



Nouvelles Salésiennes *Salesian News*

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Bulletin mensuel électronique
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TORONTO-HAMILTON. Like all the Salesian communities, we spent most of this month working on the final drafts of our themes in preparation for our upcoming provincial chapter. This has been a good Salesian learning experience.

Our community hosted Fr. Cecil Noronha on February 7 on the occasion of his 25th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. He celebrated Holy Mass with us. Fr. Bernie Giliece, who was visiting with us, gave the homily. This was followed by a supper meal in a fraternal atmosphere.

Fr. Joseph Occhio and Fr. Joseph Ho represented our community at a gathering held at Transfiguration Church to greet our new Archbishop, His Excellency Thomas Collins. He comes to us from Edmonton.

Maria Mancini, our residence cook, lost her mother Angela in Italy at the age of 96 on February 9. Our community held a memorial Mass with her family members the next day.

Over 50 teenagers from 7 different schools participated in our second Annual Salesian Leadership Retreat at Jackson's Point on Lake Simcoe from February 16 to 18. Everyone profited greatly from the experience.

Two Masses were held for the entire student body and staff of Don Bosco Secondary in their auditorium to honour St. John Bosco. The Masses were presided over by Fr. George, who also delivered the homily on Salesian spirituality. During these

days the priests of our community are involved with three grade schools as well as Don Bosco Sec. for the Lenten reception of the sacrament of Reconciliation. We know how dear this sacrament was to the heart of Don Bosco.

Mr. Frankie Iacobazzi represented our Toronto-Hamilton community at the pre-chapter meeting for lay collaborators held in Montreal on Feb. 26.

Mr. Michel Jobin, our local coordinator for the Salesian Cooperators, will be leaving soon for a six-week stay among the poor of Haiti. We wish him a safe and successful journey.

Our confrere Bro. Bernie Dubé has been forced to one month of rest due to a nasty fall on the ice near our residence. He broke a rib and cracked a few others. It is quite painful and will be slow to mend. Please keep him in your prayer.

SHEBROOKE. Je rédige ces quelques lignes pendant la semaine de relâche. Nos adeptes de sports d'hiver, personnel et élèves, s'en donnent sans doute à cœur joie sur les magnifiques pentes des environs : ski alpin, ski de fond, planche, etc. Pendant que les hispanophiles des classes d'espagnol de Patricia sont sous un ciel plus bienveillant, explorant la *Route Maya* au Mexique- un groupe de 35 jeunes. Autour du Salésien, des amoncellements monstres de belle neige blanche ; d'ici quelques semaines, elle perdra sa blancheur immaculée! Le Fr. Marcel dit et redit à qui veut l'entendre que

la marmotte nous a trompés cette année. Ou serait-ce que les changements climatiques ont dérégulé son flair prophétique?

Le 10 février, le P. Trottier se trouvait à Montréal pour participer au conseil provincial des salésiens. Le soir même, la paroisse Ste-Claire clôturait les fêtes de son centenaire par la *Fête des Retrouvailles* sous la présidence d'honneur des PP. G. Parent et R. Trottier. Ce dernier tint le discours d'occasion, rendant hommage, entre autres, aux anciens curés salésiens, défunts et vivants. Le lendemain, il descendait en auto à Stony Point, à une demi-heure de NY City, en compagnie du P. Authier, Provincial, et du Fr. Bernie Dubé, pour la rencontre du SNAC (Salesian North American Councils —quelqu'un faisait remarquer que ça fait un peu loin pour un *snack!*), c.-à-d. les conseils provinciaux de San Francisco, NY et Montréal.

La 1^{ère} journée rassemblait les conseils SDB, la 2^{ème}, les 6 conseils, ajoutant les 3 C.P. des sœurs salésiennes (San Antonio, Texas; Haledon, N.J.; et Montréal). La dernière journée pour certains se déroulait à Orange, N.J., où se trouve la communauté de formation initiale. Nous y avons rencontré notre prénovice montréalais Luigi et notre torontois, Jim Zettel, qui termine son postnoviciat. Revenus jeudi soir, nous avons pu constater l'abondance de neige déversée sur le Québec pendant notre absence.

Durant ce mois, nous avons rappelé la mémoire de Mme Rose Cossette, décédée il y a 10 ans le 16 /02, et du P. Maurice Petit, décédé également en '97, le 1 mars. Commémorer la mémoire de ceux qui nous ont quittés constitue une leçon de vie.

Il y a quelque temps nous avons accueilli Mgr E. Paulhus, auteur et éducateur bien connu. Il a présidé l'eucharistie communautaire et a partagé le souper avec

nous. Lors de rencontres et de conférences à travers le monde, il eut l'occasion de visiter plusieurs maisons salésiennes. Il nous a présenté et offert sa dernière publication, *Cheminement vers la Maturité Chrétienne*.

Depuis quelques semaines, Louis-Philippe Renaud, nous arrivant de Rimouski, vit avec la communauté. Il est en stage à Sherbrooke jusqu'en juillet, accompagnant les jeunes de la rue.

Pour que notre prochain Chapitre Provincial puisse profiter de l'apport—expérience et réflexion—de nos collaborateurs, s'est tenue à Montréal récemment une rencontre des collaborateurs laïques de nos œuvres de Sherbrooke, Montréal et Toronto. M. Raymond Lepage, dg du Salésien, a représenté ses collègues à cette table.

Samedi le 3 mars étaient célébrées à St-Sévérin-de-Proulxville, en Mauricie, les funérailles de Daniel Trottier, frère du P. Roméo, décédé à l'âge de 51 ans le 24 février. Sont venus de Sherbrooke le P. Paul Cossette, les Frères Richard et Gauthier et l'abbé Paul Brault, et de Montréal, le P. Joseph Costamagna, représentant le P. Provincial, Sr. Micheline Bertrand, FMA, accompagnée de 3 coopérateurs/trices. En ces moments douloureux, nous nous manifestons d'une façon particulière comme membres d'une grande famille.

SURREY, B.C. February 1 brought us some warm, Spring-like weather, while Bro. Steve caught West Jet's first flight of the day to Toronto to take in and participate at his brother's weekend wedding. Some time later, Fr. John Basso also flew to Toronto to visit his aunt who is very sick and not expected to live.

February 3 ushered in the feast of St. Blase and the blessing of the throats after all the Masses. *Faith and Light* also held their

Well, we got our passports and were to leave Montreal by train on September 7 for New York City and then to Newton, N.J. Two days before leaving, Tom backed out and Fr. Decarie asked me if I still wanted to go. I said I would give it a try. And that is the way God hooked me for the Salesians, as a substitute for Tom. Back then it was real strict, but we didn't know the difference. I did my four years of high school in two different places, Suffern, N.Y., and West Haverstraw, N.Y.

Your high school finished, you gave Salesian life a real try and went on?

Yes, I then went to Newton, N.J., for novitiate and took my first temporary vows on Sept. 8, 1950, and finished my college degree of BA in the humanities and was assigned to teach for three years in Jacquet River, N.B., in a boarding/day school with French boarders and English day students from the surrounding area. I taught in the English section of the school. Making my perpetual vows on Sept. 8, 1956, I was off to our theologate in Aptos, Cal., where for four years I studied the various disciplines in preparation for ordination to the priesthood. I was ordained on June 4, 1960, and assigned by Fr. Felix Penna, the provincial, to be the vice-principal at St. Patrick School in Sherbrooke, Que. For two years I administered and taught and enjoyed every minute of the time. I was then assigned to St. Louis de Kent, N.B., one year, where I taught English and religion.

I believe that you exercised your Salesian apostolate also in the States. How did that come about?

Fr. August Bosio, the provincial, saw a need to have a Canadian priest in the juniorate in Ipswich, Mass. to give support to the Canadian high school seminarians who were studying there since there was no Canadian

seminary. I was appointed prefect of studies for two years and then became director for the next three years. These were happy and productive years, helping young men discern their vocation in life. We did not have much as regards an adequate facility, but the spirit was great and the energy level was high.

Was your desire to eventually come back to Canada?

Indeed I wanted to come back to Canada and was assigned to be prefect of studies at St. Mary's Junior High in Edmonton. For the two years I was there, I enjoyed the proverbial Western hospitality and treasured the time I spent helping youngsters who were in many ways disadvantaged to get an education and life skills to prepare them for life. I went back to USA in 1970 as a teacher in Salesian High School in New Rochelle, N.Y., where with a fellow Canadian, Fr. John Vetere, I taught French and English literature. Fr. John and I wanted to get back to Canada, and the Montreal Catholic School Commission offered us jobs as chaplains in high schools. I spent six years as a chaplain and teacher of religion at Msgr. Harold Doran High School. Then in 1977, the call came to go to Toronto and take over a high school operated by Basilian Fr. Thomas Mohan. Together with Fr. Quenneville and Fr. Bruce Craig, I went and taught one year at Fr. Henry Carr High School and then went with Fr. Mohan to start a new high school named Don Bosco Secondary, which opened its doors in 1978. For 18 years I taught and was principal of Don Bosco Secondary through its three phases of existence. First on Dixon Road for three years, then at Transfiguration Elementary for two years, and finally in the once public school of Keiller McKay Collegiate.

