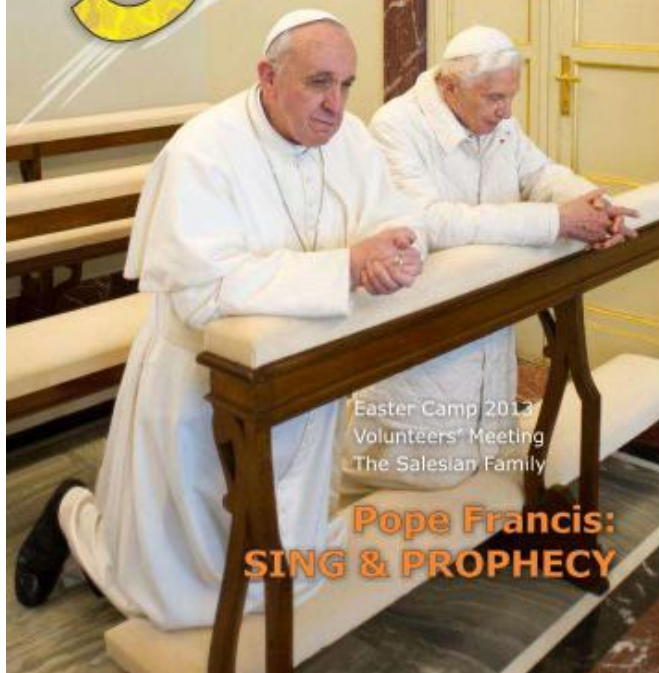


# Salesian Newslink



Easter Camp 2013  
Volunteers' Meeting  
The Salesian Family

## Pope Francis: SING & PROPHECY

### Editorial

Like Jesus  
becoming radical  
in our love for the Father

Fr. Javier Antonio Barrientos

**W**e read in the Gospels that Jesus did many things which went in opposite direction to society's trends. For example, he touched and applied mud into the blind man's eyes after he spat on the ground and mixed it with dirt (in 9:6); with this action -done on a Sabbath, he not only challenged the Sabbath law but he also broke the understanding that sicknesses were God's punishment. He went even further, to his own disciples -who at first seemed to have grasped the meaning of discipleship, he challenged

to its rightful place: to the top of creation. In Jesus' view, society, with its laws and customs was to be at the service of man. His approach, controversial to society's standards was radical in every way; he did so because he felt God loved him like a Son; and therefore his love for others (especially the weak) was fruit of this love. Society undergoes tremendous and continuous change; generations succeed one another and although in many ways some similar patterns remain, it is never the same. Nevertheless, society needs a positive change, too. Progress not always means making the world a better place for all. The rise of technology and scientific discovery averts the presence of God, and this cannot go without consequences.

We know that the core of Christianity is Jesus Christ; and therefore the call of Christianity is to bring God back to people's lives. The Church in many ways strives to be like Jesus, a sign in this world of the things to come. The Church, like Jesus -offers to society the opportunity to see things differently, to see our world with God's eyes.

The Salesian Congregation (which is part of the Catholic Church and fully present in today's society) is now about to celebrate its 27<sup>th</sup> General Chapter. The Rector Major invites everyone "to become radical witnesses of the Gospel." In other words, the chapter invites us all to be for our world like Jesus; signs of God's radical love for all, especially the weak and unloved! Surely, every Salesian is motivated and eager to take up the challenge.

Our ZMB Vice-Province has just celebrated the 7<sup>th</sup> Provincial Chapter; a chapter that encouraged all to be radical in every way: in our relationships with each other and the people we minister; in our dealings, projects, ministry, etc. The Provincial Chapter did not end with its last session, nor will it be kept as a beautiful document on a shelf in our communities' library, but the Provincial Chapter is a process that will help us become more like Jesus (radical like him in every way) and it will guide us through. It will remind us of God's love for all and our response to this love will be our love for God and all his creation, after to the example Jesus gave us: radical in his love for the Father! ■

their thirst for power and positions by telling that his kingdom is of a different nature (Mt 20:23). His touching and way doing things changed -social taboos and ways of thinking; was promoting a new culture. Jesus created a culture where the weak and unloved were now seen as people loved by God, rather than cursed by him. Jesus showed that authority is given to some for the purpose of service. With Jesus, women and children were no longer "property" but "people". Jesus restored humanity



## Salesian Newslink



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Fr. Andrew Zdzienicki's  
50th Anniversary  
of Religious Profession

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### Don Bosco EDUCATOR



Fr. Pascual Chavez SDB  
RECTOR MAJOR

### SALESIAN PEDAGOGY

IT'S ABOUT THE BAD GUYS  
TREMBLING BEFORE THE GOOD  
AND NOT THE GOOD  
TREMBLING BEFORE THE BAD

rector major

#### DON BOSCO RELATES

I was a lively and attentive boy who, with my mother's permission went to the various festivals where there were acrobats and magicians. I always put myself in the front row, eyes fixed on their movements with which they tried to distract the audience. Little by little I could see their tricks: returning home, I repeated them for hours, but often the moves did not produce the desired effect. It wasn't easy to walk on that blessed rope between two trees. How many tumbles, how many peevish knees! And how many times I was wanted to throw everything into the air... Then I started again, sweaty, tired, sometimes even disappointed. Then, a little by

little, I was able to get it together; I could feel the soles of my bare feet clinging to the rope; becoming one with my footsteps and I then did as I wanted, glad to repeat and to invent other movements. That's why, when I spoke to the boys, I said to them: "Let's hold on to easy things, but let's do it with perseverance." There you have it: my down-to-earth pedagogy, the result of so many victories and as many defeats, with the stubbornness that was one of my most marked characteristics. That's how my style came into being, to educate without using big words, without any great ideological schemes, without references to many famous authors. That was how my pedagogy was born: I learned on the meadows of



the Bechi, later on the streets of Chieri, later still in prisons, in the streets, in the alleys of Valdaccio. A pedagogy built in a courtyard.

I dared to give it a few years later when I went to Chieri to continue my studies and was accepted by the teacher, in front of the whole class, with a not very exciting sentence: "This is a guy or a large mole or a great talent". It made me feel awkward with these words: "That's something beyond the pole, Sir. I am a poor young man who wants to do his duty and progress in studies".

Then there was that blessed dream when I was 9-10 years old (the dream which was repeated many more times) that I would get hammered, and the desire to become a priest for the boys became stronger ... And then I did something that didn't make a genius of me, but in fact, achieved a beautiful victory in my character, a real breakthrough; i.e., stretch out your hand to ask for help, something just to realise my dream. I would admit a little later to a Salesian: "You don't know how much this begging cost me". With my proud temperament, it was certainly not easy to be humble enough to ask. My courage was empowered by a high level of trust in Providence; and also what I had learned from my mother. At her school I had learned one rule that led me everywhere: "When I encounter a problem, treat it as if I found the road ahead blocked by a big boulder; if I can't remove it, I just turn around."

And I assure you: I found many large boulders on my path. I shall briefly mention some of them: 1860, for example, was a typically difficult year. Fr. Calasso, my friend, confessor and spiritual director had died; how much I missed his presence, his advice and his help with finances.

Then, from the Government side, I encountered serious difficulties, authentic "boulders": targeted searches which were disastrous to Valdaccio, as if I were a criminal! My boys were living in fear, while armed guards entered every where. The

searches continued, creating a climate of fear and uncertainty. I wrote to the Minister of the Interior, Louis Fanni, for an interview. I had the guts to tell him with humble determination: "For my kids, I demand justice and restoration of honour so that they don't lack the bread of life". I know that he took a great risk because these men were an anticlerical Government, but I didn't lack the necessary courage. And so gradually the searches stopped.

I never gave up! I said to the boys: "The courage of the bad guys is not what makes others afraid. Be brave and you'll see them fold their wings". A French benefactor from Lyon had sent me a holy picture with a phrase I have never forgotten because it served as a guide: "Be with God like the sparrow that feels the branch shake but still continues to sing, knowing that it has wings". It wasn't just a poetic expression, but an act of courageous confidence in the Providence of the Lord, because He alone "is the master of our hearts".

When they were about to leave for their holidays, I used to say this to my kids: "Be men and not brats! Lift your head high, walk straight in the service of God, within the family and outside, in the Church and in the square. What is human respect? A papermaché monster that does not bite. What are the impertinent words of these bad guys? Soap-bubbles that disappear in an instant. We cannot cure adversaries and their faults. Remember that knowledge without conscience is nothing but the ruin of the soul."

I never got tired of instilling into their little heads: "Give glory to God with your conduct, consolation to your relatives and your superiors. Otherwise a young, undisciplined 'lazybones', will be a disgraceful youth, a burden to his parents, a weight to his superiors, and a weight for himself."

The future would arise from Valdaccio, "good citizens and honest Christians" of which the world has much need. ■

## Be open to the newness of the HOLY SPIRIT



Source: ZENIT.ORG  
| Vatican City, May 20, 2013  
By JUNNO AROCHO ESTEVES

The Holy Father recalled the moment where the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples, giving them the strength to spread the Gospel.

"Newness always makes us a bit fearful, because we feel more secure if we have everything under control, if we are the ones who build, program, and plan our lives," Pope Francis said. "This is also the case when it comes to God. It is hard to abandon ourselves to him with complete trust, allowing the Holy Spirit to be the soul and guide of our lives."

We fear that God may force us to strike out on new paths and leave behind our old narrow, closed and selfish horizons in order to become open to his own. Yet throughout the history of salvation, whenever God reveals himself, He

brings newness—God always brings newness—and demands our complete trust."

Drawing from the examples of Noah, Abraham and Moses, Pope Francis said that the "newness" of the Holy Spirit brought the joy, serenity and courage to proclaim the Gospel to the disciples of Christ. However, the Holy Father called on the faithful to ask themselves if they are "open to God's surprises" or if we are "closed and fearful before the newness of the Holy Spirit."

"The Holy Spirit," the 76-year-old pontiff said, "would appear to create disorder in the Church, since he brings the diversity of charisms and gifts; yet all this, by his working, is a great source of wealth, for the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of unity, which does not mean uniformity, but which leads everything back to harmony."

"In the Church, it is the Holy Spirit who creates harmony. Only the Spirit can awaken diversity, plurality, and multiplicity, while at the same time building unity. Here too, when we are the ones who try to create diversity and close ourselves up in what makes us different and other, we bring division. When we are the ones who want to build unity in accordance with our human plans, we end up creating uniformity, standardization. But if instead we let ourselves be guided by the Spirit, richness, variety and diversity never become a source of conflict, because he impels us to experience variety within the communion of the Church."

Pope Francis reminded the members from all the various movements and colonial realities of the Catholic Church to always remain true to the Church, warning that when one embarks on a "parallel journey" that goes beyond the Church's teaching, they "are not one with the God of Jesus Christ."

Concluding his homily, the Holy Father emphasized the need for the Holy Spirit, comparing to the wind which fills the sails of the soul and drives it forward.

"The Holy Spirit," the Pope concluded, "draws us into the mystery of the living God and saves us from the threat of a Church which is static and self-referential, closed in on herself. He impels us to open the doors and go forth to proclaim and bear witness to the goodness of the Gospel." ■



### The Way Ahead After the PC VII

Fr. George Chalissery SDB  
Provincial Superior of ZMB

**T**he Seventh Provincial Chapter which we had, from 19-18 April 2013, was a remarkable event in the history of ZMB. There were 28 Salesians, a representative from the Salesian Sisters and also one from the Salesian Cooperators. This Provincial Chapter was in preparation for the coming 27<sup>th</sup> General Chapter which will be held in Rome at our Generalate during the months of February, March and the beginning of April 2014. The Theme of the Chapter was "Witness to the Radical Approach of the Gospel – called to live in fidelity Don Bosco's apostolic project 'Work and Temperance'".

At the outset I want to say that the moderator of the Chapter, Fr. Christopher Ryckeb, did a very good job in planning and organizing the Chapter. Our communities who were in Nairobi and Mombasa, took active part in studying the theme of the Chapter. Those others who were outside the province were also eager to know what was going on in ZMB. Besides, the main theme of the Chapter, we also did an evaluation of our communities, revised the Province Directory and the Organic Provincial Plan.

All the conferences were involved in the preparation of the Provincial Chapter, even though we started the preparations rather late. We did not come up with any so-called 'radical' ideas or suggestions as one might have expected! But there were some other values that came forth and which I believe are a radical message for the province. There was a very vivid and fraternal atmosphere during the discussions and deliberations of the Chapter. We also underlined the fact that whatever happens in every community is of interest to all the conferences of the Vice-Province. We were much more united and we all felt the need to save the Province.

We are now 78 conferences from 13 nationalities... a truly international community. We find ourselves here as we all have the same aim of helping young people following the example of St. John Bosco and in this process, becoming saints. Thus we challenge the young to follow our example of holiness. In a

big group like ours, there is always the danger of dividing ourselves into smaller groups according to national, ethnic or other basis. But to see a group of people from different places, all working together for the same mission is perhaps the greatest gospel message we can give to the people here.

We have just celebrated the feast of Pentecost. The coming of the Holy Spirit made the apostles preach to the people who had gathered together in Jerusalem from different corners of the earth. Those who accepted the message of Peter were all baptized and became one single group of believers in Jesus, though they came from different backgrounds. The Holy Spirit made these different people into one group of believers. In the world today, we find so many divisions among different groups of people. It is so easy to break up into different groups. But I believe the Provincial Chapter made us into one group of Brothers who have the same aim to help young people in the context of our 4 countries of Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Namibia. I guess this feeling of unity is the best fruit of the Provincial Chapter. I am sure for us in ZMB, we have had a great past, but the best is yet to come. The Provincial Chapter has given birth to a new ZMB!

On 24<sup>th</sup> May the Church celebrates the feast of Mary Help of Christians. Mary was the one who united the scattered apostles, and was keeping them together for the coming of the Spirit. She is the patroness of our Vice-Province. May Mary unite us all with that same desire to help young people like our father Don Bosco! May she guide and protect us every day of our life. Don Bosco was anxious towards the end of his life, whether the Salesians would stay together after his death. He would say: "Love one another as brothers; love one another; help one another and bear with one another as brothers. God's help and that of Mary Help of Christians will not be lacking. Promise me that you will love one another as brothers!" (Don Bosco).

I am sure all of us in ZMB would like to hear this exhortation that came from the heart of our father. I wish you all dear friends a Very Happy Feast of Mary Help of Christians.

May we all enjoy her maternal intercession and guidance every day of our lives.

Thank you! ■



### Local NEWS



**NEW MINISTRIES:**  
Nairobi (Kenya) 01/05/13.  
Seven Salesians of ZMB studying at the National Theological College of Uganda (Nairobi - Kenya) received ordination of Lector and Acolyte. The new Acolytes of ZMB Vice-Province are: Aphonsius Hamweze, Peter Nguyen and Emmanuel M. Phiri. The new Lectors are: Simbarashu Muna, Christopher Mutsaka, Martin Nguyen and John Mwenda. The Provincial Superior of AFE, Fr. Roland Giamas, spoke of the importance of the Ministries in the Church more specifically as the steps in discovering and deepening one's vocation towards priesthood.



**DIACONATE ORDINATIONS:**  
Nairobi (Kenya) 19/05/13.  
The Salesian Theological College of Uganda was graced with the ordination of 14 deacons. The deacons were ordained by bishop Clement Mulega of Kabwe Diocese (Zambia). Among those ordained was: Dr. Macarius Mwenda who came from the Salesian Parish in Kabwe. The ordination was held on the 18th of May, 2013 at Uganda in Nairobi (Kenya). The newly ordained deacon will work in Basile Parish during his holidays.



**PROVINCIAL VISTATION:**  
(MALAWI) 16/05/2013.  
The Provincial has conducted the provincial vistingation of the Salesian communities of Malawi, Lilongwe and Mchikato. At the end of his vistingation to both communities, the provincial council joined him in Lilongwe to hold the Council meeting of May 2013. The Provincial arranged that the Provincial council would meet the house council of both communities at Lilongwe and Mchikato respectively. During the visit to Mchikato, the Provincial also visited Don Bosco Secondary School.



**MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE SALESIAN FAMILY:**  
Lusaka - Basile (ZAMBIA) 27/04/2013.  
The Community of Basile was the venue for the meeting of the members of the Salesian Family in the south cone. Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, Salesians of Don Bosco and Salesian Cooperators gathered at Basile community to study the Chart of the Salesian Family helped by Fr. Jose Pastor SDB, the World facilitator of the Salesian Family. Fr. Pastor came to Zambia accompanied by Sr. Lesley FMA and Fr. Giuseppe S. from the Formation Team of the Salesian Family. The participants came from Kabwe, Manica, Mazabika, Namibia and Lusaka. At the end of the meeting, children performed some traditional dances.



**ANNUAL RETREAT ZMB:**  
Chowamba - Lusaka (ZAMBIA) 10-14/04/2013.  
Fr. Selom Sakapa SDB from AFE Province directed the first annual retreat of ZMB Vice-Province after for all conferences taking part in the VII Provincial Chapter. The retreat took place at the provincial house in Lusaka. Fr. Selom helped the participants to get in touch with themselves and reality, with the help of the "seven-step-retreat". In some of his talks, the facilitator emphasized the idea of moving towards a closer relationship with God in Jesus as the basis for personal renewal. Conversion is not a personal achievement but the work of God's grace in us, he added.



**HOLY CHILDHOOD FORMATION DAY - DON BOSCO MARAULU:**  
Kabwe (ZAMBIA) 06/04/2013.  
650 Children from Don Bosco Maraulu participated in the formation day organized by the St. Mary's Parish. At the end of the gathering all participants received a 5-shirt donated by the St. Mary's Parish of St. Bernhard Parish in Bad Hersfeld (Germany). ■





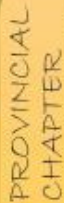
The provincial Superior of ZMB, Fr. George Chalussy officially inaugurated the VII Provincial Chapter on the morning of 13 April 2014. The Provincial Chapter was once again celebrated at the provincial house (Choroona) in Chipungu. It was a joyous occasion for the members of the province, who were all present for the 27th General Chapter of the Salesian Congregation that will take place in Rome from February to April 2014.

The Chapter began with the Eucharistic celebration; it was presided by Right Reverend Bishop Clement SDB, who is listed in the chapter as one of the 500 members. His homily, Bishop Clement emphasised the importance of the eucharist in the life of the province. Bishop Clement encouraged the members of the Chapter to be united and to cherish the riches of the various cultural groups which make up the Vice-Province.

During the Chapter session, the Provincial Dr. George Chalmers read his report, which was followed by that of the provincial economist.

The Chapter members spent a good deal of time, gathered in groups, studying the working paper. The group work was later on presented in the general assembly for the approval of their deliberations which was subsequently recorded by the secretaries to be sent to Rome at the end of the Chapter. The themes for the group work were: "Myopia in the Spirit", "Prophets of Fraternity" and "Servants of the Africa-Madagascar Region" and the possible role of the "Co-ordinators of the Africa-Madagascar Region" and the possible affiliation of CMA to the African Union.

The discussions proved to be very useful and enriching, the fruit of the work of



<sup>60</sup>Witnesses  
to the Radical Approach of the Gospel  
— called to live in fidelity  
to Don Bosco's apostolic project:  
*Work and Tenderness*.<sup>61</sup>

By Taonga Phiri  
taongaphiri54@gmail.com

Our trip to Ruwa, Namibia was born from the Easter Camp that we held in Chawama from the 28<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2013 with the theme "CHRIST LIVES, he invites us to be missionaries". It was there that the young people from Namibia invited us to attend their Youth Conference. They said that they have attended youth rallies here in Zambia as well as in the United States and Canada. They said that about 5 youth from Zambia also to attend their youth program as a way of encouraging their fellow young people in Ruwa to be active youths, and to experience how they run their youth programs. It was great for me to attend the conference together with Robert, unlike the other 3 who were not invited. This invitation came at the right time and for me it made the Easter Camp even more meaningful in the sense that we answered Christ's call of being missionaries.

The conference ran from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> of May 2013. Robert and I started off on the morning of 1<sup>st</sup> of May. The special advisor for the youth (Paulus Tichava) picked us up from Katima Mulilo border and we reached Rundu at 01:50hrs.

The conference was in Kagari at the premises of a primary school. We went to attend the conference on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and it was basically about introductions. We were privileged to be given time to say a few words of which we did, it was an amazing moment.

The second day of the conference was entirely a sports day: basketball, netball, football and many other mini sports. They also had a bible quiz on this very day. We also took this opportunity to visit St Mary's Parish and we spent some time there watching the holy childhood rehearsal for the feast of Dominic Savio. The third day is the one I enjoyed the most. The young people started by showcasing their cultural dances. It was really beautiful and 5 different youth groups took part. Later in the day there was a singing competition in which both senior and junior youths took part. The choir was really well trained and it was lovely to hear people from other places come to watch this competition. The performance of the choir was amazing; the judges had tough time in doing their job. The conference was closed with mass on Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup> of May.

MY OVERALL VIEW OF THE  
CONFERENCE

**REFERENCE**  
I discussed that young people in London are very energetic and vibrant. They are too much into culture and singing. The spiritual part needs more development. They need programs that can build on their faith. They also need people who can help them to implement their programs. I was impressed with one youth who is married and is very active at youth programs; she even had a misunderstanding with her husband concerning her activities but she stood up for what she believes in. Another man also expressed that he married his fellow youth when they were both young people. The two of them now have a son who is also a vibrant youth. The couple is always present at almost all youth activities as a way of keeping the youth ministry alive and this proves that the spirit of Don Bosco is alive in London. This conference made me realize that it's always important to stand for what we believe in if we want to be good Christians; so many things come in our way on our Christian journey. We must stand firm if we want to be people that we have not done, we are judged unjustly and many times we are hurt but this should not hinder our relationship with God.

#### OUTSIDE THE CONFERENCE

We had a great time in Rundu; we visited a few places such as the beach and the river that demarcates Namibia and Angola. We left Rundu on the 7<sup>th</sup> of May 13, 2013 around 02hrs in the morning. We thank God for his travelling mercies and protection to and from Namibia. We also thank God for having given us this opportunity to experience and live another part of life. ☺



## Sign & Prophecy

was not the exception. I think everybody was looking at the window and wondering who was the next Pope. It was a long hour of hopeful expectation. I know it was not only Christians who were interested in the new Pope because the choice would, in a way, determine the way the Church is going to move. Then, after this unusually long hour we had the name of the new Pope mentioned. I guess most of the people both in St. Peter's square and in the whole world were left in awe as to who it'll be this new Pope. When I heard his name I immediately knew the person they were talking about. For a moment I thank God for having such a man of God to be our Pope.

Pope Francis, that is the way Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio chose to call himself. I think he did it purposely because, before being a Pope, he is a believer, a man who has strived to live as a child of God, a follower of Christ, a man of the Church, a brother of many brothers. The first impression to all of us who were waiting was of a man who was more surprised of his election than we were, his silent looking at the crowd of people gather there in Rome gave the impression of a person who was afraid of the ministry he was starting. However when he addressed the people of God, he gave a completely different impression: he was

a humble man who wanted to transmit the love of God even with his presence. He greeted as somebody we know would greet us 'bunna vera'.

That night Pope Francis taught us that the Pope was not supposed to be the most important. There, in our first 15 minutes with him, we learnt that God is always the most important and, because of that, we prayed to the Lord with him, as the way we used to do with our parents when we were little children: the very simple prayers for pope Benedict and then that prayer in silence for him and for the Church. He proposed to the whole Church to walk together to the encounter of the Lord. Then, he encouraged all of us to get tired of going back to the Lord because He does not get tired of forgiving us.

He finally reminded us that to be a Christian is to do exactly what God does: to give life, to take care! Christian life is more than doing this or avoiding that; to be a Christian is to take care of each other! Tenderness is a quality of God and also of all his children. Then, we are no to be afraid of tenderness; that is the way to take care of each other, having an approach of tenderness to all the creatures that surround us. Maybe the very first way to take care with tenderness to people around us is to respect them in their own diversity, giving witness of a God that loves and connects all His creatures.

Now we can know that the choosing of his name was not only a matter of taste, but it is a program for a whole pontificate. The program for the whole Church. The first and foremost reform of a Church passes through every single Christian, passes through you and me. Everybody, men within and also outsiders, wants to see a rejuvenated Church. We already have a program to grow with God and then God who is ever with His Church will also in this time be with Her to produce the fruits of love and thus give witness to a living God.

Education

Education has always been a basic human experience; from the earliest civilizations to our 21st century society expertise and knowledge have been transmitted from generation to generation. Education is an ongoing process of interaction between educators and students.

*By Gordie Chago Mundy*

**EDUCATING**  
young people TODAY

**A**s often as this topic is discussed, it leaves a lot of gaps when it comes to understanding it. On top of that, education is dynamic; the way in which a child was educated in the past is definitely not the same as young people

It must be remembered that where learning is concerned, there is an educator and the person 'to be educated'. Classical pedagogy put the educator at the centre of the learning process, where the educatee becomes the sole giver of knowledge and the 'student' on the receiving end. This is the process, it is to be said, that today in the education of a child there are many other things that demand consideration. Youth have developed or rather found themselves in their own culture where they have their own understanding; this understanding of the world, is a way differs from that of the adults'. This has become a threat to many adults as they think of the world in no longer meaningful to young people. Personally given I am rather different from the majority of adults, I see the world from myself and at the same time I am familiar with the Salislean Educative System. As such, I think I view it as both a youth and educator.

Today, it is difficult or even impossible to educate young people if you cut yourself off from the 'youth culture'. The 'youth culture' reminds us that we cannot go on trying to solve new problems using old solutions. In youth ministry, we often find the young people inviting us to participate in their world. Yet again, there are educators who refuse to enter this beautiful world.



Young people today are the leading protagonists in the so-called "Digital Continent". They are exposed to many things that come from the Media, much more than most adults. However, a strange thing today is to verify that a good number of educators waste lots of time and energy trying to correct behavioural patterns among the young, not bothering to find out where the traits they want to correct are coming

My appeal to all educators is to allow themselves to be challenged by their students and learn from them; to know what they know and what they do not know, and to experience life which will help them make a positive behavioural change. This attitude calls for an extraordinary effort to leave one's comfort zone of structured values and acquired knowledge to move to a zone where educator and student are both discovering the other side of the story and where the educator based on his experience helps the student to make his own choices and improve their knowledge; and even become educators of their peers.

Learning, using people today, as it has always been, it a wonderful process; it is more like an adventure.



Holy Mary, Mother of God, you have given the world its true light, Jesus your son - the Son of God. You abandoned yourself completely to God's call and thus became a wellspring of the goodness which flows forth from him. Show us Jesus, lead us to him. Teach us to know and love him, so that we too can become capable of true love and be fountains of living water in the midst of a thirsting world. (Pope Benedict XVI, Encyclical Letter, "God is Love" Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord, 2005)

Holy Mary, Mother of God you have given the world its true light, Jesus your son - the Son of God. Jesus is the light of the world (Jn 9:5). Jesus is our Light, our kindly Light leading us beyond the encircling gloom. It was Mary who gave us Jesus, her Son, to be our Light and a lamp for our steps (Ps 119:105) as we struggle on our earthly pilgrimage towards our Father's house (Jn 14:2). That is why we honour Mary so much, and thank her too. And that is why we thank God for giving us Mary, the mother of Jesus our Light.

Holy Mary, Mother of God... show us Jesus. We ask Mary, the mother of Jesus, to show us Jesus, her Son. In the beautiful and ancient hymn of the church, the "Salve Regina", the "Hail Holy Queen", there is a similar prayer: "and after this our exile, show unto us the fruit of your womb, Jesus".

Like these Greeks who came to Philip, we too "desire to see Jesus" (Jn 12:21). Like Zacharias, we too "desire to see Jesus" and "catch a glimpse of him" (Lk 19:34). With the great St. Augustine we too pray: "Lord, let me know you". And so we ask Mary, the mother of Jesus, to show us Jesus her Son.

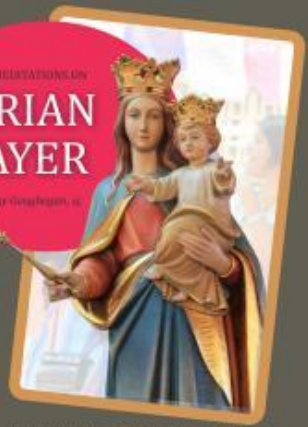
Holy Mary, Mother of God... lead us to Jesus. Teach us to know and love him.

To know Jesus is a great grace, the grace that St Paul prays that the early Christians at Ephesus would receive: "until knowing the love of Christ, which is above all knowledge, you are filled with the utter fullness of God" (Eph 3:19). To know Jesus into love eternal life is this: to know you, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom you have sent (Jn 17:3).

St Ignace of Loyola, in his spiritual exercises, encourages the retreat to pray for this grace while contemplating the mysteries of Christ's life in the

## MARIAN PRAYER

By Fr. Tony Gough, SDB



gospel: 'to ask for an interior knowledge of our Lord, who became human for me, that I may love him more intimately and follow him more closely'.

We should pray daily for the grace to know and love Jesus more because the heart of our motivation as disciples and members of the Church is our personal relationship with Jesus (Jn 15:14). And this was the source of St Paul's motivation as missionary and preacher of the Good News: "It is the love of Christ which urges us on" (2Co 5:14).

To be capable of true love means that we love one another as Jesus loved us (Jn 13:34). His love for us was a sacrificial love (Jn 15:13). His love for us was all-embracing, universal, including no one, not even his enemies who crucified him (Jn 13:34). Often our loving is not true, not genuine, not faithful. Sometimes our loving is mixed with a lot of selfishness. It can be flawed and marred by different forms of exclusivism - excluding either some individuals or groups from our so-called 'loving'.

Sometimes our loving is possessive and enduring instead of being liberating and life giving. And so we pray for the grace to become capable of true love. If our loving is true loving then we can become 'fountains of living water in the midst of a thirsting world'.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT...

By Dr. Jerome Dwaigwa SDB



1. Bauleni has been the home heart for most of the Salesians in ZMB Vice-Province because of its being the formation house in the past and also because most of the Ordinations, Renewals, First and Final Professions have taken place from there. Bauleni was the home where the first Formation House in ZMB Vice-Province.

2. That our father founder of ZMB Vice-Province Fr. Kazimierz Cichocki died peacefully in his room in Bauleni community while we were having the first International Youth Rally in Chingila in the jubilee year of the Lord-2000. He died on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2000.

3. Fr. Peter Gosiabishi was the first Salesian priest to be ordained on the soil of ZMB Vice-Province. He was ordained in Nsokobu (Lusaka Province) in 1990 while late on the same year Fr. Joseph Skworen was also ordained in Luwingu. That was the beginning of all Salesian priestly ordination in ZMB.

4. Bishop Clement Mulenga was the first local vocation to be ordained priest in the ZMB Vice-Province. He was ordained in Luwingu on 26<sup>th</sup> April 1998, and he became the first bishop of Kabwe Diocese and first Salesian bishop in ZMB vice province.

5. Next year we are celebrating the Silver

Jubilee of the first local vocation to the Salesian Congregation in the ZMB Vice-Province - Fr. Sylwester Makumba. He is the first Zambian Salesian and he made his first profession on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1909 in Leszko and his final profession on 29<sup>th</sup> October 1995 in Bauleni (ZAMBIA). Although Zambian, he belonged to the Warsaw Province.

6. The first Rectors of ZMB vice province were Fr. Kazimierz Cichocki rector of Luwingu, Fr. Jozef Bern rector of Chingila and Fr. Piotr Borycka rector of Kasembu. They were the first rectors when those communities still belonged to the Warsaw Province (PL) of which Zambia was a delegation.

7. The first Parish in ZMB Vice-Province was Luwingu mission and that Fr. Jozef Olszyski was the first Salesian Parish Priest; hence he was the first Parish Priest of ZMB.

8. The first Provincial Chapter in ZMB Vice-Province was held in 1995 and Fr. Jozef Czerwinski was its moderator. At the end of the Chapter, the first Provincial Directory was produced.

9. "Luwingu" was the first Salesian Headquarter for the Salesians in ZMB Vice-Province, since the Provincial Delegate, Fr. Kazimierz Cichocki resided there before he moved to Lusaka in 1985. The house at "Luni Road" became the second Headquarter, and then "Makana" being third, followed by "Chuwana" being the fourth headquarter up to today.

10. Most of the Local Salesian vocations in ZMB Vice-Province are from Northern Province of Zambia, Kasama Archdiocese to be more specific. From that part of the world, where we do not have any Salesian community at present.

11. Among the Salesians' presences that we have handed back (closed), IPUSUNILO Mission has been the place where we stayed the shortest period of time. The Salesians were there only for six years. We ran it after the White Fathers left in 1906, and we handed it back to Kasama Archdiocese 20<sup>th</sup> August 1992.

## Salesian World ANS

### world NEWS

(ANS - Mendoza) 17/5/2013 - Argentina - The hostel of the oratory opens to the homeless.

- For the second consecutive year the hostel of the oratory "Celerino Namuncura" in Mendoza, opens its doors to all adults who live on the street. A little more than a week of its initiation there are already 30 people who go there to sleep and get something hot to start the day. "This is the only place where we are treated as people", "because of the good food, like you, clean, with a job, the sturdy ... you take so much trouble to spend time with us?". "I'll be here the hostel reopened I want to stay as a volunteer, because I want to return all the good that I have received."



(ANS - Nairobi) - 17/5/2013 - Kenya - Communications Professionals at work.

Two important social communications events took place last week at Nairobi in Kenya: the 12th Seminar for Television Producers of SIGNIS (the World Catholic Association for Communications), and the Catholic Media Festival, organized by the Catholic Media Houses of the Archdiocese of Nairobi. Both events were attended by the staff of the Salesian Audiovisual Centre, Bosco Eastern Africa Multimedia



(ANS - Lubumbashi) - 30/4/2013 - Democratic Republic of Congo - Salesian Games 2013

Young people from all the Salesian centres in the province of Katanga, as well as those from parishes run by the Salesians, are taking part in the 2013 tournament of the Salesian Games at the playing fields of Boys' Town in Lubumbashi. The programme started ten days ago and will finish tomorrow.

Young people from the parishes and oratories came together on 20-21 April, and then, the following weekend 27-28 April, young people from the Salesian schools. On both occasions the young people were highly motivated and determined to bring home a cup. They took part in the different disciplines and displayed a high standard of sportsmanship and good behavior. The officials for the various competitions were the students of the St. Francis de Sales Institute of Theology and the St. John Bosco Institute of Philosophy of Kanabala and the members of the St. John Bosco Football Academy.

(ANS - Freetown) - 30/4/2013 - Sierra Leone - Don Bosco Fambul, stop sexual abuse and rape.

On the occasion of a press conference, on 19 April, the Salesian Brother Lothar Wagner

presented the annual report of the Girls Shelter. Since the Girls Shelter was opened, two years ago, 521 crisis interventions have been carried out including follow-up care for girls and young women who have experienced violence.

The Shelter is open all day long and staffed by professional social and pastoral workers. In comparison to last year, Brother Lothar this time presented shocking empirical findings. It is not only the increasing brutality of the perpetrators of violence against the girls that is alarming, but also the rising number of rapes against girls and young women under the age of 14.

"Some of the girls were kept like slaves by their tormentors, sometimes for years," Brother Lothar told the journalists. Among the perpetrators are teachers and religious leaders as well as complete strangers who are active in child trafficking.

"The behaviors that characterize the way the perpetrators act against the girls and young women bears testimony of the perpetrators' grave moral void: often times, they do not even regard themselves as criminals but present themselves as benefactors," the director said.

For more news of the Salesian World, visit: [www.ans.org](http://www.ans.org)

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER CAMP



Lusaka (ZAMBIA) 28-31/03/2013 - ZMB EASTER CAMP.

46 Youngsters from the Salesian Youth Movement gathered at the provincial house to celebrate the Easter Festival. The Youth Department of ZMB organised the annual Easter Camp 'Laying Christ' to help youngsters from the Salesian Youth Movement grow in their spiritual life by living the events of our salvation in a youthful atmosphere.

This year the event took place at the provincial house of ZMB Vice-Province (Lusaka - Chuwana), just as it was back in 2009. The participants came from various locations within ZMB: Namibia, Zimbabwe and Zambia; only Malawi was not represented. The event began on Holy Thursday with the arrival of the various delegations, the first reflection of the day was on the 'Joy of Service', in preparation for the Celebration of the Washing of the Feet.

Youngsters from the various communities mingled with their peers in groups for the liturgy, camping and various services. The interaction among them was remarkable and their participation in the liturgy praiseworthy. On Good Friday all events spin around the passion of Christ. The group went to the streets to celebrate the Way of the Cross.

On Saturday, the celebration of the Easter Vigil helped all recognise all our good God does for us. As the liturgy unfolded, the various readings showed all participants

the constant intervention of God in the history of salvation until its climax in the resurrection of Christ.

On the Resurrection Sunday one of the main reflections dwelt on the possibility of engaging in the Salesian Voluntary Service as a way to live out our Christian call.

The presence of the young people from the communities of the Salesian Sisters was very strong and the Sisters themselves participated fully in the programme giving lot of joy to the event.







## Volunteers' Meeting 2013

ANNUAL MEETING OF VOLUNTEERS  
Lusaka (ZAMBIA) 15-19/03/2013

Young volunteers from Austria, Czech Republic and Poland spend a few days of reflection at the provincial house of ZMB together with Fr. Antonio, the Provincial Youth Delegate and Mission Promotion. The main purpose of the meeting was to spend some time together, reflecting on the identity of the Salesian Volunteer and the Salesian Voluntary Service, the goals of the Salesian Voluntary Service and also to review the various aspects of the voluntary service in this part of Africa.

The meeting is a continuation of the formation programme volunteers undergo before coming to the province. During the meeting, the volunteers shared their community and working experiences.

The meeting started on Friday evening through Monday morning when after the mating and evaluation of the meeting the volunteers returned to their communities.

The experience of the Voluntary Service in ZMB is a phenomenon that is attracting many young people from Europe and other parts of the world as well as Africa to think of their Christian identity and avail themselves of a particular mission in the various sectors of the Salesian Mission here in Africa. ☺



## VOLUNTEERS



I am Ulrike Eberl. My home is in southern Austria on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August 2012, I came to Lusaka (capital city of Zambia) to spend one year in Lusaka working as a volunteer at the Don Bosco Youth Technical Institute. I "Computer Skills" and in 5 different classes I have students who are learning the most important things about computers. I am responsible for the First Year Students of the Information and Communication Technology in which I teach the ICOT (International Computer Driving License). On weekends I am working together with my co-volunteer Elisabeth at the Don Bosco Youth Centre. My main purpose is to take care of the youngest members of the Youth Centre, the children who are not old enough to join any of the various clubs which are working and training every day. At the centre there is the so-called "Kids Corner", it gives them a place to play, do some drawings and to make music at their will. Apart from the work at school and the youth centre we are part of an organisation called "BOSCO", founded by Austrian volunteers together with members of staff that support students financially but also in a support group to cope with the emotional challenges they face in day-to-day life. ☺

Voluntary service has become the practical expression of an interior attitude of service and solidarity.

A volunteer is a person who is growing towards a vision of life as a gift.



I am Elisabeth Graf. On August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012, I arrived in Lusaka, the capital city of Zambia to spend exactly 361 days for a voluntary service with the Salesians of Don Bosco. The Salesian project is huge and is based in Area 23 and is made up of a parish, a technical college, and a youth centre. While my friend Ulrike is teaching at school, I'm working at the Youth Centre. With more than 400 registered members, The Oratory-Youth Centre is also very big and offers a

wide variety of educational and recreational activities. Young people are coming to their football, play Scrabble and do weight lifting. They learn new dances or sing together in the Music Club. All together there are 16 different clubs at present, which welcome everyone who would like to join. In the morning I am working in the office of the Youth Centre to arrange registers, financial reports or whatever occurs. In the afternoon, I have to make sure that children and youth are assisted with their materials and help them organise games, shows and tournaments. For children we offer a playground, table games and since last year also what we call the "Kids Corner", where they can play unattended and gain important skills for life. In addition to this, UB and I are also working for the sponsorship organisation BOSCO, which supports students in the college. ☺



I am David Kholiba. I am 24 years old and I come from the Czech Republic. I've been in Africa since December, when I arrived with my wife Nadia to start our volunteering mission in the Don Bosco Technical College in Hwange, Zimbabwe. Last year I finished my studies and since then a software engineer I work in the college as a lecturer in a Computer Department. I teach both basic and advanced courses there, my other big commitment is in the oratory,

### REFLECTION

where we receive children and youth to play with them, let them compete in games and sports and also pray with them during the assembly at the end of each day. I'm in charge of some other duties as well. My volunteering service is a great experience that lets me do some of the things I like to do very much – being a volunteer, working with children and youth, having new food, listening to ethereal music, travelling and meeting new cultures with their customs and cultural differences. All of that is contained here in Hwange and I'm glad that I can be a part of a wonderful world of Salesian missions. ☺



To introduce myself I'll start by saying that, "my name is Nadia Bartolikova. I come from the Czech Republic, I'm 25 years old and since December I've been volunteering with my husband in Don Bosco Hwange, Zimbabwe." For me, to be part of a mission is like a fulfilled desire. When I was 18 years old, I got a prophesy about being a missionary in Africa. God was calling me later again, but I was so afraid that I set a condition – I will go only with a husband. Later I met David and we both felt the desire to be missionaries for one year of our lives. We got married after our university studies just before leaving for Zimbabwe. I studied Environmental Sciences which is close to computers and mathematics, this

in the Technical College I teach basics in those two fields. Although I'm not good in sports, with David we organise sports and gaming events and we run the centre. I'm living with the children, playing or making some drawings with them, teaching them to play guitar and different games and, what is the most important for me, sharing Jesus' love with all the students and oratorians. I'm grateful for having this chance to be a part of Salesian work. ☺



My name is Anna Gudzijewska. I'm 30 years old. I come from Poland. I stay in Zambia, in Kabwe in Don Bosco Youth Centre from September 2012. There is an Oratory for youth and for kids. The Oratory section for kids we started this year. This oratory is mainly during the weekends, but also it sometimes runs during the week. I have charge of the girls' group. My group is made up of about 50 girls. We play board games and some outdoor games too. We do some painting as well. Sometimes we do sports competitions for girls and boys together. Kids very like it. During the school holidays, I had special activities for children. We had also Christmas Party and Easter Party. On the weekends I go to Malakula, where I work in a project that prepares children to begin their schooling years. The name of the project is "Don Bosco Pre-school". There are about 100

children, age from 3 years to 9 years. There are 2 groups and the third one is my group. I teach Literacy, English, Maths and singing. Back to the community I also have other duties, for example painting and in the weekend I water the garden and do a bit of house cleaning. I'll stay in Zambia up to August 2013. I like this country. People here are very kind and I feel like one of them. ☺



My name is Tomasz Witekowski. I'm 26 years old. I come from Poland. In September 2012 I came to Zambia to work as a volunteer. I stay in Kabwe in place called: Don Bosco Youth Centre. I live together with three priests, one religious brother and another volunteer. This is our community and because I live together with priests in one place, I feel like I'm living in a convent, in the positive sense! It is an amazing and a very interesting experience. As a volunteer I do many different works: I teach computers, I water the garden in the weekends together with Anna; I do maintenance in the house and oratory. The work with the kids is what I like the most. I'm trying to be like a father to them and I want them to feel at home any time they come to Don Bosco Youth Centre. I'm going to stay in Zambia up to August 2013. I like Zambians are very friendly and I like them so much. Even the way they play makes me to feel so happy. ☺



## The Salesian Family Charism and Legacy



By Fr. Jorge E. Ornelas



Meeting of the members of the Salesian Family in Banská Bystrica (Slovakia)

Right from the beginning Don Bosco was not alone in the mission God entrusted to him. There was a group of people that in different forms had the same Spirit and shared the same mission, though in different Christian vocations. As the youth apostolate matured, Don Bosco realized that there was a movement of people gathered around him carrying out the mission God entrusted to him. Along time, the followers of Don Bosco and the movement of people around them have come to understand that their lives followed the same Spirit and shared the same mission. They understood they had a common Charismatic identity; it is from this vast movement of people that the Salesian Family was born.

The term 'family', in Salesian Family, describes the link that connects the different groups that compose it. The ties of spiritual relationship and of apostolic affinity link the different groups. These ties are an expression of communion that is interior, charismatic and spiritual. Though there are groups of diverse type they are united, as in a family, by common baptism (united with God and with His Church-Christian identity); by a common reference to Mary Help of Christians and to Don Bosco (Salesian history); by the spirit of Don Bosco (Salesian spirituality); by the same method (Salesian humanism); by the mission for the young



and the poor (Salesian mission), by recognizing a centre of unity in Don Bosco and his successors (Salesian Rector Major). The term 'Salesian', on the other hand, refers to a particular spiritualizing. Don Bosco took St. Francis de Sales as his patron and model in his humanism and his pastoral charity. St. Francis looked at life with optimism: people are good because God loves them (Salesian humanism) and gave himself completely to his people as Jesus the Good Shepherd (Pastoral charity).

The understanding on their common call, identity and mission of the Salesian Family has come to maturity in these last decades. The documents on the Salesian Family want to underline this understanding. The latest of these documents is the *Charter of the Charismatic Identity of the Salesian Family*. The Charter is the result of a long process of reflection and agreement of the World Consultative Committee of the Salesian Family. This charter gathers the reflections and the experiences of the previous documents. It describes the characteristics and the distinguishing elements of the Salesian Family.

All the groups in the Salesian Family participate in the Salesian Vocation. They share the same vocation, God's call to Don Bosco. They, like Don Bosco, experience God in a particular way, a God who calls them to be disciples and apostles. They, like Don Bosco, recognize themselves as apostles to the young and/or the working classes. They share the Salesian mission and they carry it out in their different ways of life.

Moreover, the Salesian Family does not only have the same vocation and the same mission. They also share the same method to carry out their apostolate: the Salesian educative method. The Salesian educative method is a way of realizing their mission inspired by the spiritual and pedagogical patrimony of Don Bosco. They collaborate with God the Father in his paternal concern for all his children, especially the most vulnerable. Through the sacraments, they enter in communion with Jesus, the Good Shepherd, who gives his life for his brothers and sisters. They are part of a larger community, the Church, which makes God present among us and is his missionary. They are in contact with people in

their daily activities and with the approach proper to the sons and daughters of Don Bosco, approach that is characterized by loving-kindness.

The members of the Salesian Family live their humanity in their concrete ways of life. Their way of life transpires a commitment. It is an evangelical life. Their commitment in their Christian lives is lived in active fraternity with other groups of the Salesian family. They work together with the other groups and they know



how to link forces to the betterment of the mission.

The Salesian Family is a living reality in the Church. It is the custodian of Don Bosco's spirituality and is called to have it alive in the larger Salesian movement by being precisely what they are: Salesians. Here we have tried to point out the history, the meaning, the identity in its main features, the vocation, the mission, the spirituality and the formation of the Salesian Family. ■



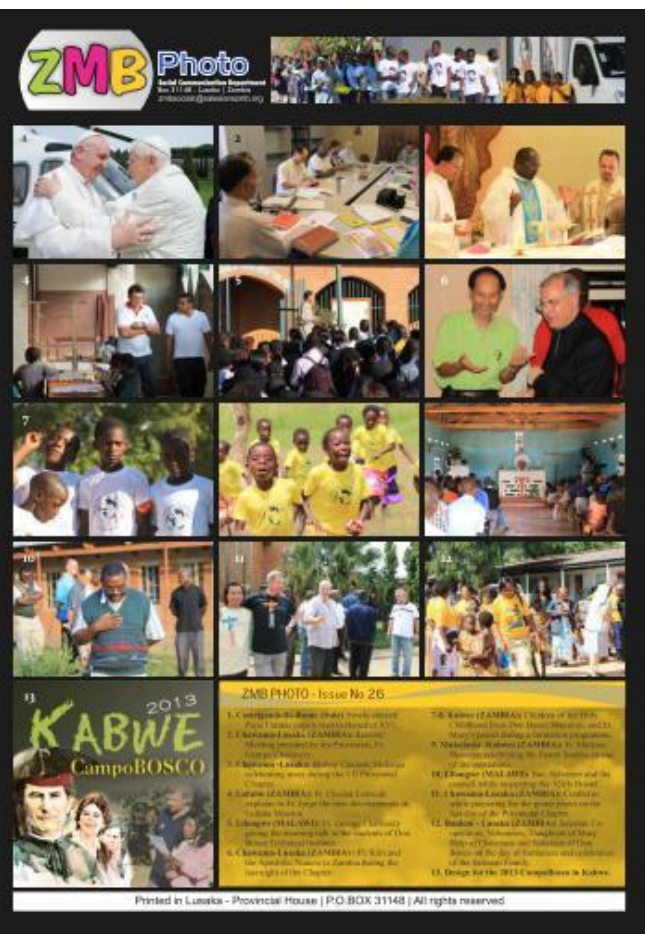
The Salesian Community of St. Isidoro (Lufubu) in co-operation with the Delegate for Mission Promotion in ZMB, Volunteers and Aspirants organised a series of conferences and other activities to commemorate the Salesian Mission Day 2013, from 01-06 May 2013. The meeting ended with the celebrations in honour of St. Dominic Savio. The Rector of the Community Fr. Czeslaw Lenczka invited the Mission Delegate of ZMB to organise together a "Mission-Week" for the children of Lufubu village in the north of Zambia, where the community is located. The idea was to create awareness on the sense of Mission in the Catholic community of Lufubu and to get to know the various ways in which all can participate in the missionary activity of the Church and the Salesian Congregation. Volunteers, Aspirants and some close collaborators came together to organise the event in which over 150 children, teenagers and adolescents took part. The event is part of the formation programme of the community in its outreach plan for the children and adolescents of Lufubu village (ZAMBIA) in order to help them grow and mature in their

faith, as good Catholics. The programme was based on series of meetings and group work on the theme of the "Initial Proclamation of Jesus". The starting point was to get to know Jesus more in depth as well as to share the joy of being his followers. The participants were very happy to share their own experience and suggested ways to let Jesus be known more and more among their parents, siblings and other relatives. Fr. Czeslaw organised a wonderful programme that included a visit to Lake Mweru (70km from Lufubu) in the border with Congo. D.R. All participants had the chance to attend mass by the lake and later on get a splash on the lake. Fr. Jorge Ornelas SDB, presided over the eucharist and stressed the idea of being missionaries by acknowledging the love of God and being witnesses of this love to all. During the various sessions, the three aspirants from Zambia, Adrian Matebeni, Andrew Phiri and I. Katonga helped with the translations from English into Bemba. Polish Volunteers Christopher and Ilona helped with the kitchen, movies and recreation. ■



Some people say: "paradise is the place where everyone longs to be." Is paradise already with us or it will be in future? One might ask this question. Of course, there are all sorts of meanings to the word 'paradise'. Nevertheless, we will discover that somehow the idea of an earthly paradise is already here with us but it depends on how each one makes efforts to relate with God, humans, beings and nature in order to experience it. It was during my short visit to Germany, from 22 to 27 of January 2013, when young people from all continents gathered in Bonn to share some ideas on the causes of migration. The topic helped us to look into how we can become self-sustainable especially if we had to remain in rural and/or undeveloped areas in order to develop them. It is a common way of thinking to say that "good life is only found in big cities". This is why we find many undeveloped areas especially on the country side. People have lost the essence of hard working, thinking that when you sit in class everything will be given on a silver plate. Is it not the very thing which has led to the increase in laziness hence leading to corruption? Many people have left their homes in search of greener pastures. Today, as it was in the past, this continues leading to the increase

in migrations from the rural areas to the big cities. But as people go to the long desired areas, all face big challenges like a new language, discrimination, hard living conditions, lack of proper sanitation, etc. During one of the sessions we had, three people from different countries shared their experiences as migrants: one of them from Kenya living in Germany for 8 years now, another from America also married in Germany and a third one from Germany who had gone to India as a volunteer. From these three experiences, we discovered that each person is a book in which you can read some of the challenges everyone faces in life. We did not look into migrations only, but six people who work with the young, we had to look into the things that can help young people to become good Christians and citizens of the society in which they live. Being the children of Don Bosco, we shared our experiences from our youth centres and areas where our work is done to see the challenges our communities face on daily basis. The meeting was an opportunity to learn from our unrecognized mistakes of our daily life. During one of the sessions, we had an exercise meant to give us an insight in problem-solving. In the exercise, we were given to make a bridge with 18 planks of the same size. We were not allowed to use nails but at the same time the bridge had to be strong enough to support a person. This exercise helped us to know all that it required to work as a group and to think outside the box. If you don't have someone to guide the group, where each person has to listen to other people's ideas, and where also everyone who can contribute, then nothing good will be done. The meeting ended with good resolutions; but above all, I believe that unless we start helping young people change their ways of thinking by showing them that through hard work and self-sacrifice we can develop our rural settings and make it a better place to live, the migration from the rural settings to big cities will be and endless story. People in the rural settings always hope that development will come from outside, as educators we ought to accompany the young to build up their communities, develop them and make it a wonderful place to live. ■



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ZMB Salesian Newslink

Like Jesus becoming radical in our love for the Father

Fr. Javier Antonio Barrientos

He read in the Gospels that to its rightful place: to the top of creation. In Jesus' view, Jesus did many things which society, with its laws and customs was to be at the service went in opposite direction to of man. His approach, controversial to society's standards society's trends. For was radical in every way; he did so because he felt God

Wditorial

example, he touched and applied mud loved him like a Son; and therefore his love for others into the blind's man eyes after he spat (especially the weak) was fruit of this love. on the ground and mixed it with dust Society undergoes tremendous and continuous change; (Jn 9:6); with this action –done on a generations succeed one another and although in many Sabbath, he not only challenged the ways some similar patters remain, it is never the same. Sabbath law but he also broke changed Nevertheless, society needs a positive change, too. the understanding that sicknesses Progress not always means making the world a better were God's punishment. He went even place for all. The rise of technology and scientific discovery further, to his own disciples –who at averts the presence of God, and this cannot go without first seemed to have grasped the consequences. meaning of discipleship, he challenged We know that the core of Christianity is Jesus Christ; and

therefore the call of Christianity is to bring God back to people's lives. The Church in many ways strives to be like Jesus, a sign in this world of the things to come. The Church, like Jesus- offers to society the opportunity to see things differently; to see at our world with God's eyes. The Salesian Congregation (which is part of the Catholic Church and fully present in today's society) is now about to

th

celebrate its 27 General Chapter. The Rector Major invites everyone “to become radical witness of the Gospel.” In other words, the chapter invites us all to be for our world like Jesus: signs of God's radical love for all, especially the weak and unloved! Surely, every Salesian is motivated and eager to take up the challenge.

their thirst for power and positions by

Our ZMB Vice-Province has just celebrated the 7th

telling that his kingdom is of a different

Provincial Chapter, a chapter that encouraged all to be

nature (Mt 20:23). His teaching and

radical in every way: in our relationships with each other

way doing things changed societal

and the people we minister; in our dealings, projects,

taboos and ways of thinking; he was

ministry, etc. The Provincial Chapter did not end with its

promoting a new culture. Jesus

last session, nor will it be kept as a beautiful document on a

created a culture where the weak and



shelf in our communities' library, but the Provincial  
undesired were now seen as people  
Chapter is a process that will help us become more like  
loved by God, rather than cursed by  
Jesus [radical like him in every way] and it will guide us  
him. Jesus showed that authority is  
through. It will remind us of God's love for all and our  
given to some for the purpose of  
response to this love will be our love for God and all his  
service. With Jesus, women and  
creation, after to the example Jesus gave us: radical in his  
children were no longer “property”  
love for the Father!  
but “people”. Jesus restored humanity  
W

ZMB Salesian Newslink

3

Don Bosco  
EDUCATOR

Fr Pascual Chavez SDBRECTOR MAJOR

SALESIAN PEDAGOGY  
IT'S ABOUT THE BAD GUYS  
TREMBLING BEFORE THE GOOD  
AND NOT THE GOOD  
TREMBLING BEFORE THE BAD

DD

rector major

ON BOSCO RELATES little, I was able to get it

together; I could feel the

I was a lively and soles of my bare feet clinging

attentive boy who, to the rope; becoming one

w i t h m u m ' s with my footsteps and I then  
permission went to the did as I wanted, glad to  
various festivals where there repeat and to invent other  
were acrobats and magicians. movements. That's why,  
I always put myself in the when I spoke to the boys, I  
front row, eyes fixed on their said to them: "Let's hold on to  
movements with which they easy things, but let's do it  
tried to distract the audience. with perseverance." There  
Little by little I could see their you have it: my down-totricks;  
returning home, I earth pedagogy, the result of  
repeated them for hours. But so many victories and as  
often the moves did not many defeats, with the  
produce the desired effect. It stubbornness that was one of  
wasn't easy to walk on that my most marked  
blessèd rope between two characteristics.  
trees. How many tumbles, That's how my style came  
how many peeled knees! And into being, to educate without  
how many times I was using big words, without any  
wanted to throw everything great ideological schemes,  
into the air ... Then I started without references to many  
again, sweaty, tired, famous authors. That was  
sometimes even how my pedagogy was born:  
disappointed. Then, a little by I learned on the meadows of

4

ZMB Salesian Newslink

the Becchi, later on the streets of Chieri,  
later still in prisons, in the streets, in the  
alleys of Valdocco. A pedagogy built in a  
courtyard.

I dared to prove it a few years later when I  
went to Chieri to continue my studies and  
was accepted by the teacher, in front of the  
whole class, with a not very exciting  
sentence: "This is a guy or a large mole or  
a great talent". It made me feel awkward  
in the extreme; I remember coping with  
these words: "That's something beyond  
the pale, Sir: I am a poor young man who  
wants to do his duty and progress in  
studies".

Then there was that blessed dream when I  
was 9-10 years old (the dream which was  
repeated many more times!) that I would  
get hammered, and the desire to become a  
priest for the boys became stronger ...



And then I did something that didn't make a genius of me, but in fact, achieved a beautiful victory in my character, a real breakthrough; i.e., stretch out your hand to ask for help, something just to realise my dream. I would admit a little later to a Salesian: "You don't know how much this begging cost me". With my proud temperament, it was certainly not easy to be humble enough to ask. My courage was empowered by a high level of trust in Providence; and also what I had learned from my mother. At her school I had learned one rule that led me everywhere: "When I encounter a problem, treat it as if I found the road ahead blocked by a big boulder; if I can't remove it, I just turn around."

And I assure you: I found many large boulders on my path. I shall briefly mention some of them: 1860, for example, was a typically difficult year. Fr Cafasso, my friend, confessor and spiritual director had died,: how much I missed his presence, his advice and his help with finances.

Then, from the Government side, I encountered serious difficulties, authentic "boulders": targeted searches which were disastrous to Valdocco, as if I were a criminal! My boys were living in fear, while armed guards entered every where. The

searches continued, creating a climate of fear and uncertainty. I wrote to the Minister of the Interior, Louis Farini, for an interview. I had the guts to tell him with humble determination: "For my kids I demand justice and restoration of honour so that they don't lack the bread of life". I know that he took a great risk because these men were an anticlerical Government, but I didn't lack the necessary courage. And so gradually the searches stopped.

I never gave up! I said to the boys: "The courage of the bad guys is not what makes others afraid. Be brave and you'll see them fold their wings". A French benefactor from Lyon had sent me a holy picture with a phrase I have never forgotten because it served as a guide: "Be with God like the sparrow that feels the branch shake but still continues to sing, knowing that it has

wings". It wasn't just a poetic expression, but an act of courageous confidence in the Providence of the Lord, because He alone

"is the master of our hearts".

When they were about to leave for their holidays, I used to say this to my kids: "Be men and not branches! Lift your head high, walk straight in the service of God, within the family and outside, in the Church and in the square. What is human respect? A papermachè monster that does not bite. What are the impertinent words of these bad guys? Soap-bubbles that disappear in an instant. We cannot cure adversaries and their taunts. Remember that knowledge without conscience is nothing but the ruin of the soul."

I never got tired of instilling into their little heads: "Give glory to God with your conduct, consolation to your relatives and your superiors. Otherwise a young, undisciplined 'lazybones', will be a disgraceful youth, a burden to his parents, a weight to his superiors, and a weight for himself".

The future would arise from Valdocco, "good citizens and honest Christians" of which the world has much need.

ZMB Salesian Newslink

5

Church Today | Pope Francis

Be open  
to the newness  
of the

HOLY SPIRIT  
Source: ZENIT.ORG

| Vatican City, May 20, 2013

By Junno Arocho Esteves

The Holy Father recalled the moment where the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples, giving them the strength to spread the Gospel.

“Newness always makes us a bit fearful, because we feel more secure if we have



everything under control, if we are the ones who build, program, and plan our lives,” Pope Francis said. “This is also the case when it comes to God. It is hard to abandon ourselves to him with complete trust, allowing the Holy Spirit to be the soul and guide of our lives.”

We fear that God may force us to strike out on new paths and leave behind our all too narrow, closed and selfish horizons in order to become open to his own. Yet throughout the history of salvation, whenever God reveals himself, He

brings newness—God always brings

newness—and demands our complete trust.” Drawing from the examples of Noah, Abraham and Moses, Pope Francis said that the “newness” of the Holy Spirit brought the joy, serenity and courage to proclaim the Gospel to the disciples of Christ. However, the Holy Father called on the faithful to ask themselves if they are “open to God's surprises” or if we are “closed and fearful before the newness of the Holy Spirit.”

“The Holy Spirit,” the 76 year old pontiff said, “would appear to create disorder in the Church, since he brings the diversity of charisms and gifts; yet all this, by his working, is a great source of wealth, for the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of unity, which does not mean uniformity, but which leads everything back to harmony.”

“In the Church, it is the Holy Spirit who creates harmony. Only the Spirit can awaken diversity, plurality, and multiplicity, while at the same time building unity. Here too, when we are the ones who try to create diversity and close ourselves up in what makes us different and other, we bring division. When we are the ones who want to build unity in accordance with our human plans, we end up creating uniformity, standardization. But if instead we let ourselves be guided by the Spirit, richness, variety and diversity never become a source of conflict, because he impels us to experience variety within the communion of the Church.”

Pope Francis reminded the members from all the various movements and ecclesial realities of the Catholic Church to always remain true to the Church, warning that when one embarks on a “parallel journey” that goes beyond the

Church's teaching, they “are not one with the God of Jesus Christ.”

Concluding his homily, the Holy Father emphasized the need for the Holy Spirit, comparing to the wind which fills the sails of the soul and drives it forward.

“The Holy Spirit,” the Pope concluded, “draws us into the mystery of the living God and saves us from the threat of a Church which is gnostic and self-referential, closed in on herself; He impels us to open the doors and go forth to proclaim and bear witness to the goodness of the Gospel.”

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ZMB Salesian Newslink

The Way Ahead

After the PC VII

Fr. George Chalissery SDB

Provincial Superior of ZMB

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the Salesian Sisters and also one from the Salesian Cooperators. This Provincial Chapter was in preparation for the Coming 27th General Chapter which will be held in Rome at our Generalate during the months of February, March and the beginning of April 2014. The Theme of the Chapter was “Witnesses to the Radical Approach of the Gospel – called to live in fidelity Don Bosco's apostolic project 'Work and Temperance’”.

At the outset I must say that the moderator of the Chapter, Fr Christopher Rychcik, did a very good job in planning and organizing the Chapter. Our communities in the Vice-Province and our confreres who were in Nairobi and Moshi, took active part in studying the theme of the Chapter. Those others who were outside the province were also eager to know what was going on in ZMB. Besides, the main theme of the Chapter, we also did an evaluation of our communities, revised the Province Directory and the Organic Provincial Plan.

All the confreres were involved in the preparation of the Provincial Chapter, even though we started the preparations rather late. We did not come up with any so-called 'radical' ideas or suggestions as one might have expected! But there were some other values that came forth and which I believe are a radical message for the province. There was a



very cordial and fraternal atmosphere during the discussions and deliberations of the Chapter. We also underlined the fact that whatever happens in every community is of interest to all the confreres of the Vice-Province. We were much more united and we all felt the need to own the Province. We are now 78 confreres from 15 nationalities... a truly international community. We find ourselves here as we all have the same aim of helping young people following the example of St John Bosco and in this process, becoming saints. Thus we challenge the young to follow our example of holiness. In a

big group like ours, there is always the danger of dividing ourselves into smaller groups according to national, ethnic or other basis. But to see a group of people from different places, all working together

the Seventh Provincial Chapter

for the same mission is perhaps the greatest gospel

which we had, from 10-18 April

message we can give to the people here.

2013, was a memorable event in

We have just celebrated the feast of Pentecost. The

the history of ZMB. There were 26

coming of the Holy Spirit made the apostles preach

Salesians, a representative from

to the people who had gathered together in Jerusalem from different corners of the earth.

Those who accepted the message of Peter were all baptized and became one single group of believers in Jesus, though they came from different backgrounds. The Holy Spirit made these different people into one group of believers. In the world today, we find so many divisions among different groups of people. It is so easy to break up into different groups. But I believe the Provincial Chapter made us into one group of Brothers who have the same aim to help young people in the context of our 4 countries of Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Namibia. I guess this feeling of unity is the best fruit of the Provincial Chapter. I am sure for us in ZMB, we have had a good past, but the best is yet to come. The Provincial Chapter has given birth to a new ZMB!

On 24th May the Church celebrates the feast of

Mary Help of Christians. Mary was the one who united the scattered apostles, and was keeping them together for the coming of the Spirit. She is the patroness of our Vice-Province. May Mary unite us all with that same desire to help young people like our father Don Bosco! May she guide and protect us every day of our life. Don Bosco was anxious towards the end of his life, whether the Salesians would stay together after his death. He would say: "Love one another as brothers; love one another, help one another and bear with one another as brothers. God's help and that of Mary Help of Christians will not be lacking. Promise me that you will love one another as Brothers" (Don Bosco).

I am sure all of us in ZMB would take to heart this exhortation that came from the heart of our father.

I wish you all dear friends a Very Happy Feast of Mary Help of Christians.

May we all enjoy her maternal intercession and guidance every day of our lives.

Thank you!

ZMB Salesian Newslink

7

SWSalesian Wdori

,(Kenya)y ordeacon will work in Bauleni Parishduring his holidays .

:: PROVINCIAL VISITATION ::  
(MALAWI) 16/05/2013.

The Provincial has conducted thecanonical visitation of the Salesian

:: MEETING OF MEMBERS OF

communities of Malawi: Lilongwe

and Nkhokota. At the end of his Lusaka – Bauleni (ZAMBIA)visitation t

THE SALESIAN FAMILY ::

provincial council joined him ino both communities, the 27/04/2013.The Community of Bauleni was the

Lilongwe to hold the Councilmeeting of May 2013. venue for the meeting of theThe Provincial arranged that members of the Salesian Family inProvincial council would meet the thethe the south cone. Daughters of Maryhouse council of both communities Help of Christians, Salesians of Donat Lilongwe an d Nkhokota Bosco and Salesian Cooperatorsrespectively. During the visit to gathered at Bauleni community toNkhokota, the Provincial also study the Chart of the Salesianvisited Don Bosco SecondFamily helped by Fr. Jose PastorSchool. ary SDB, the World facilitator of the

Salesian Family. Fr. Pastor came toZambia accompanied by Sr. LesleyFMA and Fr. Giuseppe S. from theormation Team of the Salesian

Seven Salesians of ZMB studying at the Salesian Theological College of Utume (Nairobi– Kenya) received ministries of Lector and Acolyte. The new Acolytes of ZMB Vice-Province are Apollinarious Hamweete, Peter Nguyen and

:: NEW MINISTRIES ::  
Nairobi (Kenya) 01/05/13.

:: DIACONATE ORDINATIONS :: :: ANNUAL RETREAT ZMB ::

Emmanuel M. Phiri. The new

Nairobi (Kenya) 19/05/13. Chawama -Lusaka (ZAMBIA)

Lectors are Simbarashe Muza, The Salesian Theological College of Christopher Mukuka, Martin Utume was graced with the Nguyen and John Musonda. The Feast of the Ascension 10-14/04/2013.-. SDB from AFE ordination of 14 deacons. The Provincial Superior of AFE, Fr. Province directed the first annual deacons were ordained by bishop Roland Gianni, spoke of the retreat of ZMB Vice-Province after Diocese (Zambia). Among those importance of the Ministries in for all confreres taking part in the Clement Mulenga of Kabwe Church more specifically as the the VII Provincial Chapter. The retreat ordained was Don Macarius

ones vocation towards priesthood. in Lusaka. Fr. Selvam helped the Salesian Parish in Kabwe. The participants to get in touch with ordination was held on the 18th of

Mpundu sdb who comes from the steps in discovering and deepening our place at the provincial house

themselves and reality, with the May 2013 at Utume in Nairobi

help of the “seven-step-retreat”. In . The newly ordained

facilitator

some of his talks, he emphasized the idea of moving to

Go towards a closer relationship with

in Jesus as the basis for personal renewal. 'Conversion is not a personal achievement but the work of God's grace in us', headed.

8  
formation day organised by the St. Francis Family. Mary's Parish. At the end of the

Kabwe, Mansa, Mazabuka, Namibia The participants came from gathering all participants received a t-shirt donated by the Sternsings and Lusaka. At the end of the

of St. Bernard Parish in  
meeting, children performed some Badherrenalb (Germany). traditional dances.

ZMB Salesian Newslink

650 Children from Don Bosco Makululu participated in the

:: HOLY CHILDHOOD  
FORMATION DAY - DON BOSCO



MAKULULU::  
Kabwe (ZAMBIA) 06/04/2013.

SalesianZMB

“Witnesses

to the Radical Approach of the Gospel– called to live in fidelity to Don Bosco's apostolic project:

'Work and Temperance”

VII PROVINCIAL CHAPTER OF ZMB VICE-PROVINCE Lusaka (ZAMBIA) 14/04/2013.-The provincial Superior of ZMB, Fr. George Chalissery officially inaugurated the VII Provincial Chapter on the morning of 13 April 2013. The Provincial Chapter was once again celebrated at the provincial house (Chawama) in the preparation for the 27 General Chapter of the Salesian Congregation that will take place in Rome from February to April 2014. Fr. Chalissery welcomed and thanked all participants to the provincial chapter the Moderator, Fr. Christopher Rychcik and most especially he expressed his gratitude towards Fr. Christopher for the contribution from the Rychcik, the moderator of the chapter. communities resulted in a very The Chapter began with the Eucharistic celebration; it was presided by Right Condensed yet comprehensive Rev. Bishop Clement Mulenga SDB, who is invited to the chapter as one of the 5 document. external. In his homily, Bishop Clement emphasised the importance of the The second and third days were also chapter in the life of the province. Bishop Clement encouraged the members of spent in group work, this time dealing the Chapter to be united and to cherish the riches of the various cultural groups with the Organic Provincial Plan and the which make up the Vice-Province. revision of the Provincial Directory. During the Chapter sessions, the Provincial, Fr. George Chalissery read his Towards the end of the Chapter, the Moderator led the election of the Delegate of ZMB report, which was followed by that of the provincial economist. Vice-Province to the General Chapter. The lot fell on Fr. Michael Mbandama; his substitute The Chapter members spent a good deal of time, gathered in groups, studying is Fr. Norbert Lesa. the working paper. The group work was later on presented to the general On the last day, the Provincial Superior of ZMB officially concluded the VII Provincial assembly for the approval of their deliberations which was subsequently Chapter; and invited all participants to join the celebrations of the 2013 Provincial Day. recorded by the secretaries to be sent to Rome at the end of the Chapter. The th During the Eucharistic celebration there was a special mention of the 50 Anniversary of themes for the group work were: “Mystics in the Spirit”, “Prophets of the Religious Profession of Fr. Andrew Zdzieborski, 25 Anniversary of Religious Profession Fraternity” and “Servants of the Young”. There were two additional documents th of Fr. Slawomir Bartodziej and the 25 Anniversary of Priestly Ordination of Fr. Michal on the “Re-organisation of the Africa-Madagascar Region” and the possible Wzietek. modification of Constitutions Art. 172. The discussions proved to be very useful and enriching, the fruit of the work of

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## YOUTHCONFERENCE RUNDU | NAMIBIA

Our trip to Rundu, Namibia was born from the Easter Camp

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that was held in Chawama from the 28 to the 31 of March 2013 with the theme "CHRIST LIVES, he invites us to bemissionaries". It was there that the young people from Namibia invited us to attend their Youth Conference. They said that they have attended youth rallies here in Zambia as well as some of the Easter Camps hence they wanted at least about 5 youth from Zambia also to attend their youth program as a way of encouraging their fellow young people in Rundu to be active youths, and to experience how they run their youth programs. It was great for me to attend the conference together with Robert, unlike the other 3 who did not make it. This invitation came at the right time and for me it made the theme for Easter Camp even more meaningful in the sense that we answered Christ's call of being missionaries.

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The conference ran from the 2 to the 5 of May 2013.

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Robert and I started off on the morning of 1 of May. The special advisor for the youth (Paulus Tchavu) picked us up from Katima Mulilo border and we reached Rundu at 01:50 hrs. The conference was in Kaguni at the premises of a primary

nd

school. We went to attend the conference on the 2 and it was basically about introductions. We were privileged to be given time to say a few words of which we did, it was an amazing moment. The second day of the conference was entirely a sports day: basketball, netball, football and many other mini sports. They also had a bible quiz on this very day. We also took this opportunity to visit St Mary's Parish and we spent sometime there watching the holy childhood rehearse for feast of Dominic Savio. The third day is the one I enjoyed the most. The young people started by showcasing their cultural dances. It was really beautiful and 5 different youth groups took part. Later in the day there was a singing competition in which both senior and junior youths took part. This is a competition that attracted a lot of viewers. People from other places came to watch this competition. The performance of the choirs was amazing; the judges had tough time in doing their job. The conference was closed with mass on Sunday the 5th of May.

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ZMB Salesian Newslink

By Taonga Phiri

taongaphiri54@gmail.com

MY OVERALL VIEW OF THE CONFERENCE  
I discovered that young people in Rundu are very energetic and vibrant. They are too much into culture and singing. The spiritual part needs more development. They need programs that can build on their faith. They also need people who can help them to implement their programs. I was impressed with one youth who is married and is very active at youth programs; she even had a misunderstanding with her husband concerning her activeness but she stood up for what she believes in. Another man also impressed me; he married his fellow youth when they were both vibrant young people. The two of them now have a son who is also a vibrant youth. The couple is always present at almost all youth activities as a way of keeping the youth ministry alive and this proves that the spirit of Don Bosco is alive in Rundu. This conference made me realize that it's always important to stand for what we believe in if we want to be good Christians; so many things come in our way on our Christian journey. We are accused of doing so many things that we have not done, we are judged unjustly and many times we are hurt but this should not hinder our relationship with God.

OUTSIDE THE CONFERENCE  
We had a great time in Rundu; we visited a few places such as the beach and the river that demarcates Namibia and Angola. We left Rundu

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on the 7 of May 13, 2013 around 02hrs in the morning. We thank God for his travelling mercies and protection to and from Namibia. We also thank God for having given us this opportunity to experience another part of life.

Jorge Mario BERGOGLIO Pope FRANCIS  
Sign &  
Prophecy  
Jorge Mario BERGOGLIO Pope FRANCIS  
Sign &  
Prophecy

was not the exception. I think everybody was looking at the window and waiting who will

hour of hopeful expectation. I know it

I be the next Pope. It was a long

was not only Christians who were

interested in the new Pope because

choice would, in a way, determine the  
the

way the Church is going to move. Then,

after that unusually long hour we had

the name of the new Pope being

mentioned. I guess most of the people

both in St. Peter's square and in the



whole world were left in awe as to who  
is this new Pope. When I heard his name  
I immediately knew the person they  
were talking about. For a moment I  
thank God to have such a man of God to  
be our Pope.

Pope Francis, that is the way Cardinal  
Jorge Bergoglio chose to call himself. I  
think he did it purposely because, he,  
before being a Pope, is a believer, a man  
who has strived to live as a child of God, a  
follower of Christ, a man of the Church, a  
brother of many brothers. The first  
impression to all of us who were waiting  
was of a man who was more surprised of  
his election than we were; his silent  
looking at the crowd of people gathered  
there in Rome gave the impression of a  
person who was afraid of the ministry  
he was starting. However, when he  
addressed the people of God, he gave a  
completely different impression: he was

By Fr. Jorge E. Ormeño sdb

a humble man who wanted to transmit the love of God even with his presence. He greeted as somebody we know would greet us: 'buona sera'. That night Pope Francis taught us that the Pope was not supposed to be the most important. There, in our first few minutes with him, we learnt that God is always the most important and, because of that, we prayed to the Lord with him, as the way we used to do with our parents when we were little children: the very simple prayers for Pope Benedict and then that prayer in silence for him and for the Church. He proposed to the whole Church to walk together to the encounter of the Lord. Then, he encouraged all not to get tired of going back to the Lord because He does not get tired of forgiving us. He, finally, reminded us that to be a Christian is to do exactly what God does: to give life, to take care! Christian life is more than doing this or avoiding that; to be a Christian is to take care of each

other! Tenderness is a quality of God and also of all his children. Then, we are not to be afraid of tenderness; that is the way to take care of each other, having an approach of tenderness to all the creatures that surround us. Maybe the very first way to take care with tenderness to people around us is to respect them in their own diversity, giving witness of a God that loves and respects all His creatures. Now we can know that the choosing of his name was not only a matter of taste, but it is a program for a whole pontificate, a program for the whole Church. The first and foremost reform of a Church passes through every single Christian, passes through you and me. Everybody, from within and also outsiders, wants to see a rejuvenated Church. We already have a program to grow with God and then God who is ever present with His Church will also in this time be with Her to produce the fruits of love and thus give witness to a living God.

ZMB Salesian Newslink

11

Education has always been a basic human experience; from the earliest civilizations to our XXI century society expertise and knowledge have been transmitted from generation to generation. Education is an ongoing process of interaction between educators and students.

By Gordon Chongo Mutale

## EDUCATING

### young people TODAY

A child which was educated in the past is definitely not the same as young people are educated today. It must be remembered that where learning is concerned, there is an educator and the person "to be educated". Classical pedagogy put the educator at the centre of the learning process, where the educator becomes the sole giver of knowledge and the "student" on the receiving and passive side of the process. It is a fact that today in the education of a child there are many other things that demand consideration. Youth have developed or rather found themselves in their own culture where they have their own understanding; this understanding of the world, in a way differs from that of the adults'. This has become a threat to many adults as they think their traditional beliefs and understanding of the world is no longer meaningful to young people. I personally give it rather different interpretation. Maybe it is because I am a youth myself and at the same time I am familiar with the Salesian Educative System. As such, I think I view it as both a youth and educator. Today, it is difficult or even impossible to educate young people if you cut yourself off from the 'youth culture'. The 'youth culture' reminds us that we cannot go on trying to solve new problems using old solutions. In youth ministry, we often find the young people inviting us to participate in their world. Yet again, there are educators who refuse to enter this beautiful world.

understanding it. On top of that, education is dynamic; the way in which it leaves a lot of gaps when it comes to the subject, as often as this topic is discussed, it

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ZMB Salesian Newslink

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Young people today are the leading protagonists in the so-called "Digital Continent". They are exposed to many things that come from the Media, much more than most adults. However, a strange thing today is to verify that a good number of educators waste lots of time and energy trying to correct behavioural patterns among the young, not bothering to find out where the traits they want to correct are coming from. My appeal to all educators is to allow themselves to be challenged by their students and learn from them; to know what they know best and from there draw out the experience of life which will help them make a positive behavioural change. This attitude calls for an extraordinary effort to leave one's comfort zone of structured values and acquired knowledge to move to a zone where educator and student are both

discovering the other side of the story and there the educator based on his experience helps the student to make his own choices and improve their knowledge; and even become 'educators' of their peers. Educating young people today, as it has always been, is a wonderful process: it is more like an adventure!

Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
you have given the world its true light,  
Jesus your son – the Son of God.  
You abandoned yourself completely  
to God's call and thus became  
a wellspring of the goodness  
which flows forth from him.  
Show us Jesus, Lead us to him.  
Teach to know and love him,  
so that we too can become  
capable of true love  
and be fountains of living water  
in the midst of a thirsting world.

(Pope Benedict XVI, Encyclical Letter,  
“God is Love” Solemnity of the Nativity of the  
Lord, 2005)

Holy Mary, Mother of God you have given the world  
its true light, Jesus your son the Son of God. Jesus is the Light of the world (Jn 9:5). Jesus is our Light, our  
kindly Light leading us beyond the

encircling gloom. It was Mary who gave us Jesus, her Son, to be our Light and a lamp for our steps (Ps 119:105) as we struggle on our earthly pilgrimage towards our Father's house (Jn 14:2). That is why we honour Mary so much, and thank her too. And that is why we thank God for giving us Mary, the mother of Jesus our Light.

By Fr. Tony Geoghegan, sj.  
MEDITATIONS ON  
Holy Mary, Mother of God... show us Jesus

We ask Mary, the mother of Jesus, to show us Jesus, her Son. In the beautiful and ancient hymn of the church, the 'Salve Regina', the 'Hail Holy Queen', there is a similar prayer: “and after this our exile, show unto us the fruit of your womb, Jesus”. Like those Greeks who came to Philip, we too “desire to see Jesus” (Jn 12:22). Like Zaccheus, we too “desire to see Jesus” and “catch a glimpse of him” (Lk 19:3.4). With the great St. Augustine we too pray: “Lord, let me know you”. And so we ask Mary, the mother of Jesus, to show us Jesus her Son.

Holy Mary, Mother of God... Lead us to Jesus. Teach  
to know and love him

To know Jesus is a great grace, the grace that St Paul prayed that the early Christians at Ephesus would receive: “until knowing the love of Christ, which is above all knowledge, you are filled with the utter fullness of God” (Eph 3:19). To know Jesus is to have eternal life: this is to know you, the only true God and Jesus Christ whom you have sent (Jn 17:3). St Ignatius of Loyola, in his spiritual exercises, encourages the retreat to pray for this grace while contemplating the mysteries of Christ's life in the

gospels: 'to ask for an interior knowledge of our Lord, who became human for me, that I may love him more intensely and follow him more closely.' We should pray daily for the grace to know and love Jesus more because the heart of our motivation as disciples and apostles of the Lord is our personal relationship



with Jesus (Jn 15:14). And this was the source of St Paul's motivation as missionary and preacher of the Good News: "It is the love of Christ which urges us on" (2Co 5:14). To be capable of true love means that we love one another as Jesus loved us (Jn 13:34). His love for us was a sacrificial love (Jn 15:13). His love for us was all embracing, universal, excluding no one, not even his enemies who crucified him (Lk 23:34). Often our loving is not true, not genuine, not faithful. Sometimes our loving is mixed with a lot of selfishness. It can be flawed and marred by different forms of exclusivism – excluding either some individuals or groups from our so-called 'loving'. Sometimes our loving is possessive and enslaving instead of being liberating and life giving. And so we pray for the grace to become capable of true love. If our loving is true loving then we can become 'fountains of living water in the midst of a thirsting world.'

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DID YOU KNOW THAT...

by Dn. Jerome Bwalya sdb

1. Bauleni has been the home heart for most of the Salesians in ZMB Vice-Province because of its being the formation house in the past and also because most of the Ordinations, Renewals, First and Final Professions have taken place from there. Bauleni was the home was the first Formation House in ZMB Vice Province.
2. That our father founder of ZMB Vice-Province Fr. Kazimierz Cichecki died peacefully in his room in Bauleni community while we were having the first International Youth Rally in Chingola in the jubilee year of the Lord-2000. He died on 9th September 2000.
3. Fr. Peter Gozdalski was the first Salesian priest to be ordained on the soil of ZMB Vice-Province. He was ordained in Nsaka Lubwa (Luapula Province) in 1990 while late on the same year Fr. Joseph Skowron was also ordained in Luwingu. That was the beginning of all Salesian priestly ordination in ZMB.
4. Bishop Clement Mulenga was the first local vocation to be ordained priest in the ZMB Vice-Province. He was ordained in  
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Luwingu on 26 April 1998, and he became the first of Kabwe Diocese and first Salesian bishop  
bishop in ZMB vice province.

5. Next year we are celebrating the Silver  
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Jubilee of the first local vocation to the Salesian Congregation in the ZMB Vice-Province – Br. Sylvester Makumba. He is the Zambian Salesian and he made his

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first

first profession on 1 Lesotho and his final profession on 29 October 1989 in the

tober 1995 in Bauleni (ZAMBIA). Although Zambian, he belonged to the Warsaw Province.

6. The first Rectors of ZMB vice province Luwingu, r Kazimierz Cichecki rector of were F. Fr. Jozef Bem rector of Chingola and Fr. Piotr Boryczka rector of Kazembe. They were the first rectors when these communities still belonged to the Warsaw Province (PLE) of which Zambia was a delegation.
7. The first Parish in ZMB Vice-Province was Luwingu mission and that Fr. Jozef Ojczyk was the first Salesians Parish Priest; hence he was the first Parish Priest of ZMB.
8. The First Provincial Chapter in ZMB Vice-Province was held in 1995 and Fr. Jozef Czerwinski was its

moderator. At the end of the Chapter, the first Provincial Directory was produced.

9. "Luwingu" was the first Salesian Headquarter for the Salesians in ZMB Vice-Province, since the Provincial Delegate, Fr. Kazimierz Cichecki resided there before he moved to Lusaka in 1985. The house at "Luzi Road" became the second Headquarter, and then "Makeni" being third, followed by "Chawama" being the fourth headquarter up to today.

10. Most of the Local Salesians vocations in ZMB Vice-Province are from Northern Province of Zambia, Kasama Archdiocese to be more specific! From that part of the world, where we do not have any Salesian community at present.

11. Among the Salesians presences that we have handed back (closed), IPUSUKILO Mission has been the place where we stayed the shortest period of time. The Salesians were there only for six years. We ran it after the White Fathers left in 1986, and we  
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handed it back to Kasama Archdiocese 20 August 1992.

SWSalesian WdorlANS ANS  
(ANS – Mendoza) 17/5/2013 -  
Argentina -The hostel of the

oratory opens to the  
homeless.

– For the second consecutive  
year the hostel of the oratory  
"Ceferino Namuncurá" in  
Mendoza, opens its doors to all  
adults who live on the street. A  
little more than a week of its  
initiation there are already 30  
people who go there to sleep and  
get something hot to start the  
day. "This is the only place where  
we are treated as people";  
"because of the good folk like  
you, clean, with a job, the study  
... you take so much trouble to  
spend time with us?"; "If this year  
the hostel reopened I want to  
stay as a volunteer, because I  
want to return all the good that I  
have received."

presented the annual report of  
the Girls Shelter. Since the Girls  
Shelter was opened, two years  
ago, 521 crisis interventions  
have been carried out including  
follow-up care for girls and young  
women who have experienced  
violence.

The Shelter is open all day long  
and staffed by professional  
social and pastoral workers. In  
comparison to last year, Brother  
Lothar this time presented  
shocking empirical findings. It is

not only the increasing brutality of the perpetrators of violence against the girls that is alarming, but also the rising number of rapes against girls and young

(ANS – Nairobi) – 17/5/2013 -  
Kenya -Communications  
Professionals at work.

Two important social communications events took place last week at Nairobi in Kenya: the 12th Seminar for Television Producers of SIGNIS (the World Catholic Association for Communications), and the Catholic Media Festival, organized by the Catholic Media Houses of the Archdiocese of Nairobi. Both events were attended by the staff of the Salesian Audiovisual Centre, Bosco Eastern Africa Multimedia

(ANS – Lubumbashi) –  
30/4/2013 -Democratic  
Republic of Congo - Salesian  
Games 2013

Young people from all the Salesian centres in the province of Katanga, as well as those from parishes run by the Salesians, are taking part in the 2013 tournament of the Salesian Games at the playing fields of Boys' Town in Lubumbashi. The programme started ten days ago and will finish tomorrow. Young people from the parishes and oratories came together on 20-21 April, and then, the following weekend 27-28 April, young people from the Salesian schools. On both occasions the young people were highly motivated and determined to bring home a cup. They took part in the different disciplines and displayed a high standard of sportsmanship and good behavior. The officials for the various competitions were the students of the St Francis de



Sales Institute of Theology and the St John Bosco Institute of Philosophy of Kansebula and the members of the St John Bosco Football Academy.

(ANS – Freetown) – 30/4/2013 -  
Sierra Leone -Don Bosco  
Fambul: stop sexual abuse  
and rape.

On the occasion of a press conference, on 19 April, the Salesian Brother Lothar Wagner

women under the age of 14. “Some of the girls were kept like slaves by their tormentors, oftentimes for years,” Brother Lothar told the journalists. Among the perpetrators are teachers and religious leaders as well as complete strangers who are active in child trafficking. “The boldness that characterizes the way the perpetrators act against the girls and young women bears testimony of the perpetrators’ grave moral void; oftentimes they do not even regard themselves as criminals but present themselves as benefactors,” the director said.

For more news of the Salesian World, visit [www.infoans.org](http://www.infoans.org)  
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HOLY WEEK AND EASTER CAMP the constant intervention of God in the history of salvation until its climax in the resurrection of Christ. On the Resurrection Sunday one of the main reflections dwelt on the possibility of engaging in the Salesian Voluntary Service as a way to live out our Christian call. The presence of the young people from the communities of the Salesian Sisters was very strong and the Sisters themselves participated fully in the programme giving lot of joy to the event. Lusaka (ZAMBIA) 28-31/03/2013.-

ZMB EASTER CAMP..46 Youngsters from the Salesian Youth Movement gathered at the provincial house to celebrate the Easter Festival. The Youth Department of ZMB organised the annual Easter Camp 'Living Christ' to help youngsters from the Salesian Youth Movement grow in their spiritual life by living the events of our salvation in a youthful atmosphere. This year the event took place at the provincial house of ZMB Vice-Province [Lusaka – Chawama], just as it was back in 2009. The participants came from various locations within ZMB: Namibia, Zimbabwe and Zambia; only Malawi was not represented. The event began on Holy Thursday with the arrival of the various delegations; the first reflection of the day was on the 'Joy of Service', in preparation for the

Celebration of the Washing of the Feet. Youngsters from the various communities mingled with their peers in groups for the liturgy, camping and various services. The interaction among them was remarkable and their participation in the liturgy praiseworthy. On Good Friday all events spin around the passion of Christ. The group went to the streets to celebrate the Way of the Cross. On Saturday, the celebration of the Easter Vigil helped all recognise all our good God does for us. As the liturgy unfolded, the various readings showed all participants

:: ANNUAL MEETING OF VOLUNTEERS ::  
Lusaka (ZAMBIA) 15-19/03/2013

Young volunteers from Austria, Czech Republic and Poland spend a few days of reflection at the provincial house of ZMB together with Fr. Antonio, the Provincial Youth Delegate and Mission Promotion. The main purpose of the meeting was to spend some time together, reflecting on the identity of the Salesian Volunteer and the Salesian Voluntary Service, the goals of the Salesian Voluntary Service and also to revise the various aspects of the voluntary service in this part of Africa. The meeting is a continuation of the formation programme volunteers undergo before coming to the province. During the meeting, the volunteers shared their community and working experiences. The meeting started on Friday evening through Monday morning when after the outing and evaluation of the meeting the volunteers returned to their communities. The experience of the Voluntary Service in ZMB is a phenomenon that is attracting many young people from Europe and other parts of the world as well as Africa to think of their Christian identity and avail themselves of a particular mission in the various sectors of the Salesian Mission here in Africa.

Volunteers' Meeting 2013  
ZMB  
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Salesian Missions |

wide variety of educational and

## VOLUNTEERS

recreational activities. Young

people are coming to train football,  
I am Ulrike Ebner. I left my home in play Scrabble and do weight lifting.  
southern Austria on the 26 th of They learn new dances or sing  
August 2012. I came to Lilongwe together in the Music Club. All  
(capital city of Malawi) to spend together there are 16 different clubs  
one year in Lilongwe working as a at present, which welcome  
volunteer at the Don Bosco Youth everyone who would like to join. In  
Technical Institute. I "Computer the mornings I am working in the  
Skills" and in 5 different classes I office of the Youth Centre to  
have students who are learning the arrange registers, financial reports  
most important things about or whatever occurs. In the  
computers. I am responsible for the afternoon, I have to make sure that  
First Year Students of the children and youth are assisted  
Information and Communication with their materials and I help them  
Technology to whom I teach the organise games, shows and  
ICDL (International Computer tournaments. For children we offer  
Driving License). On weekends I a playground, table games and  
am working together with my co-since last year also what we call the  
volunteer Elisabeth at the Don "Kids Corner", where they can  
Bosco Youth Centre. My main play untroubled and gain important

pursuit is to take care of the skills for life. In addition to this, Ulli youngest members of the Youth and I are also working for the Centre, the children who are not sponsorship organisation BOSCO, old enough to join one of the which supports students in the various clubs which are meeting college.

and training every day. At the centre there is the so-called "Kids Corner", it gives them a place to play, do some drawings and to make music at their will. Apart from the work at school and the youth centre we are part of an organisation called "BOSCO", founded by Austrian volunteers together with members of staff that supports students financially but also in is a support group to cope with the emotional challenges they face in day-to-day life.

Voluntary service  
has become  
the practical expression  
of an interior  
attitude of service  
and solidarity.

A volunteer  
is a person  
who is growing towards  
a vision of life  
as a gift.

I am Elisabeth Graf. On August I am David Krkoška. I am 24 years

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17 , 2012, I arrived in Lilongwe, the old and I came from the Czech capital city of Malawi to spend Republic. I've been in Africa since exactly 361 days for a voluntary December, when I arrived with my service with the Salesians of Don wife Nada to start our volunteering Bosco. The Salesian project is huge mission in the Don Bosco and is based in Area 23 and is made Technical College in Hwange, up of a parish, a technical college Zimbabwe. Last year I finished my and a youth centre. While my studies and since I'm a software friend Ulli, is teaching at school, engineer I work in the college as a I'm working at the Youth Centre. lecturer in a Computer With more than 400 registered Department. I teach both basic and members. The Oratory-Youth advanced courses there; my other Centre is also very big and offers a big commitment is in the oratory,

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where we receive children and in the Technical College I teach children, age from 3 years to 9 youth to play with them, let them basics in those two fields. Although years. There are 2 groups and the

compete in games and sports and I'm not good in sports, with David third one is my group. I teach also pray with them during the we organize sports and gaming Literacy, English, Maths and assembly at the end of each day. I'm events and we run the oratory. I love singing. Back in the community I

in charge of some other duties as being with the children, playing or also have other duties, for example well. making some drawings with them, painting and in the weekend I water

My volunteering service is a great teaching them to play guitar and the garden and do a bit of house experience that lets me do some of different games and, what is the cleaning. I'll stay in Zambia up to the things I like to do very much – most important for me, sharing August 2013. I like this country. being a volunteer, working with Jesus' love with all the students and People here are very kind and I feel children and youth, tasting new oratorians. I'm grateful for having like one of them.

food, listening to ethnical music, this chance to be a part of Salesian travelling and meeting new cultures work.

with their customs and cultural differences. All of that is combined here in Hwange and I'm glad that I can be a part of a wonderful world of Salesian missions.

My name is Tomek Witkowski. I'm

26 years old. I am from Poland. In

My name is Anna Gordziejewska. September 2012 I came to Zambia

I'm 30 years old. I come from to work as a volunteer. I stay in

Poland. I stay in Zambia, in Kabwe Kabwe in place called: Don Bosco in Don Bosco Youth Centre from Youth Cente. I live together with

September 2012. There in Kabwe three priests, one religious brother

To introduce myself I'll start by there is an Oratory for youth and and another volunteer. This is our saying that, “my name is Nada for kids. The Oratory section for

community and because I live

Bartunková; I come from the kids we started this year.

together with priests in one place, I

Czech Republic, I'm 25 years old This oratory is mainly during the feel like I'm living in a convent, in and since December I've been weekends, but also it sometimes the positive sense! It is an amazing

volunteering with my husband in runs during the week. I have charge and a very interesting experience. Don Bosco Hwange, Zimbabwe.” of the girl's group. My group is As a volunteer I do many different

For me, to be part of mission is like made up of almost 50 girls. We play works: I teach computers, I water

a fulfilled desire. When I was 16 board games and some outdoor the garden in the weekends years old, I got a prophecy about games too. We do some painting as together with Ana; I do

being a missionary in Africa. God well. Sometimes we do sport maintenance in the house and was calling me later again, but I was competitions for girls and boys oratory. The work with the kids is

so afraid that I set a condition – I together. Kids very like it. what I like the most. I'm trying to be will go only with a husband. Later I During the school holidays, I lead like a father to them and I want met David and we both felt the special activities for children. We



them to feel at home any time they desire to be volunteers for one year had also Christmas Party and come to Don Bosco Youth Centre. of our lives. We got married after Easter Party. On the weekends I go I'm going to stay in Zambia up to our university studies just before to Makululu, where I work in a August 2013. I like Zambians are leaving to Zimbabwe. project that prepares children to

very friendly and I like them so studied Environmental begin their schooling years. The much. Even the way they play Simulations which is close both to name of the project is "Don Bosco makes me to feel so happy. computers and mathematics, thus Preschool". There are about 100

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Right from the beginning Don Bosco was not alone in the mission God entrusted to him. There was a group of people that in different forms had the same Spirit and shared the same mission, though in different Christian vocations. As the youth apostolate matured, Don Bosco realized that there was a movement of people gathered around him carrying out the mission God entrusted to him. Along time, the followers of Don Bosco and the

By Fr. Jorge E. Ormeño sdb

movement of people around them have come to understand that their lives followed the same Spirit and shared the same mission. They understood they had a common Charismatic identity. It is from this vast movement of people that the Salesian Family was born.

The term 'family', in Salesian Family, describes the link that connects the different groups that compose it. Ties of spiritual relationship and of apostolic affinity link the different groups. These ties are an expression of communion that is interior, charismatic and

are united, as in a there are groups of diverse type they spiritual. Though family, by common baptism (united with God and with His Church—Christian Identity); by a common reference to Mary Help of Christians and to Don Bosco (Salesian history); by the same method Bosco (Salesian spirituality); by the spirit of Don (Salesian humanism); by the mission for the young

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The Salesian Family Charism and Legacy

REFLECTION

Meeting of the members of the Salesian Family in Bauleni - Lusaka (Zambia)

REFLECTION

and the poor (Salesian mission); by recognizing a centre of unity in Don Bosco and his successors (Salesian Rector Major). The term 'Salesian', on the other hand, refers to a particular spirituality. Don Bosco took St. Francis de Sales as his patron and model in his humanism and his pastoral charity. St Francis looked at life with optimism: people are good because God loves them (Salesian humanism) and gave himself completely to his people as Jesus the Good Shepherd (Pastoral charity).

The understanding on their common call, identity and mission of the Salesian Family has come to maturity in these last decades. The documents on the Salesian Family want to underline this understanding. The latest of these documents is the Charter of the Charismatic Identity of the Salesian Family. The Charter is the result of a long process of reflection and agreement of the World Consultative Committee

of the Salesian Family. This charter gathers the reflections and the experiences of the previous documents. It describes the characteristics and the distinguishing elements of the Salesian Family.

All the groups in the Salesian Family participate in the Salesian V

vocation, God's callocation. They share the same

to Don Bosco. They, , a God Bosco, experience God in a particular waylike Don who calls them to be disciples and apostles. apostleslike Don Bosco, recognize themselves as They, to the young and/or the working classes. They share the Salesian mission and they carry it out in their different ways of life.

Moreover, the Salesian Family does not only have the same vocation and the same mission. They also share the same method to carry out their apostolate: the Salesian educative method. The Salesian educative method is a way of realising their mission inspired by the spiritual and pedagogical patrimony of Don Bosco. They collaborate with God the Father in his paternal concern for all his children, especially the most vulnerable. Through the sacraments, they enter in communion with Jesus, the Good Shepherd, who gives his life for his brothers and sisters. They are part of a larger community, the Church, which makes God present among us and is his missionary. They are in contact with people in

their daily activities and with the approach proper to the sons and daughters of Don Bosco, approach that is characterized by lovingkindness.

The members of the Salesian Family live their salesianity in their concrete ways of life. Their way of life transpires a commitment. It is an evangelical life. Their commitment in their Christian lives is lived in active fraternity with other groups of the Salesian family. They worktogether with the other groups and they know

how to link forces to the betterment of the mission.

The Salesian Family is a living reality in the Church. It is the custodian of Don Bosco's spirituality and is called to have it alive in the larger Salesian movement by being precisely what they are: Salesians. Here we have tried topoint out the history, the meaning, the identity in its mean features, the vocation, the mission, the spirituality and the formation of the Salesian Family.

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2013 Salesian Mission Day Salesian Mission Day

The Salesian Community of St. Isidro faith, as good Catholics.(Lufubu) in co-operation with the The programme was based on series Delegate for Mission Promotion in of meetings and group work on the ZMB, Volunteers and Aspirants theme of the “Initial Proclamation of organised a series of conferences and Jesus.” The starting point was to get toother activities to commemorate the know Jesus more in depth as well as toSalesian Mission Day 2013, from 01- share the joy of being his followers. 06 May 2013. The meeting ended The participants were very happy towith the celebrations in honour of St. share their own experience andDominic Savio.suggested ways to let Jesus be known The Rector of the Community, Fr. more and more among their parents, Czeslaw Lenczuk invited the Mission siblings and other relatives.Delegate of ZMB to organise together Fr. Czeslaw organised a wonderful a “Mission-Week” for the children of programme that included a visit toLufubu village in the north of Zambia, Lake Mweru (70km from Lufubu) in where the community is located. The the border with Congo D.R. Allidea was to create awareness on the participants had the chance to attend sense of Mission in the Catholic mass by the lake and later on get a community of Lufubu and to get to splash on the lake. Fr. Jorge Ormeño know the various ways in the which SDB, presided over the eucharist and all can participate in the missionary stresse d the idea o f being activity of the Church and the Salesian missionaries by acknowledging the Congregation. Volunteers, Aspirants love of God and being witnesses of and some close collaborators

came this love to all. together to organise the event in During the various sessions, the three which over 156 children, teenagers aspirants from Zambia, Adrian and adolescents took part. The event Matebesi, Andrew Phiri and I. is part of the formation programme of Katongo helped with the translations the community in its outreach plan from English into Bemba. Polishfor the children and adolescents of Volunteers Christopher and Ilona Lufubu village (ZAMBIA) in order to helped with the kitchen, movies and help them grow and mature in their recreation.

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the reality of youth migration

Youth Forum

By Boniface Mbowo

LONGING FOR PARADISE

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o m e p e o p l e s a y : in migrations from the rural areas to the big cities. But as “paradise is the place people go to the long desired areas, all face big challenges where everyone longs to like a new language, discrimination, hard living conditions, be.” Is paradise already with us or lack of proper sanitation, etc.

it will be in future? One might ask During one of the sessions we had, three people from different this question. Of course, there are countries shared their experiences as migrants: one of them all sorts of meanings to the word from Kenya living in Germany for 8 years now; another from 'paradise'. Nevertheless, we will America also married in Germany and a third one from discover that somehow the idea of Germany who had gone to India as a volunteer. From these an earthly paradise is already three experiences, we discovered that each person is a book here with us but it depends on how in which you can read some of the challenges everyone faces each one makes efforts to relate in life.

with God, humans beings and We did not look into migrations only, but as people who work nature in order to experience it. with the young, we had to look into the things that can help It was during my short visit to young people to become good Christians and citizens of the German; from 22 to 27 of January society in which they live. Being the children of Don Bosco, we 2013, when young people from all shared our experiences from our youth centres and areas continents gathered in Bonn to where our work is done to see the challenges our share some ideas on the causes communities face on daily basis.

of migration. The meeting was an opportunity to learn from our

The topic helped us to look into unrecognized mistakes of our daily life. During one of the how we can become self sessions, we had an exercise meant to give us an insight in sustainable especially if we had to problem-solving. In the exercise, we were given to make a remain in rural and bridge with 18 planks of the same size. We were not allowed underdeveloped areas in order to to use nails but at the same time the bridge had to be strong develop them. It is a common way enough to support a person. The exercise helped us to know of thinking to say that “good life is all that it required to work as a group and to think outside the only found in big cities”. This is box. If you don't have someone to guide the group, where why we find many undeveloped each person has to listen to other people's ideas, and where areas especially on the country also everyone who can contribute, then nothing good will be side. People have lost the done.

essence of hard working, thinking The meeting ended with good resolutions; but above all, I that when you sit in class believe that unless we start helping young people change everything will be given on a silver their ways of thinking by showing them that through hard work plate. Is it not the very thing which and self sacrifice we can develop our rural settings and make has led to the increase in laziness it a better place to live, the migration from the rural settings to hence leading to corruption? big cities will be and endless story. People in the rural settings Many people have left their homes always hope that development will come from outside, as

in search of greener pastures. educators we ought to accompany the young to build up their  
Today, as it was in the past, this communities, develop them and make it a wonderful place to  
continues leading to the increase live.

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zmbsocialc@salesianszmb.org

#### ZMB PHOTO - Issue No 26

1. Castelgandolfo-Rome (Italy) Newly elected 7-8. Kabwe (ZAMBIA): Children of the Holy Pope Francis pays a visit to Benedict XVI. Childhood from Don Bosco Makululu and St.
2. Chawama-Lusaka (ZAMBIA): Rectors' Mary's parish during a formation programme. Meeting presided by the Provincial, Fr. 9. Mukalashi -Kabwei (ZAMBIA): Fr. Mariusz George Chalissery. Skowron celebrating the Easter Sunday in one
3. Chawama -Lusaka: Bishop Clement Mulenga of the outstations. celebrating mass during the VII Provincial 10. Lilongwe (MALAWI): Bro. Sylvester and the Chapter. council while inspecting the 'Girls Hostel'.
4. Lufubu (ZAMBIA): Fr. Chester Lenzcuk 11. Chawama-Lusaka (ZAMBIA): Confreres explains to Fr. Jorge the new developments in while preparing for the group photo on the Lufubu Mission. last day of the Provincial Chapter.
5. Lilongwe (MALAWI): Fr. George Chalissery 12. Bauleni - Lusaka (ZAMBIA): Salesian Cogiving the morning talk to the students of Don operators, Volunteers, Daughters of Mary Bosco Technical Institute. Help of Christians and Salesians of Don
6. Chawama-Lusaka (ZAMBIA) : Fr. Kim and Bosco on the day of formation and celebration the Apostolic Nuncio to Zambia during the of the Salesian Family. last night of the Chapter. 13. Design for the 2013 CampoBosco in Kabwe.