

Summer/Fall 2017

# SALESIAN®



“Living Stones” for a New Chapel . . . 2

*Notes From the Field:*

A personal account by Salesian  
Lay Missioner, Connor Bergeron . . . 7

Salesians in Tampa, Florida . . . . . 12

Salesian Snapshots . . . . . 18

Pure joy! A new well  
for deserving students . . . . . 22

A Hand Up to Street Kids  
in Myanmar . . . . . 26

# Leave a Legacy of Love and Hope... And Help Make the World a Better Place.

One 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...*



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

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

**Want to know who we are,  
where we began, and  
what we do?**



**YOUR SEARCH STARTS HERE!**

Website: [www.SalesianMissions.org](http://www.SalesianMissions.org)

 [www.facebook.com/FindYourMission](https://www.facebook.com/FindYourMission)

 [www.twitter.com/SalMissions](https://www.twitter.com/SalMissions)

 [www.instagram.com/salesian\\_missions](https://www.instagram.com/salesian_missions)



## Letter from the Editor



Dear Friend and Partner in Mission!

*"I was filled with love, for the Salesians' devotion to youth."*

These are the words of Connor Bergeron, a Salesian Lay Missioner who recently experienced a spiritual rebirth and a newfound love for precious children through his service in Yapacaní, Bolivia.

When you read about Connor's experience on page 7, I believe you will see how the spirit of our founder, St. John "Don" Bosco, inspired his year of volunteerism and journey into faith. "I have vowed my life to these poor little outcasts," Don Bosco once said; this tenet guided Connor's approach to his work, reflection and prayer.

Indeed, as Salesians, this same inspiration animates our mission to improve the lives of some of the world's most impoverished children and families. And I am humbled to say that, thanks to caring friends like you, we are making a profound impact.

In this issue of Salesian, you'll learn how Cristo Rey High School in Tampa, Florida is providing life-changing educational opportunities for at-risk youth (p.12). You'll discover how a simple well is making a big difference for impoverished students in Assam, India (p.22). You'll read how our missionaries are paving pathways toward brighter futures for young men and women in Germany (p.18), Madagascar (p.19) and Ethiopia (p.20). And you'll see how street kids in Mandalay, Myanmar now have hope for a better life. (p.26).

These extraordinary accomplishments are only possible because of your own love for, and devotion to, youth. I am grateful for your friendship.

Sincerely,

Fr. Mark Hyde, S.D.B.

P.S. Throughout this issue, you'll discover several ways to continue making our mission, your mission. Whether it's providing clean water, building a chapel in a remote, forgotten community, giving a gift that will multiply 14 times or investing in a charitable gift annuity that will benefit you and needy children – your generosity will make a life saving difference!



Please know that throughout 2017, Masses will be offered for you and our other partners in mission at the Basilica of Jesus the Adolescent in Bethlehem and here at our Salesian Missions Chapel.

# “Living Stones” for a New Chapel

**T**hey worshipped in a little shed, but had always dreamed of – and prayed for – something more suitable: a proper chapel that could accommodate even more families in their joint celebration of faith.

On August 8th, 2016, a miracle happened: thanks to a generous donor, villagers in the tiny community of San José Siguanha, Guatemala, broke ground on their very own chapel.

During a symbolic ceremony, baptized members of the community carried stones to place around a large Crucifix provided by Father Jorge Puthenpura. In doing so, these men, women and children demonstrated their individual commitment to help erect the structure: representing the “living stones” who would build the Living Church. Once the chapel is complete, that same Crucifix will be permanently installed above the altar as a reminder of the community’s dedication and faith.

After placing the stones, all joined together in prayer, asking God’s blessings during construction; for the selfless donor who made the chapel possible; and for the parishioners who will call this new chapel “home.”



*The original windowless chapel could only hold a few villagers for occasional services.*



*In anticipation of the new chapel, a cross was erected on the building site where the faithful could place a stone.*



*The stones were to become a “living” connection between the families and their new chapel. Even the children carried small stones.*



*After the stones were placed and blessed, the construction began.*

*Thanks to a generous donor, the new chapel is beautiful and large enough to hold the entire thankful congregation.*



# What was once mud and tin...

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!**



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

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.

SUM/FALL 2017

**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)

# SALESIAN YOUTH SERVING THE WORLD

**SALESIAN YOUTH MINISTRY** is helping young people around the world to come to know and love Jesus Christ. Our way of ministering to young people guides them to serve others and the Church in the style of St. John Bosco – the Father and Teacher of the Young.

## Find out more!

Canada: [www.salesianym.ca](http://www.salesianym.ca)

Eastern United States:  
[www.salesianym.com](http://www.salesianym.com)

Western United States:  
[www.salesianym.org](http://www.salesianym.org)



## MORE WAYS TO GET INVOLVED AND SERVE

**VOLUNTEERING:** *"Bosco Young People in Action:"* It's a place where people can learn about the different service opportunities that exist within the Salesian Family in the United States and Canada. In total, there are 5 different programs that the Salesians offer for various volunteer opportunities!



## Find out more!

Website: [www.boscoyoung.org](http://www.boscoyoung.org)  
or Google "Bosco Young People in Action"

**VOCATIONS:** Salesian Priests, Brothers and Sisters commit themselves to a simple but joyful community lifestyle, and work toward evangelizing youth through education, and educating through evangelization.

## Find out more!

### Salesian Priests & Brothers

Canada & Eastern United States:  
Western United States:

[www.salesiansofdonbosco.org](http://www.salesiansofdonbosco.org)  
[www.donboscowest.org/vocation](http://www.donboscowest.org/vocation)

### Salesian Sisters

Canada & Eastern United States:  
Western United States:

Email: [happyun@gmail.com](mailto:happyun@gmail.com)  
Email: [ssneavesw@gmail.com](mailto:ssneavesw@gmail.com)

### Salesian Cooperators:

Email: [jdolan@martinattoway.com](mailto:jdolan@martinattoway.com)





# Notes From the Field:

**Lay Missioner: Connor Bergeron**

**Mission Assignment: Yapacani, Bolivia**

## Encountering God through service: a Salesian Lay Missioner's story



In retrospect, it almost seems like fate: the evening, back in 2014, when I found myself conversing with a Franciscan friar from my parish – hoping he would help me find the right path.

Three years after having graduated from De Sales University with a degree in television and film, I'd been struggling with how to better develop a personal and intimate relationship with God. This was a yearning I'd felt throughout my time as an undergraduate, but what to do about it was a complete mystery to me. "Silence" and "solitude" seemed key, but virtually



*Connor (back center) spends time with the staff and youngsters in a Salesian children's rehabilitation center in Bolivia.*



*Connor shares peanuts (a special treat) with the children.*

impossible to achieve or maintain in a busy college environment.

Working as a video editor in Washington, DC had done nothing to clarify my situation. I felt I had grown tremendously in my faith during that time, and my longing to be closer to God had similarly intensified. But still, I didn't know how to proceed.

Should I teach English abroad, as one of my peers planned to do? I asked the friar. When he instead suggested that I consider missionary work, something clicked.

Immediately, I searched the Catholic Volunteer Network – an online resource connecting young adults with faith-based service opportunities around the world – and discovered the Salesian Lay Missioners (SLM) program.

Although I had attended a Salesian college, I hadn't understood what that really meant. Suddenly, however, it seemed I'd been destined for Salesian service all along. While completing my application, by mere chance I met a former SLM, who instilled com-



*Connor (left) with youth from Yapacaní and Ángel Fernández Artime, Rector Major of the Salesians of St. John Bosco.*

plete confidence in the program.

During a “discernment weekend” – when I, and fellow service candidates, encountered the organization’s staff, programs and structure – I was filled with hope, love for their devotion to Mary and to youth, and trust in God’s will. I was impressed by the encouragement and solid support network the program offered to young missionaries in the field. And I learned about opportunities in South America, which is where I really wanted to go.

After being accepted into the program, I left my video editing job and prepared for my assignment to Bolivia. While I didn’t know exactly what kind of work I would be doing, I assumed teach-

ing would play a primary role; after all, the Salesians’ charism is to youth. Well, it turns out that God is both mysterious, *and* has a sense of humor! About two months before my departure, I learned that my mission site would be in Yapacaní – where I would be assisting at the Salesian’s *Radio Televisión Ichilo*.

*Radio Televisión Ichilo* brings educational and religious programming to some of the most impoverished families in the province, in order to connect them with the rest of Bolivia. During my service year, I directed a cooking show and a young adult program; recorded stories for the nightly news; edited commercials; and trained the station’s local edi-



*Connor (in front) poses with catechism students.*

tors on advanced techniques. And I taught, too: weekly religion classes for first- through sixth-graders, as well as high school level catechism. In between, I served lunch to the homeless and visited the sick.

Today, I celebrate the many blessings of my mission experience: the humility borne of having to speak a language I didn't know; the discipline of daily prayer as modeled by the Salesian priests; and the trust in God's mercy and plan. That deep relationship I craved is now my reality, thanks to the SLM program!

Learn more about our work in Bolivia! Visit [www.salesianmissions.org/Bolivia](http://www.salesianmissions.org/Bolivia)

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)



# 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
- Membership in the Don Bosco Legacy Society

## FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PLANNED GIVING:

- Visit our website at: [www.SalesianMissions.org/annuity](http://www.SalesianMissions.org/annuity)
- Call or Email our Annuity Officer, Anna Maria Lang:  
Tel: 914-633-8344 Ext. 206 or 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!

SUM/FALL  
2017

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 \_\_\_\_\_



**SALESIAN MISSIONS  
FINANCIAL PLANNING OFFICE**

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



## Salesians in the U.S. and Canada

**I**n 1897 the first Salesian missionaries (Priests & Brothers) settled in California. Salesian Sisters soon followed, arriving in New Jersey in 1908. Being a missionary in the U.S. at the time was difficult and challenging – but the good works progressed.

Today over 450 professed Salesian Priests, Brothers and Sisters are present in the United States and Canada. Salesian Provinces based in Haledon NJ, New Rochelle NY, San Antonio TX, San Francisco CA, and Montreal, Canada serve thousands of young and poor throughout both countries. Their ministries encompass day care centers, elementary and high schools, formation houses, religious education centers, parishes, summer camps, development offices and youth centers. Thankfully, the spirit and joy of Don Bosco is still alive today in the U.S. and Canada!

## **Salesians in Tampa, Florida: Cristo Rey Tampa High School Celebrates its First Successful Year!**

*By Cynthia Spano, Director of Advancement and Public Relations*



*August 8, 2016 – The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – and the school year began!*



**One year ago, Cristo Rey Tampa High School flung wide its doors to its first freshmen class: 93 eager students seeking life-changing educational opportunities. For them, this was a dream come true!**

The school – Florida’s first in the Cristo Rey system – follows the net-

work’s proven model of success. It integrates academics with a corporate internship program. This imparts the foundational knowledge and skills young people need to build better futures for themselves and their families.

An inaugural Mass and celebration was offered by Father Steve Ryan, director of Mary Help of Christians (the Salesian community to which Cristo Rey Tampa now belongs). He praised the unwavering commitment of all those involved in bringing the project to fruition.

“This is our moment to thank



*Inaugural freshmen (93 in total) look forward to a bright future.*

God for bringing Cristo Rey to our community,” he said. “Many people here have been praying, and working hard on this dream for a Catholic high school for the underserved youth of Tampa. As we witness these bright and hopeful freshmen here with us today, we are overcome with joy.”

“We are incredibly proud of these young people, who have accepted the opportunity and challenge of being part of our founding class,” added Charles D. Imbergamo, president of the school. “They are bold, courageous and capable of great things.”

## **An innovative model**

Nationally, the key to Cristo Rey's model is a mandatory corporate work-study program (CWSP). Every student spends five full days per month building his or her professional skills in a real-world environment. Prior to the start of school, twenty-six businesses signed on as founding partners for Cristo Rey Tampa's program.

Students earn wages and assign 100% of their paychecks to their tuition costs. This enables them to attend a private school that is safe, academically rigorous, and will prepare them to be among the first in their families to attend college.

"Without college degrees, low-income youth struggle to transcend their disadvantage and build professionally fulfilling and economically stable lives," explains Maria Vaca, Ed.D., director of Cristo Rey Tampa's CWSP. "Together with our job partners, we are providing the academic and work skills our students need to get to, and through, college."



*Students on the way to their weekly assignments.*

The program consists of multiple steps that prepare each student. First they participate in Summer Bridge Training, which covers critical workplace issues. This includes etiquette, expectations, demeanor and how to handle intellectual property and confidentiality of information. Ongoing business ethics courses ensures that students are prepared and trusted employees across the corporate spectrum, including in law offices, healthcare settings and financial institutions.

Following "Draft Day" in August – a fun, celebratory event that matched students with jobs – youth dove into their



placements. There they were able to exhibit their professional skills and self-confidence under the mentorship of seasoned managers who wholeheartedly embrace Cristo Rey's mission. This relationship has already proven mutually invaluable.

"This program is one-of-a-kind," asserts Marlena Leary of Avesta Communities, one of the business partners. "The knowledge and experience gained gives less fortunate students a true advantage in the workforce. And we, as business partners get to play a vital role in shaping tomorrow's leaders, which is immensely

rewarding. I am extremely grateful for our partnership with Cristo Rey Tampa and look forward to many more years of service!"

### ***Destined for success***

With respect to students – some as young as 14 years old – the program has already proven that they are "capable of great things." Listening to these young people speak, one notices their maturity, professionalism and attention to detail that belie their age and relative inexperience.

"I've learned a lot from my job: from entrepreneurship, to not chasing money, to being happy." says Luis, who works at MGT Consulting Group.

"I like that I'm challenged at work," adds Kyana, who – in her role at Joshua T. Keleske, P.L. – is learning how to proofread and file estate-planning and other legal documents. "They treat me like a peer, not like a high school student."



*On the road to success.  
A student working at a law office.*



*Cristo Rey Tampa, together with its job partners, provides academics and a real-life work environment needed to help break the chains of poverty.*



If past history is any indication – and statistics suggest it is – these young men and women are destined for success. Across the country, in urban communities such as Tampa, schools in the Cristo Rey network offer unique and rigorous educational opportunities for close to 10,000 students. And the results are impressive: nationally, 100 percent of Cristo Rey graduates are accepted into some of the most elite two- and four-year colleges.

“I take great consolation in the fact that, 20 or 30 years from now, our students will have been well prepared for their careers, and will be actively living our values of faith, hope, and love,” concludes Mr. Imbergamo.

One year old and going strong, Cristo Rey Tampa High School is yet another example of our mission in action, thanks to the kind support of good people like you! ❤️



# Donor Advised Funds

## An increasingly popular giving option for Salesian Missions donors

If you have a **Donor Advised Fund** or “**DAF**” you can easily support Salesian Missions by simply advising your DAF administrator to make a distribution in whatever amount you choose.

Since donors receive an income tax deduction at the time that they contribute to their DAF there is no additional charitable deduction when making annual or periodic gifts to Salesian Missions through your DAF.

Many individuals are not aware that as part of their estate planning, they can also name Salesian Missions as a beneficiary of the remaining funds in their DAF. As different DAFs have their own process and forms for accomplishing this unique bequeathing option, we advise that you ask your DAF administrator for specific instructions.

If you would like to learn more about making gifts from Donor Advised Funds, please contact **Liz Cahn, Stewardship & Mission Specialist** at (914) 633-8344 x219 or by email at [lizc@salesianmissions.org](mailto:lizc@salesianmissions.org). We would be delighted to help guide you through this process and answer your questions.

When making a DAF gift to Salesian Missions, please provide the following information to your administrator:

**Salesian Missions, Inc.**  
2 Lefevre Lane  
New Rochelle, NY 10801  
Attn: Fr. Mark Hyde, Director  
Tax ID#80-0522035



**Thank you for making  
Salesian Missions...  
Your Mission!**

# Salesian Snapshots

... a scrapbook of stories

from around the Salesian world



German students get on-the-job training through the Salesian Technical School.

Youth Services Center, these pupils – many of whom are migrants, or come from difficult backgrounds – are placed at one of several local companies, where their on-the-job training will help ensure their future success in the workplace.

## GERMANY: Practical experience for career success

At the Don Bosco Technical School in Sinntal, Germany, students in the carpentry program are perfecting their theoretical studies via real-world internships: improving their technical skills, sharing new ideas, and gaining experience. With assistance from the school's

---

## USA: Exploring careers in the health sciences

At St. John Bosco High School in Bellflower, California, students who wish to explore the potential of health-related careers may participate in the Biomedical Pathways program.

Throughout their four years in school, students in the program pursue courses in health and science technology, biomedical ethics, anatomy and



physiology, and molecular biology. They also design research projects, conduct medical simulations, and attend lectures offered by physicians and other health care professionals. Recently, participants visited the Long Beach Memorial Medical Center as a culmination of their studies. Opportunities such as these help better prepare students for the next step in their careers.



*A medical simulation offers "hands-on" learning at a local hospital.*

## **MADAGASCAR: Hope for youth living in the slums**

In Antananarivo, the capital of Madagascar, impoverished children and families have little reason to dream. Isolated from the city itself by slopes of sand and clay - with no electricity, running water, or even true homes to speak of - they crowd into makeshift shelters lining the streets of the suburbs.

The Salesian Center of Clairvaux, however, offers a ray of hope. Located just 15 kilometers away, this school accommodates 100 boarding



*Students wait to enter class at the Salesian Center of Clairvaux in Madagascar.*

students between the ages of 13-18, and many more who attend classes during the day. Here – in addition to traditional education and vocational training in trades such as masonry, carpentry and mechanics – youth receive food (more than 1,000 children are fed each day), clothing, basic medical care and extracurricular activities.

At the Salesian Center of Clairvaux, impoverished students find friends and teachers who care for them and offer them the means to a happy future.

## ETHIOPIA: Printing their future

Across Ethiopia, the printing industry comprises an important, and growing, portion of the labor market – yet opportunities to learn the trade remain few. For this reason, the Salesian Center for Technical and Professional Training in Mekanissa, near the capital city of Addis Ababa, launched a new program in the graphic and typographic arts.

Called “Print Your Future,” the program offers a pathway to employment for underprivileged and at-risk youth through a combination of classroom study and practical experience. In existence since 2015, Print Your Future already shows important results: increased professionalism among students as they seek and find employment; increased name recognition for the institution itself; and a positive public association between the Salesians and educational opportunities.

*Print Your Future* is the first program of its kind in Ethiopia. ❤️

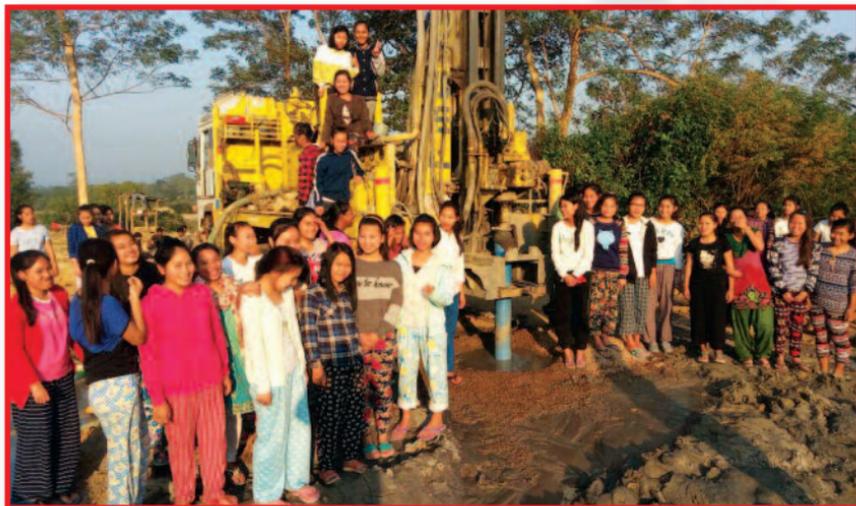


Students perfect the art of tee-shirt printing.



*“Meet the thirsty, bring them water”*

*– Isaiah 21:14*



## **Pure joy! A new well for deserving students**

**T**he sheer joy on their faces is unmistakable: pure, clean water, gushing from the earth and cleansing their faces and hair, and filling their cups. Finally, boarding students at Don Bosco Junior College-Diphu (DBJCD) in Assam, India have their own local source for reliable, clean drinking water.

Water infrastructure in Diphu and its surroundings is exceedingly poor; for this reason, administrators at DBJCD previously relied on hired tankers to supply the campus with water for washing, drinking, cooking and laundry. But the tankers were expensive and erratic: students often waited for long periods of time between deliveries, and poor sanitation meant that many of them often fell ill.



Today, thanks to the Salesian Missions Clean Water Initiative and the many generous donors who fund its projects, DBJCD now has a dedicated well to supply as many as 150 students with the water they require for daily living. Pipes now carry water directly into the girls' dormitory, and an integrated purifier means it is completely safe to drink. Already, students report fewer illnesses.

“Our prayers have been answered,” says Father Thomas Vattathara, director of the Don Bosco Institute in Guwahati – an organization that spearheads educational opportunities for impoverished youth in Assam. “Though the project has been

expensive, every penny spent has been worth it, as it is incurred for the welfare of a very deprived section of society. The girls are very grateful to all of the benefactors who have made the well possible.” ♥

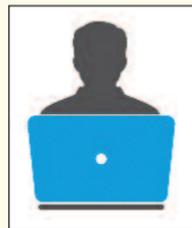


***Learn More! Go to: [www.salesianmissions.org/water](http://www.salesianmissions.org/water)***

## COMING SOON...

Please be on the lookout for our redesigned website coming later this year. It will be filled with even more stories and photos of all the good works YOU help make possible. So keep visiting us at **[www.SalesianMissions.org](http://www.SalesianMissions.org)** and stay tuned for a whole new experience.

*See you online...*



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

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

Our new and very popular publications – our “2018 Angel Datebook” and Christmas book, “Joyful and Triumphant” – 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 2017

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

"2018 Angel Datebook" Qty \_\_\_\_\_

"Joyful and Triumphant" 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)**



# A Hand Up to Street Kids in Myanmar



**T**oday, for a variety of reasons, more than 400 children live on the streets of Mandalay, Myanmar. Plagued by poor health and chronic malnutrition, with no means of attending school, these children are trapped in the harsh grip of poverty with little hope of escape.

“Children are not happy in their homes, and so they run away,” explains Father Peter Myo Khin, director of Don Bosco Friend of Youth Center in Mandalay. In a country where a staggering 70 percent of the population lives in profound poverty, parents regularly force their children to leave school in order to work – and beat them when they don’t earn enough money. “Sadly, once on the street, their situation gets worse, not better,” he says.



Established in 2013, the Don Bosco Friend of Youth Center (DBFYC) is an oasis of hope and opportunity for homeless youth with nowhere else to turn. Twice per week, Fr. Peter and his staff fan out across the city to meet the children, gain their trust, and invite them to access the center's services: safe shelter, nutritious meals, basic health care, and educational opportunities. Currently, 30 boys aged 4-18 live permanently at the DBFYC. (Sisters of the Good Shepherd run a separate shelter for girls.)

Among the 30 boys, 22 attend school and eight are enrolled in a professional training program. "Education can change people's lives, their habits and their attitudes," says Fr. Peter. "We encourage the boys to attend school so they may have the job skills they need to live as independent, productive members of society."

One boy living at the center ran away from his village at 8 years old. His father had abandoned the family; his mother, forced to work,



*Children are treated with love and respect at the Don Bosco Friend of Youth Center.*

was unable to care for her children. "My grandfather beat me, so I took the train to Mandalay," he recalls.

Now 15 and attending 7th grade, this boy is motivated to turn his life around. "I want to attend university, learn English, and become a tour guide!" he exclaims. Grateful for the opportunities DBFYC has afforded him, he also helps to care for other boys at the shelter.

"If we can't help people escape poverty, kids will remain on the streets," Fr. Peter noted. He and his staff, with your help, hope to expand the center's capacity in order to accommodate 100 children – more than a quarter of Mandalay's street kids! ❤️

**Learn More! Go to: [www.salesianmissions.org/content/faith](http://www.salesianmissions.org/content/faith)**



**CURRENT  
SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS**

WINNER OF GRAND PRIZE  
NOVEMBER 30, 2016  
ANTONIO JOSEPH, BROOKLYN NY

WINNER OF EARLY BIRD PRIZE  
DECEMBER 31, 2016  
MARY JANE BALTRUS, EAST LAKE OH

WINNER OF GRAND PRIZE  
JANUARY 31, 2017  
GLADYS F. PEREZ, FLUSHING NY

WINNER OF EARLY BIRD PRIZE  
FEBRUARY 28, 2017  
JOHN H. GARFIELD, JR., UTICA NY

WINNER OF GRAND PRIZE  
MARCH 31, 2017  
BARBARA A. ROXBY, MC MECHEN WV

WINNER OF EARLY BIRD PRIZE  
APRIL 30, 2017  
JODY HENSON, TOLEDO OH

*You Are the Light  
of the World*

*- Matthew 5:14*



**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 Services  
SALESIAN MISSIONS  
2 LEFEVRE LANE, PO BOX 728  
NEW ROCHELLE NY 10802-0728  
TEL: 914-633-8344  
Email: [info@salesianmissions.org](mailto:info@salesianmissions.org)**

*A* special candle was lit in remembrance of our generous donors and their loved ones during the Feast of Mary, Help of Christians.

We remembered your prayer intentions as the glow of the candle gave us peace and serenity. The flickering flame also reminded us of the light you provide into the dark, lonely lives of so many impoverished children.

You are their friend, their guardian angel – you are the light of their world.

*Thank you for making our mission...  
your mission!*

*F. Maril*

**Submit your prayer intentions. Go to:  
[www.salesianmissions.org/pray](http://www.salesianmissions.org/pray)**

