

Fr Anisio Mota, sdb

Made his first profession in 1993 and was ordained a priest in 2003. Presently he is working in Don Bosco Ganv, Quepem – Goa as the Vice-principal of the School and Junior College. He was the vocation promoter of the Konkani Province for several years. He is much sought after as a resource person for youth animation.

astic Salesian priest who left a lasting impression on him. Through the encouragement of Fr Dominic Savio, Anisio accepted the invitation to Follow Christ in the Don Bosco style. Recalling that experience Anisio narrates, "I did not know who Don Bosco was, but this young man made me feel that Don Bosco was just waiting for me... I liked Don Bosco's personality, his love for youngsters and the many works he carried out; nothing could stop me from following Don Bosco".

"Yes, my parents did not want me to join Don Bosco as I had to go to Lonavla and other places in Maharashtra for my formation," recounts Anisio and then adds, "But remember What God has planned for you no one can take away. I fought my way with my parents and got Fr Dominic Savio to convince them. Yes, I won that battle, the battle I'd fought for Jesus". Finally, Anisio was

ordained a priest on 27th December 2003. The day is significant – it was the birthday of his first vocation promoter, Rev. Fr Francisco Ataide. "My ordination was like a birthday gift to him," says Anisio.

As a Salesian Priest, Fr Anisio is deeply involved in youth work. He loves to be with the young and the young feel very much at home with him. They know he is always there for them – to counsel and to guide. His heartwarming sermons are always inspiring. Many of these youngsters want him to bless their marriage or seek his blessings before leaving for foreign shores.

He went through a brief period of sickness, having a near-death experience. He begged God for life; God gave it to him and now he has promised to live it for God's glory. After his miraculous recovery, he continues his work with

the young. While in Benaolim, as the Director of the Youth Center and Vocation Promoter for the Province, Fr Anisio gave his heart and soul in all that he did – animating youth groups, visiting schools for vocation promotion, organizing summer clubs and holiday camps, animating retreats and youth paschs. He says with great joy that the most rewarding moment of his life was when six young promising boys came forward to join the Salesian congregation, being impressed with the Salesian way of life.

When asked whether he had any difficulties in responding to God's call, he says, "I have gone through hard times, people have misunderstood me, but God knows the truth, hence nothing deters me. I became a Salesian Priest to serve the youth and to be a brother to them. I will not do anything that takes me away from the young" 

