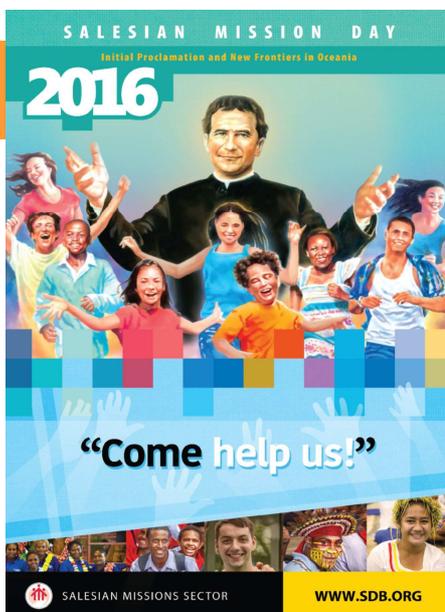
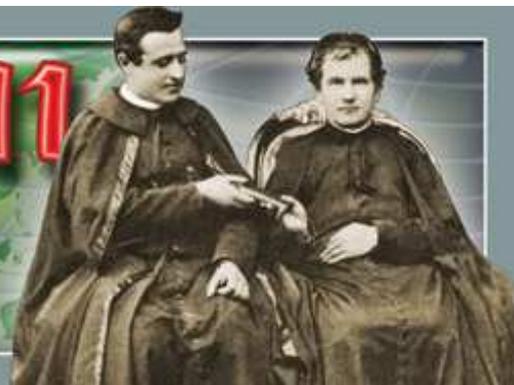


# CAGLIERO 11

Newsletter for Salesian Missionary Animation

A Publication of the Missions Sector for the Salesian Communities and Friends of the Salesian Missions



## SALESIAN MISSION DAY 2016

Dear friends,

The poster with bright colours expresses the richness of the cultures and traditions of the multitude of young people from the innumerable islands of Oceania who held out their hands towards Don Bosco asking him to come and help them.

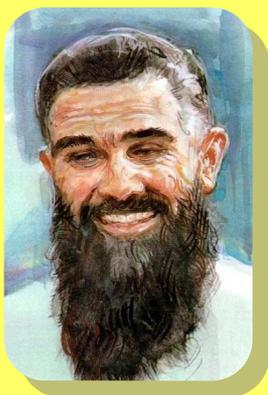
But this is not just the cry of the children in Don Bosco's dream. It is also the cry today of multitudes of young people from many islands of Oceania awaiting Don Bosco to come through his Salesians. It is also an invitation to Salesians in other continents to offer themselves generously as missionaries *ad gentes*, *ad externos* and *ad vitam* to foster initial proclamation in peripheries and new frontiers in Oceania!

This Salesian Mission Day 2016 is an excellent opportunity to:

- ◆ discover and **know better** the populations of this part of the world who for many are quite unknown; therefore, it is an excellent opportunity to **know** and to **love** more the young people of Oceania;
- ◆ welcome the invitation to be **available to be missionary *ad gentes* and *ad vitam*** in Oceania; flipping through these pages and reading the various stories, certainly many young confreres will want to write personally to the Rector Major to say: *Here I am!*
- ◆ foster **solidarity** with the Salesian communities of the East Asia-Oceania Region by actively and generously participating in the **SMD 2016 Project: the Oratory in Fiji.**

Viva Don Bosco!

*G. Basañes*  
Fr. Guillermo Basañes SDB  
Councillor for the Missions



### Witness of Salesian Missionary Sanctity

Fr. Pierluigi Cameroni SDB, General Postulator for the Causes of Saints

The Servant of God Fr. **Constantine Vendrame** (1893-1957), zealous missionary in the North East of India and great devotee of the Sacred Heart, in his missionary journal writes: "Being able to trust, means walking through street closed on both sides: the absolute distrust of oneself, the unlimited confidence in God, without conditions, without reservations. Being able to trust in the merciful love of God ... no one is more needy and naked, no one is more sick and hungry and thirsty than those who lack the knowledge and grace of God".

## Oceania is a fertile ground for the Salesian charism



**R**ecently I have had an intense visit to the Salesian houses in several countries of Oceania. And the first thing that comes to my mind is the joy and the certainty in realising that the missionary dream of our beloved Father Don Bosco is underway !

Ho potuto vedere con i miei occhi un'enorme diversità culturale. ... Per noi in Oceania è davvero un tempo opportuno. In tutte le parti è urgente un annuncio audace e convincente di Gesù Cristo. Si percepisce subito che c'è l'apertura al Vangelo. Si respira tra la gente la semplicità di chi sa accogliere il Vangelo come Buona Novella. Da parte nostra sarà sempre necessario rispettare i tempi di ogni terra affinché i cuori e le menti si aprano all'azione dello Spirito. Ciò che è importante è non smettere di seminare abbondantemente nel cuore di ogni giovane: a suo tempo Egli saprà come e quando renderlo fecondo ....

This is a **fertile ground** for the charism to proclaim Jesus. A land where the charism bears fruit and grows deep roots, and will still bear more fruit and grow deeper roots in the future, if we are faithful to Don Bosco and youth of Oceania today.

It is my strongest desire then that this Salesian Mission Day may foster even more the growth of the apostolic passion in our beloved Salesian Family!

*Fr. Ángel Fernández Artime, SDB*

### THE SALESIANS IN OCEANIA

Geographically, Oceania comprises the continent of Australia, many islands, big and small, and vast expanses of water. The sea and the land, the water and the earth meet in endless ways, often striking the human eye with great splendour and beauty. Although Oceania is geographically very large, its population is relatively small and unevenly distributed, though it comprises a large number of indigenous and migrant peoples. The great variety of languages together with the vast distances between islands and areas make communication across the region a particular challenge. In many parts of Oceania, travelling by sea and air is more important than travelling by land.

The Salesians arrived in Australia in 1922. It is from the Province of Australia that two courageous initiatives have taken their origin. The first of these took the Salesian charism to Samoa in 1978 where it has given rise to many vocations, linked with the formation of local catechists; the second launched the Salesians in the Fijian Islands in 1999. These are now in the process of being formed as the Pacific Delegation. The most recent Pacific presence is in Auckland, New Zealand (since 2009).

Meanwhile Salesians from the Philippines opened a difficult mission at Araimiri in Papua New Guinea in 1980, while Salesians from Japan opened a similarly

difficult mission at Tetere in the Solomon Islands in 1995. In these countries the mission is carried out in poor areas among a population of which the majority is Christian (and Catholics are a minority), but in need of evangelisation and education for its young people, as well as social development. Since 2005 these formed the Delegation of Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands.

To implant, and make the Salesian charism take root and become inculturated in the young Churches of



Oceania, a great deal of patience is needed if our spirit and activity is to be faithfully expressed in local cultures. This is a great challenge that demands knowledge and love from both the standpoint of the culture concerned and that of Don Bosco and the Congregation. Dialogue between the cultures from which our confreres come and those in which they are

working, together with the witness of a Salesian living of the Gospel of Christ, is producing good results. There is no doubt that our closeness to the people, our presence among the young, and our educative and pastoral style, with its welcoming friendliness and family spirit, its religious and spiritual quality, draw people to us and make us in general esteemed by the local Church.

(cf. ACG 397)



### Salesian Missionary Intention

*That the Lord may inspire and sustain in our communities the capacity to welcome and accompany Christian refugees of the Middle East, who are part of the large crowd of refugees in the region.*

*It is urgent to have a clear prayerful intention, to stir up charity in prayer. We need to stir up attention and solidarity for Christian refugees in the Middle East, and with them intensify the prayer for Christians in the Middle East. We are particularly concerned about our dear young people in the Middle East, we pray for them and with them, that the Lord may strengthen their hope .*

