Making a World of Difference

Your love is being put into action around the world by more than 34,000 Priests, Brothers and Sisters known as Salesians. Salesian Missions touched the lives of over three million poor young people in 2010 through the orphanages, shelters, hospitals, clinics, nurseries and schools it operates in more than 130 countries.

Your Gifts at Work in over 130 Countries

AFRICA
Angola
Benin
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cameroon
Cape Verde
Central African Republic
Chad
Congo (Brazzaville)
Congo (Democratic Republic)
Eritrea
Gabon
Ghana
Guinea
Guinea Conakry

dAreas in red served by the Salesians

AFRICA
Ivory Coast
Kenya
Lesotho
Liberia
Libya
Madagascar
Malawi
Mali
Mauritius
Morocco
Mozambique
Namibia
Nigeria
Reunion Island
South Africa
South Sudan
Sudan
Swaziland
Tanzania
Togo
Uganda
Zambia
Zimbabwe
MIDDLE EAST
Azerbaijan
Iran
Israel
Kuwait
Lebanon
Syria
Turkey
Yemen
ASIA
Bangladesh
Cambodia
China
People’s Republic
Hong Kong
India
Indonesia
Japan
North Korea
Macau
Mongolia
Myanmar
Nepal
Pakistan
Philippines
Sri Lanka
Taiwan
Thailand
Vietnam
NORTH AMERICA
Canada
United States
Mexico
SOUTH AMERICA
Argentina
Bolivia
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Ecuador
Paraguay
Peru
Uruguay
Venezuela
CARIBBEAN
Cuba
Curacao
Dominican Republic
Haiti
Puerto Rico
EUROPE
Albania
Andorra
Austria
Belarus
Bulgaria
Bosnia-Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
England
France
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Ireland
Italy
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Monaco
Netherlands
Nigeria
Northern Ireland
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Russia
San Marino
Belgium
Serbia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Ukraine
Vatican City

1. Your love is being put into action around the world by more than 34,000 Priests, Brothers and Sisters known as Salesians. Salesian Missions touched the lives of over three million poor young people in 2010 through the orphanages, shelters, hospitals, clinics, nurseries and schools it operates in more than 130 countries.

2. Areas in red served by the Salesians

3. Your Gifts at Work in over 130 Countries

4. AFRICA
Angola
Benin
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cameroon
Cape Verde
Central African Republic
Chad
Congo (Brazzaville)
Congo (Democratic Republic)
Eritrea
Gabon
Ghana
Guinea
Guinea Conakry

5. AFRICA
Ivory Coast
Kenya
Lesotho
Liberia
Libya
Madagascar
Malawi
Mali
Mauritius
Morocco
Mozambique
Namibia
Nigeria
Reunion Island
South Africa
South Sudan
Sudan
Swaziland
Tanzania
Togo
Uganda
Zambia
Zimbabwe

6. AFRICA
Ivory Coast
Kenya
Lesotho
Liberia
Libya
Madagascar
Malawi
Mali
Mauritius
Morocco
Mozambique
Namibia
Nigeria
Reunion Island
South Africa
South Sudan
Sudan
Swaziland
Tanzania
Togo
Uganda
Zambia
Zimbabwe

7. MIDDLE EAST
Azerbaijan
Iran
Israel
Kuwait
Lebanon
Syria
Turkey
Yemen

8. ASIA
Bangladesh
Cambodia
China
People’s Republic
Hong Kong
India
Indonesia
Japan
North Korea
Macau
Mongolia
Myanmar
Nepal
Pakistan
Philippines
Sri Lanka
Taiwan
Thailand
Vietnam

9. NORTH AMERICA
Canada
United States
Mexico

10. SOUTH AMERICA
Argentina
Bolivia
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Ecuador
Paraguay
Peru
Uruguay
Venezuela

11. CARIBBEAN
Cuba
Curacao
Dominican Republic
Haiti
Puerto Rico

12. EUROPE
Albania
Andorra
Austria
Belarus
Bulgaria
Bosnia-Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
England
France
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Ireland
Italy
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Monaco
Netherlands
Nigeria
Northern Ireland
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Russia
San Marino
Belgium
Serbia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Ukraine
Vatican City

13. The Salesian Missions Accountability and Good Stewardship Responsibility Pledge
Salesian Missions is committed to the highest standards of good stewardship and accountability. Salesian Missions is separately incorporated according to the not-for-profit laws of New York State with its own active Board of Trustees. An independent public accounting firm, reviewed by the Board of Trustees, conducts an annual audit of Salesian Missions’ finances. Funds received by Salesian Missions are carefully monitored to ensure their use complies with donor intent. Funds are maintained in separate accounts and not commingled with those of any other Salesian entity. Salesian Missions is a founding member of the National Catholic Development Conference, whose members must adhere to strict codes of ethics. Salesian Missions complies with all applicable federal, state, and local laws regarding discrimination.

14. The Salesian Philosophy
In the tradition of their founder, Saint John Bosco, the Salesian objective is to teach young people various trades that will help them find decent jobs and become self-sufficient, contributing members of society.

The Salesians insist that the needy help themselves in whatever way they can, even minimally. They do not encourage dependence or paternalism but strive to live up to the working maxim, “helping others to help themselves.”
Dear Friend of Salesian Missions,

While preparing this 2010 Annual Report, I was reminded once again of how grateful I am to you for being a true friend and supporter of Salesian Missions. Your generosity and sacrifices have made it possible for a multitude of Salesian works to influence the lives of millions of needy young people year after year.

St. John Bosco, our founder, used to say, “Without you I can do nothing,” and his words still ring true today. Together we can break the terrible cycle of poverty and ignorance that destroys so many young lives. As an indispensable partner in this global effort, you help us live up to our maxim: “Helping others to help themselves.” And alongside the over 34,000 Salesian Priests, Brothers and Sisters worldwide, you brighten the lives of poor children who desperately need to know that someone cares.

We are working in over 130 countries, and the work continues to grow in size and need. With the assistance of your prayers and financial support, we are making a tremendous impact in the lives of the needy with our many life-saving programs and facilities, and especially our schools. Believing that poverty can only be eradicated through education, we take great pride in the accomplishments of our Elementary and High Schools, Colleges, and Vocational, Technical and Agricultural Schools.

I am extremely happy to report that 2010 was another successful year for Salesian Missions. It gives me such joy to know that we have helped to make the world a better place. While the picture today is hopeful, there are many challenges ahead.

This is especially true in Haiti, where our Salesians are still hard at work rebuilding broken lives and shattered communities after last year’s horrific earthquake. Your tremendous outpouring of love and generosity in response to this tragedy was a true blessing for our missionaries and the devastated people of Haiti.

If the many people you have helped through Salesian Missions could speak to you now, they would say thank you for the chance to live a life of dignity. Because of your prayers and financial help, so many of God’s children will know a kinder today and a happier tomorrow.

Let us pray that our good works continue and that all children, wherever they may be, are treated with respect and decency. To this, I add my own sincere thanks and assurance of my prayers.

Gratefully yours,

Father Mark Hyde, S.D.B.
Trade and Agricultural Schools

A strikingly distinctive contribution of Salesian Missions is its 559 Trade/Technical schools and 91 Agricultural schools serving youth in developing countries. Through the teaching of job skills and agricultural science, poor youngsters are able to earn a decent living while contributing to the betterment of their own communities.

Trade schools feature regular four-year courses designed to result in qualified workers able to take their place in industry. Some skilled trades commonly taught are tool and die-making, printing, mechanics, electronics, welding, dressmaking, woodworking, computer and office skills.

In rural areas, knowing how to farm can make the difference between eating and going hungry. Since their beginning, the Salesians have made special efforts to help those in rural areas do a better job of feeding themselves and others in their communities. Agricultural schools have become centers for training people in modern farming methods and new marketing techniques.

Moral and Spiritual Direction

John Bosco was a zealous priest who believed that the only way to truly battle poverty, illiteracy, and hunger was with reason, religion, and kindness. His educational process was a pathway of prayer, liturgy, sacramental life, and spiritual direction. To this day, the Salesians have made special efforts to help those in rural areas do a better job of feeding themselves and others in their communities. Agricultural schools have become centers for training people in modern farming methods and new marketing techniques.

Education

By far the most important contribution that Salesian Missions has made to the youth of the world is in the field of education. In 3,408 schools around the world, the Salesians help over two million young people develop their personalities to the fullest so as to attain intellectual, emotional and spiritual maturity.

No stronger and more effective means of breaking the cycle of poverty and under-development exists than education. For well over a hundred years, the Salesians have experienced how education gives the impoverished a sense of personal dignity and worth.

2010 Project Highlight:
The Don Bosco Literacy School opened in Cambodia in 2010. The learning center’s main goal is to provide quality education to every child who attends. The school has 12 classrooms and was constructed because many youngsters didn’t have the necessary transportation to attend distant schools. Thanks to dedicated Salesians and generous friends like you, the opening of this school became a reality.

Salesian Lay Missioners

In the last 28 years, the Salesian Lay Missioner (SLM) program has sent over 350 lay men and women to work alongside Salesian missionaries in over 20 different countries, such as: Bolivia, China, Ethiopia, India, Myanmar, Rwanda, and Sudan. It is a unique opportunity to give one’s talents, skills, and time in the hopes of giving new hope to some of the poorest children on earth. But as it is with all Salesian works, the ingredient most essential to having success is a caring and loving presence.

2010 Project Highlight:
Last year the SLM program had over 20 lay missionaries working in 29 communities in 9 different countries. At Misión San Carlos located in Yapacaní, Bolivia, 3 SLMs worked with Salesian priests and sisters in developing effective community outreach programs that assisted many children. The SLMs also helped with translations, writing reports, religious instruction, home visits, and advocating for the sick. The program director said of the SLMs, “I extend my heartfelt thanks for the wonderful opportunity we’ve had to have them as part of our family. They are exceptional individuals and we wish them God’s Grace in everything they do.”

Medical Assistance & Healthcare

The Salesians extend their work to the ill and disabled through 216 clinics and hospitals located mostly in rural areas. These facilities offer children and families a source for emergency medical care, routine checkups and medications.

The Salesians also manage counseling, treatment and community outreach programs relating to HIV/AIDS, hygiene, mental illness and even Hansen’s disease (leprosy) which is still present in South America, Asia, India and Africa.

2010 Project Highlight:
In 2010, the Salesian community assisted flood victims in Pakistan. Entire communities were under water, and rescue workers had difficulty reaching certain areas because roads and bridges were destroyed. Salesian missionaries arrived at refugee camps to provide a month’s worth of food to each family, and students from one of the technical schools volunteered to construct new homes and deliver food and medicine to the hardest hit areas.

Emergency Relief

One of the ever-growing activities of Salesian Missions is emergency relief. Time and again, the Salesians have become involved in emergency efforts wherever there are victims of natural disasters, tragic circumstances or civil strife. Some of the current activity includes relieving famine in Africa, assisting flood victims in India, offering refuge assistance in Europe, and feeding undernourished children in the Philippines and in the slums of Haiti.

2010 Project Highlight:
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Not just caring for the poor children of the world but also teaching them to care for themselves! Not just caring for the poor children of the world but also teaching them to care for themselves!
Family Assistance and Development of Women

Guidance, counseling, and assistance for troubled families are important features of the Salesian social outreach programs. This activity is centered in 850 nurseries and in the many Salesian parishes and youth clubs. A stable and happy family life is the foundation for a healthy society. That is why it is one of the main concerns of the Salesians.

Half of the Salesian Family is composed of dedicated women, the Salesian Sisters, who give their lives for the education and advancement of women. In a variety of programs from elementary schools through college, the Salesian Sisters provide excellent educational opportunities for girls and women. The outstanding quality of their training enables their alumnae to qualify for jobs on every level of production and management. In addition, the Salesian Sisters are active in many social programs directly geared to working women, their issues and their advancement.

The Mission...

John Bosco was more than a priest from northern Italy. He was a priest who heard a special call to bring all young people to the awareness that God truly loves them. But John Bosco was not a man who was content only with words. By his actions he stood against an anti-religious age and reached out to the orphaned and abandoned children of the streets. He taught them working skills, restored their dignity, and gave them direction towards a positive and moral life.

John Bosco’s philosophy was practical: Love what the young love! This sincere identification with the young effected a confidence and trust that would reach thousands of poor children in his lifetime, until his death on January 31, 1888, at age 72. Forty-six years later he was declared a saint. Saint John Bosco’s legacy lives on in a way that even he—a man of great vision—may have never imagined.

“It is not enough to love the young. They must know that they are loved.” – St. John Bosco

The Beginning

It was the mid-1850s and times were bad for religion. The radical government in Italy was closing convents and monasteries and showing contempt for religion.

In the midst of this turmoil, a young priest wanted to bring a religious society of Brothers and Priests to help him care for poor youth. He knew that the government would never allow this. With gospel shrewdness, he made friends with the Minister of Internal Affairs (who had written the anti-religion laws), and learned how he could get around the laws and establish a religious society.

Finally, on December 18, 1859, this young priest named John Bosco and eighteen young men—who were once poor street children he cared for—began a new society. John Bosco called them the “Salesians” after St. Francis de Sales, Bishop of Geneva, whom he had always admired for his kindness and apostolic zeal.

A new era in caring for young people had begun.

The Mission Today

With Priests, Brothers, and Sisters numbering more than 34,000, the Salesians serve almost three million youth in over 130 countries. The Salesians improve the lives of poor youngsters through the teaching of skilled trades and scientific agriculture. There are 225 Salesian orphanages and shelters, 216 hospitals and clinics, 850 nurseries and 3,488 schools. Of these, 559 are vocational and technical, 91 agricultural, 1,440 high schools, 23 colleges, and 1,295 elementary schools.

In all these various programs, the spirit and the memory of John Bosco live on. The men and women who have followed in his footsteps have dedicated their lives to be friends, counselors, and educators of poor young people.

Not just caring for the poor children of the world but also teaching them to care for themselves!