

# CAGLIERO11

Newsletter for Salesian Missionary Animation



## Have You Seen Together a DVD?



**D**ear Salesian missionaries and friends of the Salesian Missions!

Cordial greetings of the Lord's blessings in the New Year 2011! 365 days of grace are ahead of us. Each of us lives in a different culture, but we are all rooted in Jesus Christ, our Brother and Lord, Centre of the Universe!

This year the Rector Major invites us members of the Salesian Family of Don Bosco, to build up a culture of vocations. Cagliero11 this year wishes to contribute to the growth of the Salesian missionary culture, the other side of the same coin of Christian life.

One of the ways how to strengthen the missionary culture is to spread

awareness of missions each day in an attractive manner. Thanks to various video productions in many parts of the world or from the Salesian Don Bosco Missions (Turin) the entire Congregation and the Salesian Family is aware of the missionary life of today. Each year about 15 DVD reach 53 private TV stations and 4000 Salesian houses in 130 countries.

Visiting the Salesian communities, I am usually curious to browse through the DVDs in the community room, to see how the confreres use this valuable means of missionary information and training. I have seen two extremes: in some houses after several years the DVDs are not even opened, but another I saw how a Rector copied the DVD from Turin to give to all 40 animators and catechists of the mission stations.

There are many places where one does not have an access to the internet. But even in places without electricity, aided by one generator,

the DVD player is available to show lots of films. I know of a Novice Master who shows a missionary video to the novices every Sunday, after giving a brief introduction. If you visit the site <http://www.missionidonbosco.tv> you can see hundreds of videos from all continents, a real Salesian missionary YouTube. In [www.sdb.org](http://www.sdb.org) there is a section (Dicastero-Missioni-DVD missionarie) where one can check the list of the DVD produced by Missione Don Bosco in the last five years, even with the texts in digital form in 7 languages. A real accessible treasure.

To spread, to foster a missionary culture is possible for all of us.

*Václav Klement*  
**Don Václav Klement, SDB**  
 Councillor for the Missions

## MISSIONARIES FOR ASIA SOUGHT

| Country - Province                       | Required languages        | Features of the setting and qualities required by missionaries   |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| Chinese Services - CIN                   | Chinese, English          | help the province with young confreres (Macau, Hong Kong, Taiwan) especially lay brothers. Necessity of robust vocations                                       |
| Pakistan - FIS                           | English, Urdu             | Very few SDB, difficult islamic context, technical education, need of robust vocations of lay brothers and of formators  |
| Sri Lanka - LKC                          | English, Singhala, Tamil  | Few confreres, long war ended in 2009, need to internationalise the communities (with SDB not from the South Asia Region)                                      |
| Azerbaijan <i>Missio sui iuris</i> - SLK | Russian or English, Azeri | Around 600 Catholics and 3000 migrants, moderate Islam, request to internationalise the communities, need of non-Slovak confreres                              |
| Laos - THA                               | English, Lao              | Technical training centre started in 2004 managed by lay people, need of lay brothers; need to start a religious presence, communist regime, very poor country |

## A Toddler's Recount



I had been inspired to go to the mission from my novitiate days. I firmly believed in giving to others what I had freely received - love of Christ in Don Bosco's way. The singularity of this expression truly gives a sense of fulfillment to me. Had it not been for the missionaries my country would never have so many Salesian presences and many youngsters would not have been cared for. My missionary vocation was strengthened in all the communities where I had done my practical training. My apostolate and my life with great missionaries like Fr. Guezou, a French missionary who had worked for more than 52 years and Fr. John Vigilius, an Indian who had worked in Africa for more than 20 years played a pivotal role in strengthening my passion for the mission.

When I first arrived in my mission land, Cambodia I was filled with great zeal. but I was down with typhoid within two days. I was bedridden for a week. I was greatly disappointed. Fortunately after a week I was up and about just the usual me. I also wanted to communicate with the youngsters and the people but I could not. I felt helpless like a child. This was indeed a disheartening experience. I understood that as long as we are in our own country we fail to realise the essence of communication - the language. My initial impression was that the people, especially the students, accept me as a Salesian as long as I am a 'yes man' to their needs.

Now, I am gradually doing much better. I am comfortable when people speak in Khmer. Not that I understand everything they say but the language doesn't seem foreign to me as it was when I first arrived. I know now that people and the youngsters sincerely accept me as their friend and brother. Throughout my initial introduction to a new culture and a new people I really felt the support, guidance and love of my Salesian community. This has always been my stronghold.

Now I feel at home here and I even tell my students that Cambodia is my country. I often forget that I am in another country as there is so much to be done daily. I like it here, the people are good, the work is excellent. It is truly a daily Valdocco experience for me. Being here in Cambodia invokes in me the sentiments of Saul on his journey to Damascus, that he had seen the Lord; well, for me I feel like being Valdocco in Don Bosco's time.

Bro. Charles Arun Michael, SDB



## We Seek to be on Fire to Light the Flames of Mission



We commit ourselves to carry home to our own communities new insights into the story of Jesus. We seek to be on fire ready to bring home vivid and inspiring stories which could light the flames of mission in young hearts. We wish to follow Jesus' words to the possessed person: "Go home to your own people tell them what the Lord in his mercy has done for you" (Mk 5, 19).

Asian Mission Congress, Chiang Mai, Thailand (2006)



## Salesian Missionary Intention

### South Asia Region

That the Salesians who live and work in the South Asian Region, especially in Pakistan, may build bridges with our brothers and sisters in other Christian denominations.

*The Christian communities in all countries of the South Asian region barely make up 1-2% of the population. Relations with our brothers and sisters of other Christian communities is sometimes not easy, because the main concern of Christians is directed towards non-Christians. At the same time we believe that a more credible witness of the Gospel in the ocean of non-Christian religions implies that Christian Churches be in communion with each other.*



Send your suggestions and contributions to [cagliero11@gmail.com](mailto:cagliero11@gmail.com)