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“If the Lord is calling you to be a missionary outside our Country ... Go!”

I was born in Kerala, South India. As an altar boy I heard a good number of the 65 priests coming from my Parish share their experiences missionary during their vacation. Naturally I began to ask myself: ‘If I could be near to a priest at the altar, why can’t I be there at the altar one day’. The visit of a Salesian vocation promoter later led to my joining a vocation camp when I was 14. During the camp I expressed my desire to be missionary north of India in the Province of Kolkata.

I started as an aspirant there in 1994, 2400 kilometers away from my home, in a totally new culture and language. At the end of my post novitiate I expressed my desire to be a missionary ad exteros to my Provincial who advised me to take more time to discern. After my priestly ordination I was appointed to a parish
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Now I am working as part of the new community at San Benito, Peten, Guatemala. I struggled to get into the situations of the local area, but by the grace of God, things are on the right track. It needs courage to be a missionary. Challenges are everywhere, but if we do not take up the challenge, we will never grow. How I wish that all those who feel they have the missionary vocation would take up the challenge. The Lord's help and guidance will never be wanting!

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### NEW MISSIONARIES SOUGHT FOR AMERICA

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**Salesian Missionary Intention**

**For the evangelisation of young Chinese migrants the worldover**

*That the members of the Salesian Family may welcome the opportunity offered by the presence of Chinese migrants in our works in all continents to share the faith and open the doors of the Gospel to them.*

China - the most populated country in the world has about 1.3 billion inhabitants and about 100 million Chinese migrants of various groups in all five continents, outside mainland China. Let us pray that God may raise up apostles who will take the gospel to the many millions of Chinese migrants, especially young people. Due to linguistic, social and cultural diversity many look at the Chinese either with suspicion or with folkloristic curiosity, deprive of any apostolic perspective. In Africa alone there are 25 million Chinese migrants, the vast majority of whom are young workers.
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