

CAGLIERO11



Number 9

«Newsletter for Salesian Missionary Animation»

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Warm greetings to all Provincial Mission Delegates, missionary confreres and all friends of the Salesian missions for this September!

In a few provinces the new term or semester is starting or even a new school year. This is why I want to draw our attention to the confreres who carry out the work of mission animation in the provinces.

Dear Delegates! I am happy to have the chance to communicate with a good group of 75 of you, some in immediate, mutual and encouraging contact.

First of all – thanks for your dedication and enthusiasm despite the many tasks you all have. In fact we could not find anybody who has this job full time. We find ourselves amongst you: rectors/formators in houses of formation (1), youth ministry delegates (2), coordinators of the Salesian Volunteer Movement (3), those carrying out the task of vocational ministry (4), mission and development offices (5), coordinators in catechetics and parish work (6), provincial economists (7),

Secondly – thanks for your contribution of mission animation materials which everyone can make use of through SDL (Salesian Digital Library: <http://sdl.sdb.org>). Over the first 8 months of 2009 you have sent along material in Italian, English, Spanish, Portuguese, French, Polish, etc.

Thirdly – thanks for your zeal in animating the confreres, laity and young people in our works. In fact the results of your commitment are many, such as: discovering a vocation to mission *ad gentes*, especially in provinces that have never sent missionaries outside their province (1), spreading, translating or contributing to Cagliero11 (2), exchanging mission animation materials (3),

During 2009 I have been (or will be) able to catch up with many of you especially during regional meetings – in South Asia (Delhi, April), Italy (Rome-June), Interamerica-South Cone (Quito-September) and I also hope to get to other regions like East Asia-Oceania (Manila, November). Without the enthusiast who work to a plan, patiently and constantly keeping the missionary flame alive in the Congregation we would not be able to stay faithful Don Bosco. I pray that in the 20 provinces that until now have nobody looking after mission animation, we can still find a mission delegate!

Fr. Václav Klement, SDB
General Councillor for the Missions

IN THIS ISSUE
 From the General Councillor

Missionary expeditions 1875- 2009

Missionary animation of the Province of Vietnam

Salesian missionary intention for September 2009

NUMBER OF EXPEDITIONS AND MISSIONARIES SINCE DON BOSCO UNTIL DON CHÁVEZ

Rector Major	Period	Expeditions	Missionaries	Special details
Don Bosco	1875 -1888	11	158	Under Don Rua there were the greatest number of mission expeditions, 31, 4 of them in the same year! (1891). Under Don Ricaldone the greatest number of missionaries: 2665. Proportionate to the length of his service, Don Ricaldone comes first (in 10 years 1984 missionaries). The largest expedition was in 1929, under Don Rinaldi with 374.
Don Rua	1888 -1910	31	1465	
Don Albera	1910 -1920	10	604	
Don Rinaldi	1920 -1931	10	1984	
Don Ricaldone	1931 -1952	18	2665	
Don Ziggiozzi	1952 -1965	13	1455	
Don Ricceri	1965 -1977	13	778	
Don Viganò	1978 -1995	17	870	
Don Vecchi	1996 -2002	7	222	
Don Chávez	2002 - today	9	200	
	Total	139	10, 401	

Missionary Animation of the Province of Vietnam

The province's history – its missionary roots

Vietnam Province was given some 50 missionaries in its first 20 years from the time of foundation (1952-1975). After 1976 all missionaries had to leave the country. Once the difficult years had been overcome, beginning from the 90's initial formation stages were set up in the country. From 1999 a few confreres were sent out of the province for Practical Training or to study, while others went as missionaries *ad gentes* according to needs seen by the Rector Major.

Valdocco's missionary dynamism

The results of extraordinary missionary generosity can be seen in a growing number of young confreres. The province is in fact experiencing the "missionary dynamism of Valdocco" of Don Bosco's own time. The more missionaries there were, sent out to Latin America, the more young people there were who asked Don Bosco if they could join him as Salesians. The whole initial formation setting offers an original model of missionary formation, setting the hearts of young confreres on fire for mission *ad gentes*. This year alone there are some 450 Aspirants at university level, all receiving formation in seven centres each week, around 40 prenovices, 36 novices and 56 postnovices.

This year too seven postnovices have generously offered themselves to the Rector Major for mission *ad gentes*. These candidates to missionary life have had many assistants who are carrying out missionary work in Africa, Asia, Oceania or Europe. The Provincial Delegate for mission animation is the Rector of the postnovitiate, where a lot of mission information and formation is on offer. In the 3rd year of the postnovitiate there is a process of discernment offered with regard to the missionary vocation (which is now the core of a draft version of a discernment process circulating around the Congregation and which comes out of this experience).

The Provincial newsletter features on a bimonthly basis letters and news items from missionaries, coming in from 5 continents, and this is a form of literature at provincial level that enthuses and brings new missionary vocations, as was the case at the time of the magazine *Gioventù Missionaria*, founded by Fr. Philip Rinaldi in 1923.

Salesian Family Mission Day

One of the key points is the SMD (Salesian Mission Day), an annual event which brings together around 500 members of the 6 Groups of the Salesian Family in the province, and which is animated by the SDBs in formation. As well as the formation part – conference, presentation of some missionary experiences through theatre, dance and singing – at the final Mass some of the confreres present their request to be a missionary *ad gentes* to the Rector Major. The SDB example is closely followed by the FMA and the first lay missionaries. Parents of missionaries are also part of this celebration, and they meet together to share the joys and sorrows of their children living in far off lands.

Mission within the Province – ethnic groups and in Mongolia

The Province has its own first evangelisation territory within its own borders (in the Centre and North of the country, amongst indigenous tribes). Each year some confreres are sent on mission to these ethnic groups in the centre of the country. These are picked after making a request to be missionaries to the Provincial. Since the Year 2000 the Province has been entrusted with Mongolia, which now has three international communities – a strategic choice made by the Province – to guarantee a more effective evangelisation.

Missionary confreres – ad gentes in five continents

After the first ten years two confreres, for health reasons, have returned. One can encounter confreres sent by the Rector Major in the following mission locations: **Oceania** - Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands; **Asia** - Taiwan, South Korea, China - Hong Kong, Cambodia; **Africa** – Angola, Chad, Sudan, South Africa, Zambia; **America** – Peru; **Europe** - Hungary, Lithuania, Albania, Italy, France, Middle East.

salesian mission intention for september 2009

«That Salesians in the Myanmar and Thailand provinces (Thailand, Cambodia, Laos) will be open to renewal by the Word of God and succeed in giving rise to apostolic vocations in their countries»

In South East Asian countries the Church is a tiny minority amongst a Buddhist majority, at times still viewed as a foreign religion. Christian communities live in a diaspora, with great distances between them. Salesians serve small Catholic communities and are involved in educational and social works open to young Buddhists. Their daily task requires that they be strongly anchored in the Word of God, in order to be able to live as missionaries to the young in their countries .