prime Minister Giving the community the 'Good Night'
Left: Together at the Dinner table



Right: A photograph with newly elected Prime Minister Peter O'Neill

DBTI Marian Group visits POMGEN Children's Ward

- Mr. Peter Ali, 1st Yr. MVT Student



of food items, toys and clothes. They carefully sorted out these items and packed them in small boxes to be distributed on that day.

Upon entry into the ward, the group was warmly welcomed by the nurses and by the patients and their families who were all smiling widely. The Marian group opened their visit with a heartfelt word of prayer and a song. Afterwards, each member went over to a patient, engaged in friendly conversation, prayed with them and shared a gift. The patients and their guardians were overwhelmed by the group's kindness and consoling presence in their time of

suffering and pain. One of the young patients, Sarah, was so overcome with tears of joy when she received her gift that she remarked, "This is the first time anyone has ever prayed with me and given a gift since I was admitted over a month ago."

With this hospital visit, the group members came to realize that the love of Christ can also be expressed through simple action of almsgiving stemming from generous hearts. Vincent Gimbat expressed the common sentiment of the group when he said, "I am now empowered to do more for the needy for I have found total peace and joy within myself."

Photographs:

Above: Students on their way

Right: In the children's ward



Media *and the* Message

HENDERSON: "I have learnt things I had never thought of before. I do hope Don Bosco will have a school of Media Education to help us young people understand the media and its message", said Joseph Hora participant at the Media Short Course as it came to an end.

The 2 weeks Media Short Course was attended by 15 participants, from different walks, ages and backgrounds in Life. It commenced on the 27th June and concluded on 8th July, 2011 at Don Bosco Technical Institute, Henderson. Parents, friends and invited guests were part of the final celebration.

Presentations included the different activities of the three groups. Despite little experience, there was variety and style in the different tracks. Social Nets dwelt on Environment and the need to keep our town clean. The Media Tech group discussed community issues in an interview format while the CAPS group shared what they were learning at the Media course. Julian Treadaway, school board member and curriculum developer said, "Audio production is possible with little equipment. It has the greatest reach and it will be wonderful to have audio and media training for community media groups across the country".

"Aperture opening, shutter speed and film sensitivity are crucial to get the best image", emphasized Fr. Ambrose Pereira sdb, Course Coordinator. The concepts and the work of the different participants showed a high level of understanding of these. Mana Utsunomiya, JICA Volunteer and Media Tech animator explained and demonstrated the effect of light on an image. "Understanding shutter speed will bring in a lot of creativity and variety to our images", she said.

Video shooting was exciting for both the animators and the participants. With imitated cameras and editing equipment the groups set about their digital stories. Scripting a storyline, acting, shooting and then editing the tracks involved

long hours of hard work and full concentration. The enthusiasm and determination displayed was seen in their films. The films



Left: Ronualdo Mondez demonstrating computer tricks.

Right: David Barrow sharing insights on Print Media

were unique, humorous and conveyed a positive message. The CAPS group entitled their film, 'In the Name' highlighting Faith as an essential element in LIFE. 'Work Ethics' stressed much needed attitudes needed for work in companies. 'One Life' as obvious from the title dwelt on the need to care for the precious life we have.

Ms. Camari Bainivalu, principal congratulated the participants on the successful completion of their course and the high standard of productions. Praising and encouraging the participants she said: "It is important that you now share this with new knowledge with others in your communities".

Principal Ms. Camari then handed the 14 participants their certificates while School Board member Julian Treadaway, gave them a t-shirt with the Digital Age, World Communications Day logo.

In thanking the participants, Fr. Ambrose Pereira sdb, made special mention of the animators Ronualdo Mondez, Mana Utsunomiya and Paulus Buna for their commitment and dedication and the long hours of hard work required right throughout the course.

Thanks also to the following who dwelt on certain aspects of the Media – Joe Vidiki and Theresa Dola, Audio production; Tony Wale, Communications for Life; David Barrow and Nina Tuhiaka, SOLMAS who together with Adele Broadbent and Ann Howarth, NZ journalists dealt with the Print media and newspaper analysis. Solomon star and SIBC personnel who welcomed the group as they came on their field visit.

The Media Course has been inspired by SIGNIS, the World Catholic Association for Communications. It has been *Organized by: Salesians of Don Bosco*, Don Bosco Technical Institute, Henderson and *Supported by: SOLMAS, MASI, Solomom Star, SIBC, FMW, CCS* and all those who are interested in spreading positive messages through the the Media.



Change *starts with* YOU!

- Fr. Ambrose Pereira sdb



Ms. Mele O'Brien addressing the gathering

HENDERSON: "We are the product of a system created by our forefathers, but the 'human' quality can bring change to the system", said Ms. Mele O'Brien, from the Chamber of Commerce at her presentation at Don Bosco Technical Institute, Henderson.

Over 300 parents, students and teachers attended the Parent-Teacher-Student Interaction, entitled 'Ethics and Attitudes in Industry'. The Extracurricular activity organized for the benefit of the students was held on 30th July, at 9am at the Don Bosco school hall, Henderson.

Presenter Ms. O'Brien, emphasized the need for people to develop correct values, ethics and principles in their lives, as she dwelt on 'Identifying the real needs of society'.

"More important than skill and qualification, is character and conscience, discernment and discipline", she stated. She thanked the parents who put in a lot of effort and energy to educate their children. She challenged the stu-

dents to be determined to take up the ownership of the country through the many personal choices that affect their future. She concluded her very clear presentation with the statement, "Change starts with you!"

Mr. William Barile, General Manager, Solomon Islands Ports Authority and School Board member challenged parents to bring up their children by their example. While praising the competency of a person, he stressed the need to be creative in each ones profession.

Mr. Bernard Rapasia, TVET coordinator and Sr. Sialei Puapuaga fma, were appreciative of the presentation and encouraged the students to put them into practice. "It was nice to have a young person, passionate about nation building, speak to young people" said Fr. Ambrose Pereira.

Ms. Camari Bainivalu, principal then addressed the parents on the achievements of the past semester and the programmes ahead. The parents then had the opportunity to meet the class advisors to discuss the progress of their children and get tips on the best approach to bring up their son or daughter.

Parent-Teacher-Student Interaction at Don Bosco Hall, Henderson



Positive Alternatives

Be STRONG today!

Never let a weak moment take away from you all the strong ones you had.

Rather than being annoyed, be amused.
Instead of getting angry, become curious.

In place of envy, feel admiration.
In place of worry, take action.
In place of doubt, have faith.
Negative energy is just positive energy that's flowing in the opposite direction.

There's no need to fight or run away from that negative energy. All you need to do is change its direction. The more negative you are, the more positive you can be. An automobile that can travel 70 miles per hour to the east... can also travel just as fast when going west. But first, someone must turn it around.

When you sense yourself becoming negative, stop and consider what it would

mean to apply that negative energy in the opposite direction. Turn your sadness into caring. Transform your complaints into useful suggestions. Change your bitterness into determination. The energy is already there, All you need to do is change its direction.



PROGRAMMES AHEAD

INSTALLATION

Bp. Francesco Panfilo sdb
15th August, 2011

EO Mission Seminar

21 - 25 August, 2011

MEDIA COURSE

26 - 29 September, 2011

PRACTICAL TRAINEES COURSE

30th September, 2011



Homecoming Alive @ 11

This simple assembly was followed by the preparation of food. By now, two FMA sisters (Sr. Alice Fulgencio and Sr. Pamela Vecina) and several staff members led by the principal, Mr. Emmanuel Guillermo had joined the celebrations. A volleyball match pitching a select group of Past Pupils against the staff was set into play. Though the final score was a lopsided victory in favor of the younger Bosconians, it was a matched enjoyed by players and spectators as it brought back fond memories of joyful school days. The lunch was simple but plentiful – PNG style. The spouses and children of the participants joined in and the *kaikai* (common meal) was a happy event.

Once the dishes had been fixed, Fr. John called everyone for a picture taking. This was done at two settings, both as an entire assembly and also by annual batches. The day ended with brief messages by Fr. John and Mr. Tekepa who reminded them of the monthly 24th devotion to Mary Help of Christians as the regular monthly gathering as well as the Christmas Party 2011 as the next activity to be prepared for. Ms. Dianne Lavi, another organizer, shared what struck her most during the entire event, "Throughout the day, our former and current educators were with us. We appreciated Fr. John's talk on the past pupils association and its mission. We enjoyed immensely the fact that through the games and meals our educators came to be with us and – as always – were concerned about our welfare". In his final message, Fr. John joked the past pupils that DBTI should have special significance for them. Not only did DBTI give them an education... it also gave them their spouse!

PORT MORESBY: Twenty Seven Past Pupils – male and female – of the Don Bosco Technological Institute (DBTI) gathered on 7th August 2011 at the school premises for the first ever past pupils' homecoming. Mr. Kennedy Tekepa, an organizer of the event, expressed delight in the theme chosen – "Luksave and Alive @ 11". He encouraged the participants to get involved and be recognized (luksave), and further Don Bosco's view of the past pupil as a promoter of the Salesian mission. The day began with participation at the regular 9:00 am Sunday Eucharist at the

Mary, Help of Christians Shrine. The Past Pupils then gathered at the multi-purpose hall for a brief talk by Fr. John Cabrido, SDB (rector) who reminded them of Don Bosco's advice to Carlo Gastini and 11 artisans who had returned to celebrate our Founder's patronal day on 24 June 1870 – "Remain united and help one another". Fr. John thanked them for deciding to become more committed and gave a quick update on recent events in DBTI as well as projections for the future. Since the participants belonged to various graduation batches, Mr. Tekepa invited them to introduce themselves to each other and to update the group regarding their current endeavors.

Photographs:

Past pupils pose as a group, Enjoying the day, a game of volleyball.

Birthday corner

AUGUST

- 10. Dn. VERGOUW Peter
- 17. Fr. MIRANDA Roger
- 18. Fr. XALXO Pankaj
- 26. Cl. PANO Gilbert
- 31. Fr. BARBERO Valeriano

SEPTEMBER

- 10. Cl. NGUYEN DUC, Tien John (1978)
- 15. Fr. BAQUERO, Peter



The Lord will give grace and glory,
no good thing will he withhold
from those who walk uprightly.

– (Psalm 84:11)

Attention

Next edition...

MEDIA COURSE
for Salesians, youth animators and teachers
26th to 29th September, 2011
Emmaus Retreat Centre, Port Moresby, PNG

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