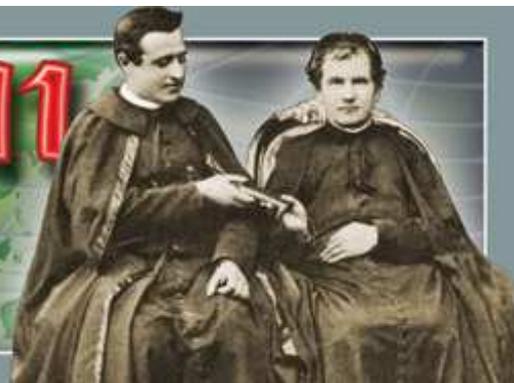


CAGLIERO 11

Newsletter for Salesian Missionary Animation

A Publication of the Mission Department for the Salesian Communities and Friends of the Salesian Mission



Dear brothers and friends of the Salesian missions!

Cordial greetings to all, a few days from the start of the 27th General Chapter! For different Provinces the feast of our holy missionaries and protomartyrs Luigi Versiglia and Calixtus Caravario means the period when the Salesian Mission Day is celebrated, while for all of us, it is a way to express our gratitude for their lives offered totally to God.

Reflecting on the past six-year period 2008-2014 I thank the Lord especially for having given rise to numerous missionary vocations in the Congregation and the Salesian Family. Through the six missionary expeditions (2008-2013) the Rector Major sent a total of 206 confreres. Most of them are from Asia (127), from Europe (43), from Africa (22), and from America (14). The most generous countries are: Vietnam (67), India (40) Italy (10), Poland (9), Spain (8), Slovakia (8), Indonesia (7) and the Philippines (5). By now all the regions send and receive missionaries. The missionary movement is multidirectional making the Congregation truly Catholic - universal. Moreover, after more than 40 years, the Congregation re-established the experience of missionary aspirantates in the South Asia region (2011 and 2012). We expect the first missionary send off in 2018, when the first candidates will finish their post-novitiate. Thank you to all!

I ask you to pray that the GC 27 may give a new impetus to strengthen the vocation and missionary culture in our Congregation!

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

Now I understand that my mission consists not in “doing” but in “loving”

I did my practical training as a missionary in Albania but during my theological studies, under the guidance of my Rector, I felt and expressed the desire to work in poorer contexts. Now, I am sharing my life as a missionary with the indigenous people in Oaxaca, Mexico which belongs to the MEM Province.

My missionary experience was wonderful and beautiful: I arrived in Mexico with the fervour of a new priest, full of desire to work to fulfil the missionary dreams of the Kingdom with a personal project and brimming with pastoral imagination. But this project could not be done for many reasons: the mentality, the culture as well as other subjective and objective limitations ... I was sad and discouraged.

One day I reread the booklet: *Five loaves and two fish* of the Servant of God, the Vietnamese Cardinal Francisco Javier Nguyen Van Thuan who wrote: “Choose either God or the works of God.” This was the subject



of my reflection for several days. Finally, I heard the inner voice saying to me: “Search for God not the works of God.” I realised that God did not consecrate me to do some work, but to bear witness to his loving and humble presence, a close and accompanying presence. At this point I asked myself: Who is God for me and according to me? I looked up and I noticed the crucified Jesus and saw that he was suffering but happy; he seemed to

smile to me saying: have courage!

From that moment on, my missionary idea totally changed: the missionary work that God asks me to do consists not in ‘doing’ but in ‘loving’. Because it is only love which invites me to follow him; love drives me to share and it is love which seduces me surrender myself completely like Jesus who gave himself up on the cross out of love for the Father and for us. He freed me from what was imprisoning me and invited me to follow him more closely.

Now for me Jesus is supreme model to imitate; he is the only goal and the only reason why I commit myself. This is why I neither feel lonely, in darkness nor abandoned on the road because I am sure that He is always with me, he is in me and I in Him; and He is the everlasting light that lights my path.

Oh Jesus, my God! Grant me your intelligence to recognise you as the first and absolute love so that I may love you in those to whom you send me with the same love with which you loved me. Give me your obedience so that your passion may be my compassion, your death, my delivery and your resurrection, my hope. For you and I are one for the Kingdom yet to come.

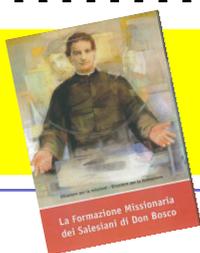
I am happy and I am contented with this mission, the mission of love and only for love because God is love and he invites me to share his love.



Fr. Phong Vu Hoai John Baptist
Vietnamese, missionary in Mexico

NEW MISSIONARIES SOUGHT FOR ...

Province - Country	Languages needed	Features of the location and qualities required of missionaries
AMERICA		
ARS Argentina	Spanish	Need for missionaries for Patagonia especially
ANT Cuba	Spanish	Delegation, many opportunities for evangelisation in what is now a
BCG Brazil - Campo Grande	Portuguese Indigenous lan-	Urgent need to strengthen our presence amongst the Bororos and Xavantes who are peoples undergoing a strong growth phase in the
PER Peru, Vicariate - Pucallpa	Spanish Indigenous lan-	1. Pucallpa Vicariate entrusted to us in 2009, few missionaries, indigenous groups 2. Missions-Valle Sagrado (Kechua),
SUE - SUO United States - Migrants	English, Spanish	Ministry to Hispanic migrants (Parish, Youth centre - Oratory, so-
URU Uruguay	Spanish	Most secularised country in Latin America; need for young SDBs
EUROPE		
BEN North Belgium, Holland	Flemish English	Youth Centres - Oratories, Parishes, Migrant works, MGS
FRB France, Belgium South	French	Youth Centres - Oratories, Parishes, Migrant works, MGS
GBR Great Britain	English	Schools, retreat centre, migrants, need young SDBs
IME Albania, Kosovo	Albanian, Italian	First evangelisation, few personnel, special need for Lay Brothers (there are none)
ICC Italy - Migrants	Italian, Spanish, English	Project Rome - Sacred Heart (migrants), Project Genoa (Latinos)



The document *Missionary Formation of the Salesians of Don Bosco* prepared by the Formation and Missions Departments, approved by the Rector Major and his Council last January 23, 2013, has been printed and sent to the Provinces.

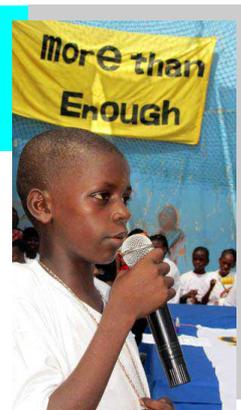


For Salesian Schools in Africa

Salesian Missionary Intention

That young people educated through Don Bosco's Preventive System may know how to grow up with a critical spirit, and may be nurtured by their elders' human and religious virtues.

An African proverb says: "An old man sitting down can see further than a young man standing up". The temptation young people have to get along without their elders (parents, catechists, superiors, etc.) is always a strong one. "In Africa, the elderly are held in particular veneration. They are not banished from families or marginalized as in other cultures. On the contrary, they are esteemed and perfectly integrated within their families, of which they are indeed the pinnacle. This beautiful African appreciation of old age should inspire Western societies to treat the elderly with greater dignity" (Africae Munus, 47).



All previous issues of "Cagliero 11" are available at purl.org/sdb/sdl/Cagliero