



# Salesian Bulletin at the Service of Life



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## A conscious choice

If great challenges or catastrophes lead to unusual solutions, life's daily routine does not always offer provocation for changes that often are just as necessary. The press, which comes from the same monotonous daily routine, seems to be included in this list. But the multiplier effect of the press might be considered as one of the major transforming events of mankind.

Don Bosco understood this and quickly put in place the use of this innovative communications solution. He also gave it a life and shape which was completely Christian.

The Salesian Bulletin, now appearing in many languages and hues, confirms the soundness and appropriateness of this innovative Christian solution.

In February 1902, the Portuguese lan-

guage Bulletin informed Brazilians, the Portuguese and their colonies of the vitality and strength of a work which had and would continue to have a long story to tell.

The first Portuguese edition spoke eloquently and accurately of all the ingredients and the wonderful treasury of Salesian initiatives in Europe and the Americas: texts full of detail, of life, and high definition photos are some of the indicators of this quality communication. Leafing through the first edition (Year 1, no. 1 February 1902) and comparing it with those that followed, we find ourselves faced with an account of involvement in real life: news, testimonies of missionary dedication, articles by teachers, young people, lay and religious.

More than being a simple depository of 'exotic' cultural curiosities, this vehicle of communication became a true harbinger revealing projects dedi-

cated to the good of ones neighbour and the defence of the lives of so many people: one only needs to think of how the 'missions' were presented.

During the difficult period of the First World War, publication of the Salesian Bulletin was interrupted. Just the same, little by little, it returned to being a regular bimonthly of improved graphic quality. The interruption to publication during and after the Second World War was longer: almost ten years! From this unfavourable set of circumstances however, opportunity arose, and was immediately taken advantage of, to diversify and decentralise the Salesian Bulletin's publication.

In 1950 Salesian Brazil began publishing the Brazilian Salesian Bulletin: Year 1, Number 1, drawn up, laid out and printed in Sao Paulo, under the direction of the Provincial, Fr John Resende, allowed it to be translated into Brazilian Portuguese and style, while still