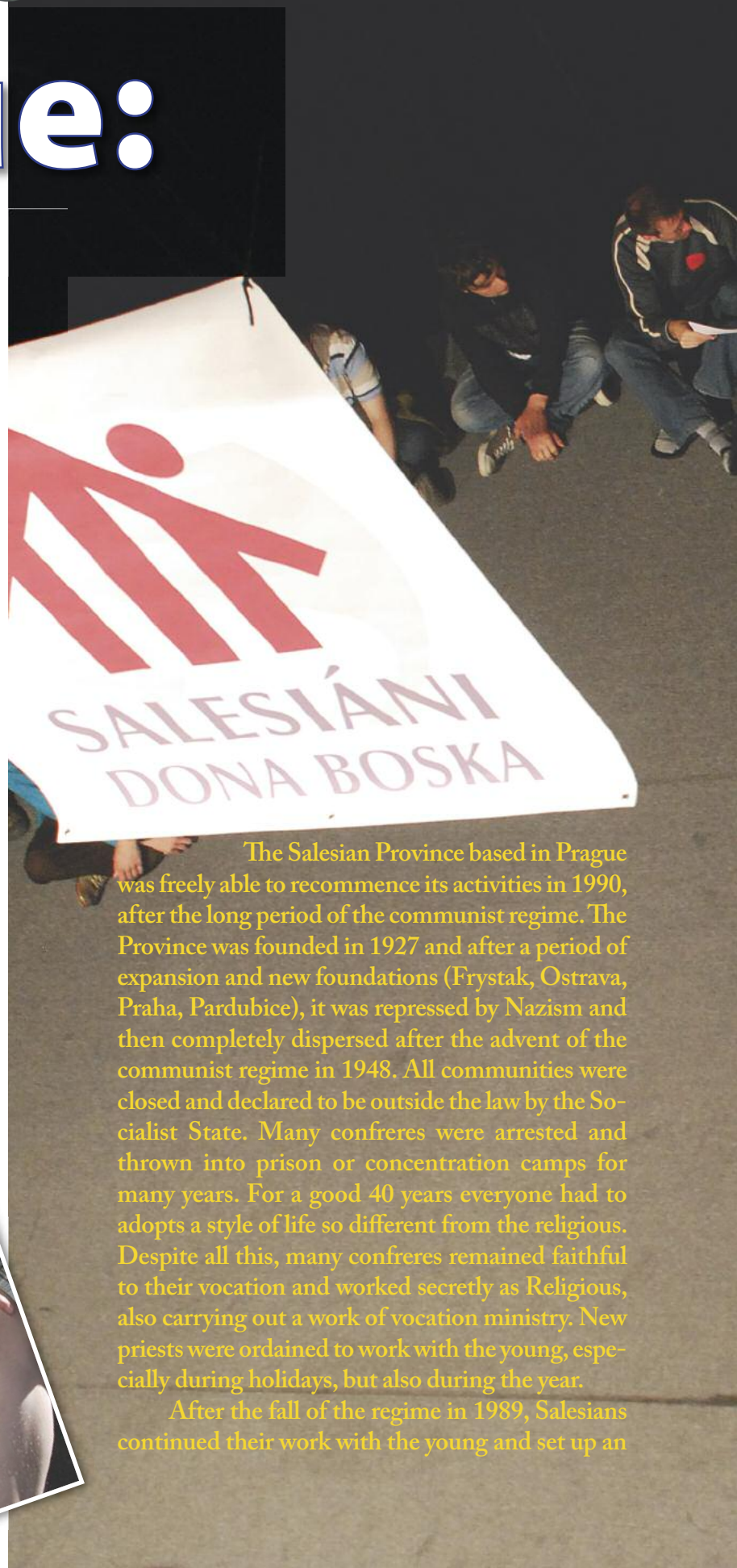




Prague:

Encountering Today's Youth



The Salesian Province based in Prague was freely able to recommence its activities in 1990, after the long period of the communist regime. The Province was founded in 1927 and after a period of expansion and new foundations (Frystak, Ostrava, Praha, Pardubice), it was repressed by Nazism and then completely dispersed after the advent of the communist regime in 1948. All communities were closed and declared to be outside the law by the Socialist State. Many confreres were arrested and thrown into prison or concentration camps for many years. For a good 40 years everyone had to adopt a style of life so different from the religious. Despite all this, many confreres remained faithful to their vocation and worked secretly as Religious, also carrying out a work of vocation ministry. New priests were ordained to work with the young, especially during holidays, but also during the year.

After the fall of the regime in 1989, Salesians continued their work with the young and set up an