

## **THE SALESIANS IN TIMOR LESTE**

The Salesians first set foot in East Timor in the Year 1927. One of the pioneers was St. Callistus Caravario. They settled in Dili, and after two years had to leave. The Salesians came back in 1946, when the Portuguese government asked the Congregation to open a technical school in Dili. Over the next twenty years, other communities like Fuiloro (1946), Baucau (1962) and Fatumaca (1965) were founded. At that time, the Congregation in Timor was dependent on Portugal, and was considered a mission territory. Once the Portuguese withdrew from Timor in 1975, the Salesians became dependent on the Philippine Province, which provided human resources and the opportunity for Salesians from Timor to receive formation in that province. By 1998, in Timor Leste became a Vice Province. Today, in addition to providing initial formation for candidates to Salesian life, the Congregation is engaged in parishes, schools, boarding houses, orphanages, youth centers, oratories and social works. They are also involved in non-Salesian settings like the Diocesan Major Seminary, the curia of the Diocese and its commissions. The Communities in Timor Leste include: Los Palos, Laga, Quelicai, Fuiloro, Baucau, Venilale, Fatumaca; As well as the Provincial House, the Postnovitiate and the CENTEC (Centro Technico) in Dili.

## **THE SALESIAN DELEGATION OF INDONESIA**

The first Salesian presence in Indonesia was established in December 1985, about three months after the arrival of the first missionary (Fr. Jose Carbonell, accompanied by Fr. Lazaro Revilla) on September 17, 1985. It was marked with the creation of the Salesian Delegation of Indonesia with its office was in Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia. It belonged to the Salesian Province of the Philippines, then became part of the Philippine South Province (FIS) after the division of the North and South provinces. In 1998 the Salesian Vice Province of Indonesia Timor (ITM) was established and the missions in Indonesia were entrusted to the ITM Vice Province until the year 2010. Today after 28 years of hard work there are 6 Salesian communities and 2 parishes spread over 6 Indonesian provinces (a. Wisma Salesian Don Bosco Postnovitiate, Sunter Jaya, Jakarta, b. Parish of St. John Bosco, Danau Sunter, Jakarta, c. Don Bosco Training Center, Tigaraksa, Tangerang (w/Prenovitiate), d. St. Michael Parish, Surabaya, e. Community of St. Joseph, Blitar,

Surabaya, f. Don Bosco Training Center, Sumba. (1 more will be started by 29 August 2013 in Serpong, just outside Jakarta, for the Center of the Delegation, and the Zatti House for the Salesian Brothers studying for specialization in Indonesia Technological Institute).

Seeing the growth in the number of Salesian presences, the increase in the Salesian personnel in Indonesia, and taking into consideration the political, social and cultural differences between Indonesia and Timor Leste following the latter's independence from Indonesia, in accordance with art. 159 of the Constitutions the Rector Major established the Delegation of Indonesia within the Vice Province of ITM on January 20, 2010.

Some Statistics:

- Salesians in East Timor = 129
- Salesians in Indonesia = 72
- Total = 201 Salesians

- Salesian Brothers in East Timor = 21
- Salesian Brothers in Indonesia = 10
- Total = 31

- Novices in Fatumaca ET = 14
- Novices in Sumba IND. = 7
- Total = 21