

Summer/Fall 2014

# SALESIAN®

*Help provide safe  
clean water ...  
- page 4*



Salesian Missions  
Clean Water Initiative . . . . . 4

*Notes From the Field:*  
A personal account  
by Salesian Lay Missioner,  
Agnieszka Charymska . . . . 10

*Salesians in the U.S. and Canada:*  
Ministering to the Youth  
of Los Angeles . . . . . 14

*Salesian Snapshots* . . . . . 19

India - The Dark Side  
of Fireworks . . . . . 24

Donation Brings 1,000 Smiles  
to Students in Liberia . . . . . 27

*Want to know who we are,  
where we began,  
and who inspires our work?*

Visit us at our website:

[www.salesianmissions.org](http://www.salesianmissions.org)

We'll send you to over 130 countries  
where the Salesians are working for the  
young, the poor and the abandoned.

You will discover the many ways the  
Salesians offer a path for partnership.

*Hope to see you soon!*

## Leave a Legacy of Love and Hope...



## And Help Make the World a Better Place.

**O**ne person, like you, can make a significant difference. Your decision to remember Salesian Missions in your Will can bring positive change to the future of thousands of needy children struggling each day just to survive.

Our programs around the world are saving these precious lives... and helping to make the world a better place.

By including Salesian Missions in your planned giving, your heart and soul are forever part of these good works.

So consider leaving a legacy of love and hope that will live on in generations to come.

*Please remember Salesian Missions  
in your Will...*

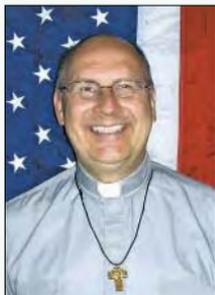
 **SALESIAN MISSIONS**

2 LEFEVRE LANE, PO BOX 728  
NEW ROCHELLE NY 10802-0728  
TEL: (914) 633-8344

[www.salesianmissions.org/giving](http://www.salesianmissions.org/giving)



## Letter from the Editor



Dear Friend and Partner in Mission!

Saint John Bosco once said, *“The music of the young should be listened to with the heart, not with the ears.”*

Every day, you and other caring friends have listened with your hearts – to vulnerable children around the globe who don’t always have a happy song to sing.

Sometimes these girls and boys are alone in the world – orphaned by war, disaster or illness. Sometimes their families can’t afford to feed them, and they suffer from gnawing, chronic hunger. And sometimes, they labor in brick fields, coal mines and factories because they don’t have access to even a basic education.

From around the world, you have heard their cries – and have responded with a caring kindness that allows us to bring these precious children new hope, brighter futures and the chance to sing with joy.

When you turn the pages in this current issue of SALESIAN, you will see some of the real stories of hope and joy that you have helped make possible. You will meet our dedicated Salesians working tirelessly for the poor in Cambodia, Liberia, India and here in the United States.

And, you’ll learn about a topic especially important to me: our renewed commitment to ensuring that every child, and every adult, has access to safe drinking water. Worldwide, children are the most vulnerable to water-borne illness – and we intend to change this, one new well at a time.

If you look at the photo on the cover of this issue, you will see a young boy bursting with happiness and thanksgiving as he drinks from one such well. In fact, your heart can almost “hear” his joyful song – a song that is only possible with your support.

Thank you for making our mission, your mission. I am grateful for your support. We will keep you and your loved ones always in our prayers. God Bless You!

Sincerely,

Father Mark Hyde, S.D.B.

P.S. Please help us continue bringing clean water to those who need it most! Perhaps you will consider a monthly gift of as little as \$10, which will help us dig new wells, improve sanitation methods, and provide new sources of safe drinking water to impoverished children and families around the globe. Your kindness will truly help improve health, and lives, for the better! (See pages 4-7)

# GIVE and RECEIVE!

A **SALESIAN MISSIONS CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY** not only helps poor children all over the world, but it can provide the donor/annuitant with a very attractive stream of income for life. For example, with a gift of \$10,000, an individual, age 75 will receive a rate of 5.8%; at age 80, the rate is 6.8%, and at age 90, the rate is 9.0%.

## In addition to a guaranteed annual income, other benefits include:

- A current income tax deduction
- Tax free income on a portion of the income received
- Reduced capital gain tax (on gifts made with appreciated securities)
- Possible reduction of estate tax
- The opportunity to make a significant gift to Salesian Missions and make a real difference in the lives of poor children by doing God's work

### FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PLANNED GIVING:

- Visit our website at [www.salesianmissions.org/giving](http://www.salesianmissions.org/giving)
- Call or Email our Annuity Officer,  
Anna Maria Lang, Tel: 914-633-8344 Ext. 206  
Email: [amlang@salesianmissions.org](mailto:amlang@salesianmissions.org)
- Fill-in and return the form below.



## YES! SHOW ME HOW I CAN HELP THE CHILDREN AND MYSELF!

Send me more information about the returns and tax deductions I would receive under the Salesian Missions Annuity Plan. I understand that all personal information you receive about me will be kept absolutely confidential. (Minimum amount for a gift annuity is \$5,000 and the minimum age requirement is 55 deferred to age 60, or age 60 for immediate annuity)

AMOUNT OF GIFT CONSIDERED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR SINGLE ANNUITY (PLEASE PRINT):**

*(Not available in the state of Washington)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

WE CANNOT SEND INFORMATION WITHOUT DATE OF BIRTH

**FOR JOINT ANNUITY (PLEASE PRINT):**

NAME OF OTHER PARTICIPANT: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: MONTH \_\_\_\_\_ DAY \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR \_\_\_\_\_

Sum/Fall 2014



**SALESIAN MISSIONS  
FINANCIAL PLANNING OFFICE**

ATTN: ANNA MARIA LANG  
2 LEFEVRE LANE, PO BOX 728,  
NEW ROCHELLE NY 10802-0728



# Salesian Missions Clean Water Initiative

**S**alesian Missions has launched a special initiative to address the need for clean, safe water. From drinking water to hygienic sanitary systems to agriculture – water is essential for life. According to the latest statistics, more than 750 million people do not have access to clean water and almost 2.5 billion do not have access to adequate hygienic sanitation facilities.



An estimated 3.4 million people die each year from tainted water, and hygiene-related illnesses. Close to 99 percent of those deaths occur in developing countries with children being most at risk. Women and children bear the primary responsibility for water collection in the majority of households. For women, particularly those that are head of households, this is time spent away from income-generating jobs and caring for family members. Children are forced to walk for hours to collect drinking water – water that often proves contaminated and sickens those who consume it. Many children are unable to attend school regularly because they must spend time searching for distant wells.

In response to this crisis, Salesian Missions has made building

wells and supplying fresh, clean water a top priority for every community in every country in which Salesians are present.

“Salesian missionaries working in over 130 countries around the globe are committed to focusing on life-saving projects to ensure clean water access for those we serve,” says Father Mark Hyde, Director of Salesian Missions. From new water wells in countries throughout Africa to a hydro-electrical station in Bolivia, Salesian Missions and its partners are bringing hope to many communities.



“This is not new work for us,” adds Fr. Mark. “We have carried out clean water projects in many countries already but this is a renewed commitment to help save even more lives. It is also important for youth to be in school gaining an education and laying the foundation for a productive life instead of being forced to search for water.”

### *Some examples of Salesian Missions clean water projects:*

#### **BRAZIL**

Serious water issues resulting from pesticide pollution in a remote area of western Brazil needed immediate attention. Salesian Missions worked with members of the Xavante and Bororo Indian communities to obtain clean water from previously inaccessible areas. To do so, they first designed a mobile drilling truck and dug wells. To create power, they invented

*Most pumps are operated manually, but the clean water is greatly appreciated.*



*Children collect fresh water at a Salesian-built indoor well.*

and patented a see-saw pump that would draw water from the depths of the well. The result is reduced risk of disease, access to potable water, improved infrastructure and expanded farming. The endeavor began as an immediate response to a community crisis but has become a well-organized life-sustaining project.



## CAMBODIA

Salesians have a long history of working with poor youth in Cambodia. Continuing this work, the Don Bosco Technical School in Kep Province built a new water tower as part of a water system project at the school. Its construction will guarantee water for this large educational facility for years to come. Most people in the region utilize well water and this tower will go sig-

nificantly deeper than the average well and has two reserve tanks. Now, students and their families will have plenty of clean, healthy water.

## ETHIOPIA

A 2011 project started by the Salesians was responsible for digging five wells in the Gambella area of Ethiopia. The wells are operated by a hand pump and are up to 60 meters deep, guaranteeing water to local villages that will benefit close to 1,200 people. To



## PLEASE KNOW THAT WE ARE LISTENING TO YOU... YOU ASKED... SO HERE ARE SOME ANSWERS TO SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

**Q:** Why have you started using a Washington, D.C. Post Office Box address on your reply envelopes?

**A:** For many years, our reply envelopes were addressed to our office here in New Rochelle, N.Y. We would receive the mail, open it, and process the donations and other requests. The cost for a staff and equipment to do this job kept increasing every year. We did some research and found a company in Maryland that could do this job for us at a much lower cost – and more efficiently. So now, most of our reply mail is addressed to a post office box in the Washington, D.C. Post Office. This new company – just a few miles away in Maryland – picks it up each morning and then opens and processes the mail for us. It costs less than when we did it ourselves, which means more money can go to the poor children in our missions.

**Q:** Can I still send my donations to the New Rochelle, N.Y. address?

**A:** Of course! Whichever you prefer. If you'd rather send your mail here, then please address your envelopes to Salesian Missions, 2 Lefevre Lane, New Rochelle, N.Y. 10801.

**Q:** Sometimes I receive a package or parcel from you and I don't want to accept it. Why did you send it to me?

**A:** In several of our mailings, if you send in a specific donation, we promise to send you a free gift, like a set of all-occasion greeting cards or a 128-page poetry book. It is your free gift from us for helping our missions. There is no fee or cost to you for accepting this gift. There are no strings attached – it is an absolutely free gift. As a matter of fact, when you refuse it or tell the mailman to “return to sender,” we end up paying the return postage and that is money that could have been used for the needy children. It would be better if you accepted the gift and gave it away to a neighbor, friend, or loved one instead of refusing it. If you really don't want the free gift, please be sure to check the box on the reply form you receive in our mailings that states “CHECK THIS BOX IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR FREE GIFT” and we won't send it to you. Remember, you must check this box if you don't want the free gift.

*I hope this information is useful. Please let us know if you have any other questions or concerns.  
We need you as a “partner in mission” to do the very best we can for the poor in our care.*

# What was once sticks and straw...

Millions of people throughout Africa, Central and South America, India and Asia are celebrating Mass and worshipping God in the most primitive conditions. Salesian missionaries are in desperate need of funds to build simple and decent houses of worship.

You can have a Memorial Chapel built in honor of your favorite saint and dedicate it to anyone you wish – living or deceased. What a wonderful way to remember a loved one – and help the Lord's most impoverished followers.

**EACH CHAPEL IS A UNIQUE DESIGN THAT REFLECTS THE NEEDS OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY IT SERVES.**

You can make an individual gift to build a Memorial Chapel, or groups or organizations can pool their donations. If you wish, you can also specify in your will that a chapel be erected in your honor or for anyone you choose.

Read more about our Chapel Building Program by visiting us online at:

[www.salesianmissions.org/chapels](http://www.salesianmissions.org/chapels)



## Is now this!

Thanks to  
generous people  
like you!

You can make an individual gift to build a Memorial Chapel, or groups or organizations can pool their donations. If you wish, you can also specify in your will that a chapel be erected in your honor or for anyone you choose.

Read more about our Chapel Building Program by visiting us online at:

[www.salesianmissions.org/chapels](http://www.salesianmissions.org/chapels)

Enclosed is my gift of \$16,000.00 to build a Village Memorial Chapel.

SUM/FALL 2014

Enclosed is my gift of \$21,000.00 to build a Memorial Chapel in a remote and difficult area.

Enclosed is my gift of \$26,000.00 to build a Memorial Chapel in the most far removed and neglected area.

**PLEASE CHECK ONE:**  IN MEMORY OF:  IN HONOR OF:  DEDICATED TO:

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me more information. (You can also Email or phone us, if you wish)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

 **SALESIAN MISSIONS** 2 LEFEVRE LANE, PO BOX 728 • NEW ROCHELLE NY 10802-0728

TELEPHONE: (914) 633-8344 • Email: [chapels@salesianmissions.org](mailto:chapels@salesianmissions.org)



# Notes From the Field:

**A personal account  
by Salesian Lay Missioner,  
AGNIESZKA CHARYMSKA**

## Hello from Cambodia!



Life is good! I think that might actually be an understatement – so let's try this: **LIFE IS GREAT!** I came to love Cambodia – not because of its landmarks, Asian food, interesting music or markets – but because of my students. Their passion for knowledge is my greatest pride. We use our imaginations to open these young minds in my care to what is possible with an education and a little faith!



The Salesian Sisters established the Don Bosco Vocational Training Center for Girls in Phnom Penh in 1993. Their goal has always been to educate impoverished young girls in the hope that they may obtain

*The students are proud to share their Cambodian culture with Agnieszka.*



jobs in the secretarial and computer fields. These girls would then be able to help support their families. I help by teaching English to a group of motivated, spirited girls who are a joy to work with each and every day.

Teaching English is not only about grammar rules, pronunciation, or spelling; English is a tool assisting in a process of discovering the world beyond locality. Teaching gives extreme satisfaction if students are responsive to stimuli but it carries a load of responsibilities, most importantly how to lead them in the right direction. My classroom consists of so many different young girls. Some of them are kindred spirits who are loved by everyone and you love them too ... but then you have those who are overwhelmed with life. Those who



*Agnieszka and some of her very enthusiastic students in front of the Don Bosco Vocational Training Center*



live with family problems, poverty and despair. These sweet girls fight every day for the right to be joyful, they want to be joyful and loved, but circumstances do not allow them to enter that state of peace and *you love these girls twice as much!*



*A "hands-on" science project combines fun, teamwork and creativity.*

Thank you for being part of my journey; I may not write too often but I think of all of you and please know that you are always in my prayers.

God bless you  
wherever you are!  
Agnieszka

## Finding Christ in the Face of a Child

The **Salesian Lay Missioners** is a faith-based volunteer program that offers a unique opportunity to serve the poor children of the world. We sponsor domestic and international placements and require a 1 or 2 year commitment.

**If you would like more information about this life-changing program, please write to:**

**Salesian Lay Missioners**  
Attn: Adam Rudin  
2 Lefevre Lane  
New Rochelle NY 10801-5710

Or visit our website at:  
[www.SalesianLayMissioners.org](http://www.SalesianLayMissioners.org) or Email us at:  
[slm@salesianmissions.org](mailto:slm@salesianmissions.org)



# Share the Joy of Christmas and the New Year ...

## For yourself, a loved one ... or family and friends!

Our new and very popular publications—“Reason to Rejoice” and our “2015 Angel Datebook” – are now available. Each book comes with a mailing envelope so you can send them to friends and loved ones.

Share the joy and inspiration of the Christmas Season and the New Year. Send your request today for these beautiful books.

Simply fill out the form below, indicate your choice and the quantity desired. The suggested donation is \$2.00 for each book.



(actual size of books  
is 4" X 6")

**For faster processing,  
call in your order or order online.**

PLEASE SEND ME THE FOLLOWING BOOKS. Summer/Fall 2014

My donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed. (SUGGESTED DONATION IS \$2.00 FOR EACH BOOK. MINIMUM REQUEST SHOULD BE FIVE BOOKS OF ANY ONE TITLE)

**"Reason to Rejoice"** Qty \_\_\_\_\_

**"2015 Angel Datebook"** Qty \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

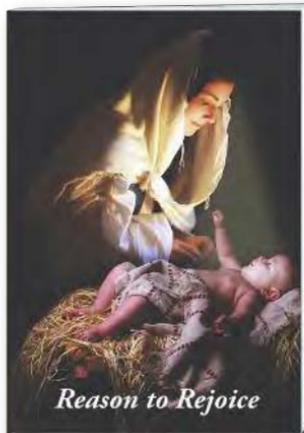
*These books are always in great demand and supplies are limited.  
So be sure to request them today! Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery.*



**SALESIAN MISSIONS**

Inspirational Books Dept. HB

2 LEFEVRE LANE, PO BOX 728, NEW ROCHELLE NY 10802-0728



Send our new  
Christmas Book instead  
of an ordinary card!

**Request these books online at: [www.salesianmissions.org/catalog](http://www.salesianmissions.org/catalog)**

# Salesians In the U.S. And Canada

***In 1897, the first Salesian missionaries set foot in California. The going was tough and slow – but the spirit of Don Bosco was with them and work progressed. Today over 335 Salesians are present and working with the young throughout the United States and Canada.***

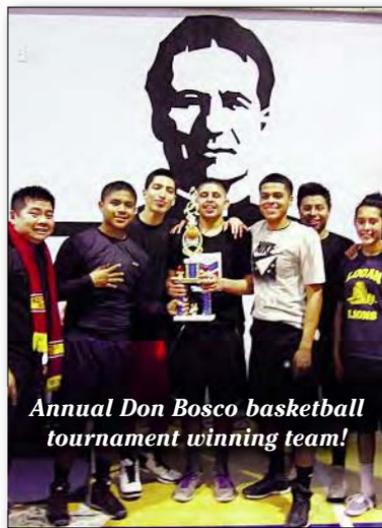
***2009 saw the merging of the Salesian Eastern U.S. and Canadian Provinces. The hope of the Salesians in both countries is that this union, based in New Rochelle, New York will provide a more effective means of expanding Salesian works for the young and needy in North America.***

## *Ministering to the Youth of Los Angeles*

by Father Nicholas Reina, S.D.B.

***The year was 1957 and construction began on a new boys' high school in an ethnically diverse area of Los Angeles. Bishop Mora Salesian High School in Boyle Heights was to be run by the Salesians and they were on a mission – a mission to educate and inspire the young men entrusted in their care.***

Bishop Mora Salesian High School opened in 1958 and offered four distinct academic programs: college preparatory, business and general education, and vocational training. Throughout the



***Annual Don Bosco basketball tournament winning team!***



*The most recent photo of our church with two banners announcing the Bicentennial of Don Bosco in 2015.*

community – holding government, civic and leadership positions both locally and nationally. With 99% of its graduates going on to college, Salesian is considered a premier Catholic high school in the Los Angeles area.

*Over the years, the Salesians expanded their ministry to include additional educational and social opportunities such as:*

- In 1965, the Salesians assumed responsibility for St. Mary's parish from the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Historically, the vast majority of St. Mary's members have been Hispanic; many have emigrated from Central America in search of U.S. citizenship and the chance to build better lives. Salesians operate a primary school, food pantry, and other services to support the community. In addition, a dedicated ministry for youth, by youth, encourages teens to give back to their parish and neighborhoods.

1960's and early 1970's, Salesian High School was known for its strong programs in printing, drafting, woodworking, and electronics. During these years, the student body reflected the ethnic diversity of the neighborhood and was comprised of Latinos, African-Americans, Japanese-Americans, Italian-Americans and Irish-Americans. As surrounding communities became increasingly Latino, so did the ethnic makeup of the school. Today, the student body is 90% Hispanic and deeply grounded in the faith.

Now the school exclusively offers college prep courses, and alumni of Salesian High School consistently serve as pillars of the



Through community service projects, the young people of St. Mary's are learning invaluable community-building and leadership skills that will equip them for future success.

- The Salesian Boys and Girls Club of Los Angeles has been helping youth improve themselves and the world for over 45 years. The center serves underprivileged youth regardless of background, income or ability. Membership is only \$5.00 per year. Initially established in 1966 for adolescents formerly involved in, or at risk of joining street gangs, the Club first offered a safe refuge where young men could pursue constructive activities. Today, the Club operates on two sites and serves over 3,400 underprivileged girls and boys ages 6-18. Through educational, athletic, cultural awareness and leadership-building activities, young people develop the skills they need to realize their full potential as responsible and caring citizens.



*Our young parishioners volunteer once a month at a soup kitchen for the homeless in downtown Los Angeles. They cook and serve the meals.*

- A Salesian-run Summer Day Camp offers an exciting 8 week summer program for members ages 6-12. The camp provides academic enrichment and recreational activities. Each fun-filled day begins with morning prayer.
- The Salesian Boys and Girls Club has expanded its program by providing educational assistance to students at nearby Roosevelt High School, and offers tutoring programs for young students from the elementary and middle schools in the area. The Club offers a variety of educational, family, child and youth services



*A young adult leader gives the “good night” at the Boys and Girls Club. In the Salesian world, the “good night” is a short thought given after night prayers to round out the day.*

including counseling, cultural, recreational and after school activities. Special services include financial counseling and tax preparation, English language classes, food distribution, and disaster preparation training. The centers are also available for community meetings, special events and volunteer opportunities.

Today, the Salesians focus on integrating these existing programs and activities in ways that develop leadership and service opportunities while supporting younger students. For example, Salesian High School students now serve as mentors at the Boys and Girls Club – leading by example to help kids improve their academic,

athletic and social skills. Soon, these same high school students will help lead the summer camps for younger children. In these and other ways,

youth in Boyle Heights are bringing the Good News of God’s love to each other – and serving as positive role models for younger generations as they prepare to become future contributing members of society. ♥



*Participation in a neighborhood cleanup promotes community pride.*



# Salesian Snapshots

... a scrapbook of stories  
from around the Salesian world

## UGANDA: Donated Books for Poor Youth

Thanks to a recent donation and the coordination efforts of Salesian Missions, four schools in Uganda now have new textbooks. The schools serve at-risk children and focus on ending the cycle of poverty through education and opportunities.

*Don Bosco Children and Life Mission, St. Mary's Secondary School, St. Joseph's Primary School and Sacred Heart Sisters School* have received the donated books.

A book in the hands of a student is a tool that opens the door to opportunities available through education. This is true whether it takes place down the street or across the globe. It is especially powerful in places like Uganda.



Children help unloading the precious books!

Over 550 boxes of books were donated to the schools, covering subjects such as geography, science and music. This generous donation benefits primary and secondary schoolchildren today and many more students for years to come.

“The books bring a great value to our school and academic performance,” says Barshir Sadick, a student at one of the schools that was a recipient of the donation.



## MADAGASCAR: Education for a Country in Crisis

*“Madagascar is in crisis, not only a political and economic crisis, but also a crisis of values. And if we are to emerge from the difficulties, the only way to go is that of education.”* So said Bishop Rosario Vella, SDB, of Ambanja.

More than a third of the children there receive no education. The illiteracy rate is 31%, and for those children who do start school, many do not continue their studies beyond the compulsory primary grades. Catholic schools, however, are very popular because they not only educate, but they transmit moral values and respect.

The Salesians have schools throughout the island. This year, the diocese of Ambanja has also started a Catholic university. The courses are being held in



Bishop Vella and students from the newly opened Catholic University.

temporary premises until the long-awaited project becomes a reality for the 105 current students. The choice of subjects reflects the job opportunities and needs of the area. *“The course in law is really necessary,”* says the Bishop, *“because there is no justice in Madagascar: the poor are discriminated against...”*

The Salesians also have housing facilities available to students who live far from the schools. Here the students can stay in a safe, loving place while they attend classes.

## SLOVAKIA: Annual Salesian “Olympics”!

The 25th International Salesian Youth Games took place this past spring in Bratislava, Slovakia. More than 1,000 spirited, young athletes from 11 European countries took part in the event, consisting of 90 teams in 340 individual games.

For the first time, the organizers managed to have all the competitions in one location. This offered the young people a new experience at the sports center which they called “Valdocco,” a place where they shared meals, friendship, relaxation, and moments of culture and information. Daily Mass and prayer sessions during the games allowed the Salesians of Slovakia to offer the young



Sportsmanship is stressed throughout the games. The logo for the 2014 games is shown on the right.



people a true experience of Salesian youth spirituality.

The motto of the 2014 games was “*It’s all about the spirit – in the game and also in life.*” This event was also an opportunity for the Salesians to celebrate the 90th anniversary of their arrival in Slovakia.

The next Salesian Games will be held in Turin, Italy, in 2015, coinciding with the celebration of the bicentenary of the birth of Don Bosco.



## UNITED STATES: Missionary Cooperation Plan for 2014

Seventeen Salesian missionaries from fourteen provinces reached out on behalf of Salesian Missions to 109 parishes in the United States this past summer.

The members of this year's "Missionary Cooperative Plan" (MCP) traveled here from various missions in Africa, Central America and Asia to tell their individual stories to parishioners across America.

Four Salesians from the United States also helped with the appeals – one from the Eastern Province and three from the Western Province.

This annual eight-week program has a two-fold purpose. First, our missionaries get a chance to personally appeal for prayer and financial support



*Salesian missionaries gather for an orientation before heading out to their assigned parishes across the U.S.*

from Catholics of the U.S. Secondly, U.S. Catholics get a first-hand opportunity to be educated about what's happening in our missions today.

Sermons by visiting priests emphasize solidarity and understanding of situations that make life so difficult for the poor and needy.

Their message is also a call to action that the children of the world today are tomorrow's adult society – and that it is essential to protect them and to nurture them – in body, mind and spirit. ♥

## A Call to Prayer

Softly the evening vespers  
Hallow the closing day;  
Sweetly the Savior whispers,  
"Come to the throne and pray."

Come, ere the shadows lengthen,  
Bring Him thy burdened heart;  
Come where His grace may strengthen,  
Come from thy cares apart.

Smiles of His love await thee,  
Lighting His lovely face;  
Just to behold His beauty,  
Dwell in the secret place.

Boldly we may approach Him,  
Mercy and grace to own;  
Tempted like us, He bid us  
Come to the Father's throne.

Softly I hear Him calling,  
Calling at close of day;  
Sweetly His tones are falling,  
"Come to the throne and pray."

— Clara M. Brooks

## Prayer Request Form

We will remember your prayer requests  
at Holy Mass offered in our chapel  
at Salesian Missions in  
New Rochelle, NY.

- For world peace.
- For the health and well-being  
of the world's children.
- For the healing of an illness.
- For an end to terrorism.
- For the poor and homeless.
- For the sanctity of life.
- For a personal problem.
- For spiritual growth.
- For the victims of civil strife  
and natural disasters.
- For a peaceful death and  
eternal life with the Lord.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

SUM/FALL 2014

Please fill in below and return to:



**SALESIAN MISSIONS**  
2 LEFEVRE LANE • PO BOX 728  
NEW ROCHELLE NY 10802-0728

Please print carefully

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_



# INDIA - THE DARK SIDE OF FIREWORKS



**New Year's Day 2015, in keeping with tradition, will be celebrated around the world with an extensive use of fireworks and pyrotechnics. But what is usually associated with celebration and euphoria can also hide exploitation and human rights violations aimed toward children.**

In southern India, in an arid region of the state of Tamil Nadu, lies the town of Sivakasi, known throughout the country for the manufacture of matches and fireworks. Sivakasi makes up to 90% of India's national production. Not so well known, however, is the fact that a very high percentage of these products are made by hand by thousands of boys and girls – about 6,000 of them according



*Serious and often life-threatening injury is always a risk to these precious young lives.*

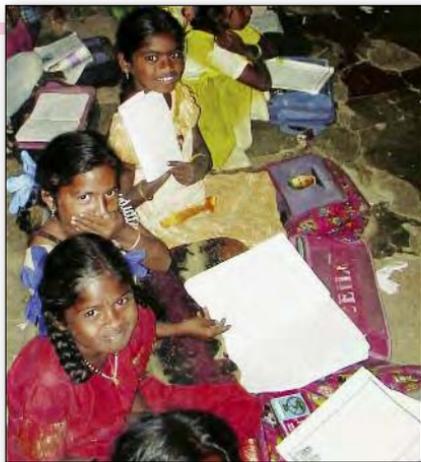
They are deprived of family care, education and recreation. They are vulnerable to poisoning from the substances they handle, and exposed to physical and psychological abuse from the adults they work for.

Their work is very dangerous. In 2013, there were many serious accidents in industries that produce fireworks. Last May, an eleven-year-old boy lost his life in Sivakasi, and many other children engaged in the fireworks industry suffer serious injuries leading to permanent mutilation. The plight of these children runs against everything the Salesians believe in – and they are working tirelessly to offer a solution before another precious life is lost.

to some estimates. The Salesians are present and working in these areas, reaffirming their commitment to the care and education of marginalized children, and offering them a way out of this almost hopeless situation.

Many of these children are there without parents. They come from poor families, from the most depressed castes of society, often from rural areas, perhaps affected by the drought. The children work around the clock. They sleep in huts, have a poor and monotonous diet of rice and lentils, and receive a payment that rarely exceeds 50 Euro cents per day.

The Salesians have several works in Sivakasi and run many activities to support the poor, and particularly to help poor child-workers who are outside the traditional educational system. They offer schools, courses for non-formal education, a shelter for homeless boys, evening study centers, self-help groups for women and a



*An education is the only way out of poverty and exploitation.*



guidance center to prevent children from dropping out of school. They are also planning to open a workshop that will offer skilled trades instruction to poor teens which, hopefully, will lead them to better, safer jobs.

With your help, the Salesians will continue to help eliminate the scourge of child labor, one precious life at a time. ♥

## Do you have a computer?

If you give us your Email address, we can keep you up-to-date about our life-saving works around the globe.

**Please join our online community today!**

You'll receive our eNewsletter and other mission stories that show how your partnership is making a difference in the lives of the poor.

To register on our website go to: [www.salesianmissions.org/signup](http://www.salesianmissions.org/signup) or return the form below.



**YES – Sign me up to receive your Email news.**

SUM/FALL 2014

My Email address is: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE MAIL THE COMPLETED FORM TO:

**SALESIAN MISSIONS** 2 LEFVRE LANE, PO BOX 728 • NEW ROCHELLE NY 10802-0728

# Donation Brings 1,000 Smiles to Students in Liberia



**L**iberia is one of the poorest countries in the world with 64% of its population of 3.5 million people living below the poverty line. Still recovering from the effects of a 14 year civil war that ended in 2003, Liberians struggle with social and economic hardships.

Those living in rural areas make up to 75% of the country's poor. Orphans, street children and adolescent ex-child soldiers often find themselves on their own, facing adult responsibilities with little support and no education.

Salesians have been working in Liberia since 1979. Since then, Salesians in the country have been developing programs with a focus on providing youth with the education and skills necessary to transform their lives. It has always been a challenge to equip schools with proper furniture and supplies. But thanks to generous donors like you, we were able to help in the education of over 1,000 high-risk children.

Recently, Salesian-run Don Bosco Technical High School and Mary Help of Christians Catholic High School, both located in the capital city of Monrovia, received desks, chairs and other furniture thanks to an ongoing partnership between Salesian Missions and the Institution

Recycling Network (IRN). Students at both schools benefited from the new furniture in their classrooms, libraries, laboratories and school offices.

“The children have comfortable tables and chairs to use and students, especially those in the elementary grades, are very happy with the improvement,” says Father Sony Joseph Pottenplackal, rector and principal of Don Bosco Technical High School. “The furniture has contributed greatly to improving their learning environment, and has brought a smile to the faces of many of the young students. This has been a great contribution to the school.”

Salesian Missions pays for the pickup of the goods from IRN’s clients and also for all freight and delivery charges to the schools.



*The new furniture offers an environment conducive to learning.*

Every educational, commercial, and healthcare organization in the U.S. has surplus furniture and equipment they need to get rid of. Tens of thousands of people living in poverty or recovering from natural disasters worldwide are in desperate need of the kinds of surplus goods these very organizations are discarding. IRN works with Salesian Missions to facilitate the distribution of these items into the hands of the people who need it most.

In addition to the donation in Liberia, IRN has sent shipments of furniture and workstations to Salesian sites in Haiti, Guatemala, the Philippines, El Salvador, the Dominican Republic and Togo as well as other areas around the globe. The happy, thankful faces of the students make all this effort worthwhile! ❤️





## CURRENT SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS

WINNER OF GRAND PRIZE

MAY 31, 2014

DIANE REESE, HARLINGEN TX

WINNER OF EARLY BIRD PRIZE

APRIL 30, 2014

BORIS ISAACSON, BUCKEYE AZ

WINNER OF GRAND PRIZE

MARCH 31, 2014

PATSY HEWETT, LOUISVILLE KY

WINNER OF EARLY BIRD PRIZE

FEBRUARY 28, 2014

MR. & MRS. RALPH P. EDWARDS, GEORGETOWN SC

WINNER OF GRAND PRIZE

JANUARY 31, 2014

CAROL J. JONES, TAMPA FL

WINNER OF EARLY BIRD PRIZE

DECEMBER 31, 2013

TODD OHDA, HOUMA LA

WINNER OF GRAND PRIZE

NOVEMBER 30, 2013

MARGARET ROMANO, CORAM NY

### WE RESPECT YOUR PRIVACY...

In our efforts to raise additional funds to support our worldwide work for the poor and needy, we periodically make your name and address available to other mailers. These include similar charitable and humanitarian organizations and also companies which offer services and products that we think you may be interested in. We are extremely selective in choosing the organizations and companies we associate with in this way.

If you prefer not to have your name and address made available for this purpose and/or you want to modify any mailing preferences, please call, write or email your request to:

Attn: Donor Relations

SALESIAN MISSIONS

2 LEFEBRE LANE, PO BOX 728

NEW ROCHELLE NY 10802-0728

TEL: 914-633-8344

Email: [info@salesianmissions.org](mailto:info@salesianmissions.org)

# This is a Gift From You!



*T*hanks to all of you who returned the pewter pieces you received in our mailing earlier this year.

Once again we were able to create another beautiful pewter chalice to use in our chapel.

It is used here at Salesian Missions for one year, then sent to one of our mission chapels.

Each chalice is a symbol of your love and dedication for poor youth and families around the globe.

May God bless you for caring.

## MASS KIT — A Wonderful Memorial Gift ...



...in memory of a loved one, for a new priest or for the missions. This beautiful Mass Kit comes nestled in a sturdy protective carrying case to allow a Priest to safely bring Eucharistic adoration to even the most remote locations.

### PLEASE CHECK ONE:

- I wish to donate this item to Salesian Missions.  
 I wish this item to be sent to my home. (6-8 week delivery)

### ENCLOSED IS MY OFFERING OF:

- \$540.00 for Mass Kit without engraving.  
 \$555.00 for Mass Kit with engraving.

### Special Instructions for ENGRAVING:

- IN LOVING MEMORY  IN HONOR OF

SEND CHECK (TO SALESIAN MISSIONS), M.O. OR CHARGE:  VISA  MasterCard  Discover

Signature X \_\_\_\_\_

EXP. DATE (MO/YR) \_\_\_\_\_

SALESIAN MISSIONS

CID# REQUIRED.  
FOR ALL CHECKS &  
SIGNATURE PANEL  
(ON BACK OF CARD)



**SALESIAN MISSIONS**

2 LEFEVRE LANE, PO BOX 728  
NEW ROCHELLE, NY 10802-0728

Sum/Fall 2014

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_



**SALESIAN MISSIONS**  
2 LEFEVRE LANE  
NEW ROCHELLE NY 10801-5710

If you receive duplicate copies, or your name or address is incorrect, please notify us. Thank you.

Visit us on-line at: [www.salesianmissions.org](http://www.salesianmissions.org)

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Salesian Missions