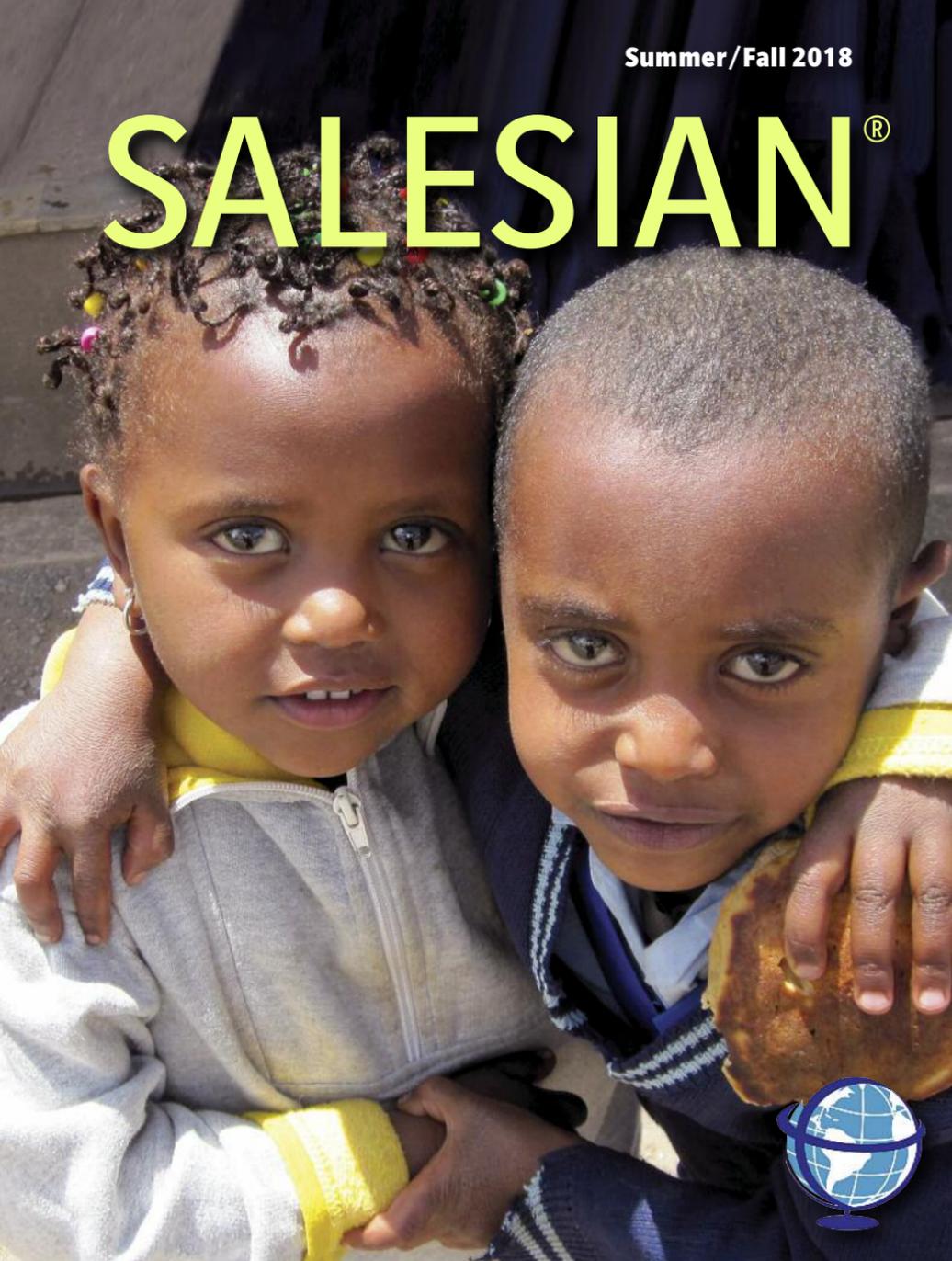


Summer/Fall 2018

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of all the good works
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Letter from the Editor



Dear Friend and Partner in Mission!

When I first read the story of Laura and Josiah Vacheresse (p. 7), I was inspired by the many ways in which they exemplify Don Bosco's guiding spirit in their service to youth in Swaziland. But I was especially delighted by the student who proclaimed that he'd just experienced "the best day ever at Salesian High School!"

It's not often that our missionaries, or dedicated volunteers like the Vacheresses, receive such immediate, exuberant feedback. And that's okay, because our goals remain unchanged: to make every child's day better than the one before, through the programs and services they need to achieve their full potential.

Whether it's offering refugee children the chance to go to school (p. 2), helping former child soldiers rediscover their dignity and hope (p. 19), or providing safe shelter, warm meals, and educational opportunities for youth living on the streets (p. 26), witnessing the many positive, heartwarming outcomes of our work becomes its own reward.

Thank you, as always, for making our mission, your mission. Because of your generosity and prayers, so many precious girls and boys around the world now know what it means to experience their own "best day ever." May God Bless You!

Sincerely,

Fr. Mark Hyde, S.D.B.

P.S. Throughout this issue, you'll discover several ways to demonstrate your compassion. Whether it's clean water, a chapel in your honor, a gift that will be multiplied 14 times, or a charitable gift annuity that can provide you with guaranteed income for life, your generosity makes a difference.



Please know that throughout 2018, 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.

PALABEK: A HOME AWAY FROM HOME FOR SOUTH SUDAN'S REFUGEES

The United Nations has called South Sudan's escalating civil war the "most terrible" in the world today. Yet its victims are all but forgotten. Their stories – of brutalities hard to imagine, and devastating losses difficult to bear – remain largely untold. Media blackouts, the threat of imprisonment, and fear, guarantees silence. In the Palabek Refugee Camp along the northern Ugandan border, however, four Salesians, together with many partners, bear witness to their suffering – providing physical and spiritual support for the more than 42,000 people who seek safe haven there. But the needs are overwhelming...



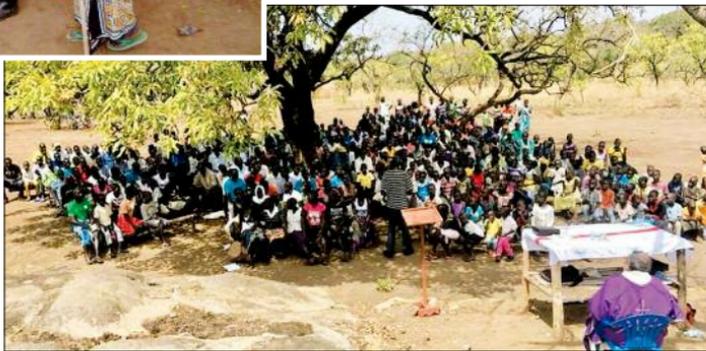
Every day, as many as 300 refugees – mostly women and children – arrive desperately hungry, thirsty, and poorly clothed. They have lost their homes, their families, and their hope.

"Everything they once knew is gone," says Father Mark Hyde, director of Salesian Missions. "They watched their husbands and fathers be tortured and killed. They lived in constant fear for their own safety as they ran, under cover of night, from unspeakable violence. And with no immediate end to the war in sight, their need for assistance will persist."

Through a newly established Salesian-run center within the camp, missionaries strive to restore a sense of normalcy and stability. First, they



◀ *Fr. Arasu offering Communion to the faithful of Palabek.*



▶ *Mass celebrated under the shade of a large tree.*

offer some small – yet vital – comforts of “home:” a 30’ x 30’ plot of land, and simple shelter. These shelters have tarpaulin roofs, and thatched walls fastened with sticks and nails. Families also receive food and 100 liters of clean water each day while they learn to grow their own crops.

For Father Lazar Arasu, director of the Salesian community at Palabek, education remains central to restoring hope for children – who comprise 60 percent of the camp’s population. Soon, these girls and boys will be able to attend Salesian-run primary, secondary and vocational training schools; construction is already well underway for three kindergartens, with additional classrooms to follow.

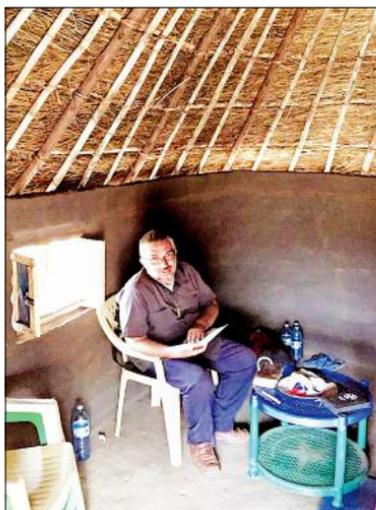
“First and foremost, we must take care of the youth,” he says. “They are the reason for our presence here, and for our commitment to education and evangelization. We know that the longer children remain out of school, the less likely they are to return. By providing educational

continuity for them – as well as new training opportunities for primary wage earners – we help ensure that families can one day return home with the skills they need for their next phase in life.”

Currently, Fr. Arasu is working directly with a small group of refugee youth, teaching them simple construction skills. Already, this group of eager young people, together with Salesian missionaries, have completed some very basic gathering places. Here, residents can attend Mass, gather for community meetings, join mother-child support programs, and basic agricultural discussions. Fr. Arasu is grateful for all of the work refugees do to help one another – as well as the Salesians who live full-time at Palabek.



Some of the young camp residents help with the construction of schools and churches.



One of the small huts where Fr. Uba and the other missionaries live. Young refugee volunteers generously helped the Salesians build them.

“At 5:00 pm, when staff from other humanitarian agencies leave the camp for lodging in a nearby city, we Salesians remain among the people,” he explains.

“Their living conditions are not easy,” observes Father Ubaldino (“Fr. Uba”) Andrade, the newest Salesian to join the community at Palabek. “But the families are surprisingly happy and generous. They have much to teach us.”

The missionaries’ days are no less difficult. Each lives in a small hut with just enough space for a sleeping mat. Nearby, there is a latrine and an improvised room where they can shower with water carried



from wells 250 meters away. But, as with those whom they serve, they maintain optimism for the future.

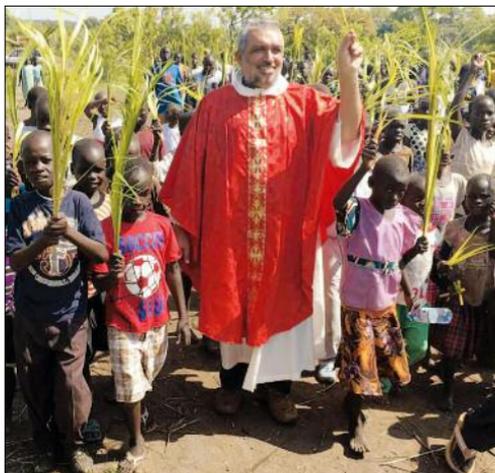
“With the help of Don Bosco, we will ensure dignity, resourcefulness and brighter futures for these displaced families,” Fr. Arasu says. “We shall move ever forward from here, finding the way to improve their situation, and filling the young with joy, hope, and a reason to live.” ♥



The “citizens” are becoming very successful at farming their own land.



The simple living conditions, some merely wood and tarps, offer shelter for thousands of families.



Fr. Uba leading the children to Mass.

What was once mud and tin...

Millions of people throughout Africa, Central and South America, India and Asia are celebrating Mass and worshiping 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.

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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



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Thanks to generous people like you!



- Enclosed is my gift of \$16,000.00 to build a Village Memorial Chapel. SUM/FALL 2018 CH
 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.

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Notes From the Field...

A Salesian Lay Missioner Experience

Lay Missioners: Laura and Josiah Vacheresse

Mission Assignment: Swaziland, Africa

Our Story of Caring:
Husband and wife team
share their SLM experience



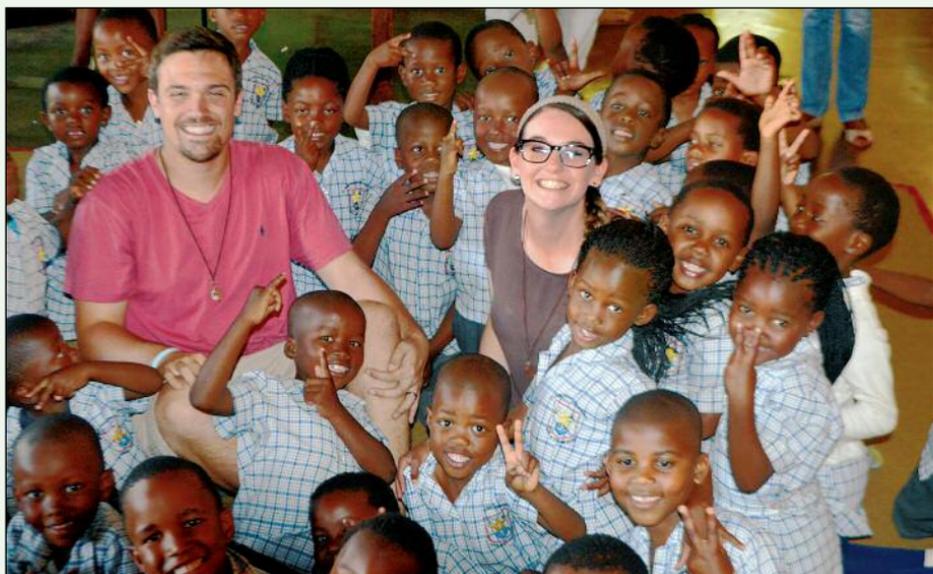
How quickly time passes: it seems like just yesterday that my wife Laura and I were boarding a plane for Africa!

We are fully enjoying our time here in Swaziland; and with each passing day, we find ourselves more and more involved with the people we came here to love and serve. Admittedly, we have fought homesickness throughout the past few months – I think this is bound to happen when you feel only a bit “at home” in a new place. But we are certainly feeling more comfortable and useful the longer we are here.

At St. Anne’s High School in Manzini, Laura and I work directly with students – all girls – and we have been able to organize a basketball



Laura and Josiah Vacheresse



“Teaching and caring for these children has forever changed our lives.”

team and use the facilities at the Salesian Boys High School. We also write proposals and reports, conduct assessments, and make plans for the province.

Additionally, we have started to visit patients at Hope House, a local hospice run by the Sisters of Mary, Help of Christians. Hope House is a beautiful compound of individual homes where patients live with their caregivers in a comfortable setting. Medical professionals care for these patients during their last stages of life or –

in some cases – until they are stable enough to return to their homes. Providers offer everything from end-of-life care for cancer and AIDS patients, to rehabilitation for stroke victims and those suffering from other illnesses. Sister Elsa, who manages Hope House, is an amazing nurse; it’s immediately clear how well patients are cared for under her watch. I can’t adequately describe how humbling, and appreciative, a day spent visiting and talking with these people can make you feel.



◀ *Sister Elsa's tireless care for the desperately ill is an example of true compassion.*

Josiah with some very happy basketball players!



We were also able to set up a boys' basketball team. The Salesians procured uniforms, took team photos and got the first game underway.

Many children showed up at the first game and cheered for the boys' team from the sidelines. After the game, while enjoying peanut butter & jelly sandwiches, the boys dubbed their experience as "the best day ever at Salesian High School!" making it all completely worth it.

We are also strengthening our relationships with the 48 girls and boys under the care of the Salesian Children's Homes. Many of them were orphans living on the streets, and once considered



at-risk; now, they are truly exceptional! Among them are the top student at one of the best private schools in Swaziland; a child who scored among the top ten students in the country; numerous musicians who had never before seen an instrument, and now play as if they had practiced for years; and an athlete whose sprinting times rival those of a Division One college athlete in the U.S. – to name just a few. Despite their



*Even though they have so little,
the children are joyous!*

initial circumstances, their futures are now incredibly bright!

Working closely with the Salesians, we have discovered the meaning of “faith in action,” and the need for compassion for the most vulnerable. We are so grateful for our relationships with the other lay missionaries and Salesians with whom we live, and the experiences which have completely changed our lives. ♥

Laura and Josiah

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
or email us at: slm@salesianmissions.org**



JUST ANNOUNCED...

Annuity rates have increased!

Don't miss this valuable opportunity

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 6.2%; at age 80, the rate is 7.3%, and at age 90, the rate is 9.5%.

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
- Call or Email our Annuity Officer, Ana Maria Lang:
Tel: 914-633-8344 Ext. 206 or Email: amlang@salesianmissions.org
- Fill-in and return the form below.



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

SUM/FALL
2018 AN

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 \$ _____

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NAME OF OTHER PARTICIPANT: _____

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Salesians in the U.S. and Canada

In 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 and San Francisco CA 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!

Bringing God's Love to All
Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish
Surrey, British Columbia, Canada



Our Lady of Good Counsel Church interior.

*F*rom humble beginnings on Christmas Eve, 1948 – with just 37 people attending Mass – Our Lady of Good Counsel parish has grown to be one of the largest in the Archdiocese of Vancouver, Canada.

Earlier that same year, a group of men had collaborated to build a new church: spending \$15,000 on the necessary materials. When the surrounding population began to grow, however, Our Lady's pastor realized that the new church was woefully inadequate. There should be a school, a rectory, offices and other space to accommodate the expanding congregation and their needs. But then, a setback: in 1957, as a new school was being built, fire destroyed the little church that had been standing for just nine years. With meager funds, but lots of faith, construction proceeded as planned. Soon, the parish included a rebuilt church plus all of the buildings originally envisioned.

Nearly two decades later, in 1974, the Salesians assumed administration of the parish. They discovered a sizable debt, with much more work to be done, though by 1980, through careful planning, dedicated effort, and committed parishioners, the



community grew and prospered.

Today, Our Lady of Good Counsel continues to serve more than 10,000 faithful! In addition to regular church services, a multitude of ongoing activities includes elementary, high school, and religious education programs. On any given evening, as many as six organizations at a time are meeting: youth clubs and support groups, the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Woman's League, altar servers, Polish School, the Legion of Mary, Couples for Christ, dance school, Marriage Encounter, Agape Street Ministry and the Family of Salesian cooperators ... to name just a few!

Our Lady of Good Counsel also includes liturgies for Polish, Laotian, and Spanish-speaking

families. Many parishioners work with the St. Vincent de Paul Society, making regular home visits and attending to the needs of many culturally diverse families.

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Our Lady is located in Surrey City Center, in the heart of what is expected to become the largest Canadian city west of Toronto. In order to accommodate an expanding congregation (there's a new light rail station within a block of the church, three high rises under construction within a mile, and several new townhouses replacing single-family homes on three of the four sides) the Salesians envision the parish's concurrent growth.

Three Sisters of Mary, Help of Christians recently arrived to round out the Salesian family. They will assist in the parish and teach in the local regional Catholic high school. While the convent needs renovations, the Sisters have settled in happily.

As always, works will expand – particularly for the young. Our Lady of Good Counsel elementary school is now at its capacity of 30 students per classroom; and the unique Salesian Youth Center caters to hundreds of area youngsters. Growing numbers of volunteers and lay Salesians engage in outreach. Throughout, all the works of Our Lady of Good Counsel parish are guided by the spirit of Don Bosco, with loving kindness and joyful optimism. ♥



Children – the hope for the future – are lovingly looked after at the parish school.



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

Eastern United States:
www.salesianym.com

Western United States:
www.salesianym.org

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VOLUNTEERING: Decide to dedicate some of your time and gain a life changing experience.

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Salesian Lay Missioners: www.SalesianLayMissioners.org

SalesianVolunteers: www.DonBoscoWest.org/volunteers

Volunteers in Development, Education & Solidarity:
www.vides.us

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: www.salesiansofdonbosco.org

Western United States: www.donboscowest.org/vocation

Salesian Sisters

Canada & Eastern United States: Email: happynun@gmail.com

Western United States: Email: ssneaves@gmail.com

Salesian Cooperators:

Email: jdolan@martinattoway.com



Salesian Snapshots

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

MALI: A school in one of the world's poorest countries

In Mali, extreme despair and a feeling of hopelessness prevail among the impoverished rural population. Yet there is hope: the Salesians have built a secondary school in the small town of Touba, where no educational institutions at this level had previously existed.

Until recently, 12- and 13-year-old children who wished to continue their studies after primary school had one option: move to the nearest city, more than 12 miles away, without the support and care of their families – an impossibility for most. Now, at the new St. John Bosco High School, more than 400 boys and girls from 17 area villages can pursue additional education close to home.

While the Salesians remain challenged to alter the histories of children and families in this impoverished nation, St. John Bosco High School is helping build the foundations for brighter futures, one student at a time.



Students assemble outside at the
St. John Bosco High School in Mali



COLOMBIA: “Ciudad Don Bosco” rehabilitates child soldiers

International organizations estimate that more than 250,000 boys and girls participate in armed conflicts around the globe, far from their families and the opportunities of education. In order to help former child soldiers overcome their traumas, and reintegrate into society, Salesian missionaries offer crucial rehabilitative services in several countries most affected by war.



“Reject any form of violence”

At Ciudad Don Bosco in Medellín, a Salesian program called “Building Dreams” shines a bright example for the entire world. Since its inception in 2000, this innovative program has saved 2,400 children from the horrors of war.

These children include Catalina and Manuel, both of whom traveled to Europe last year to bear witness to the grim realities of their experiences – and to describe how “Building Dreams” has helped them discover redemption and forgiveness, optimism and hope. Vatican journalists, United Nations personnel and officials from Brussels – to name a few – heard their powerful words.

Today, both of these children are on the path to a much brighter future. Catalina has realized her dream to study nursing and Manuel works in a large company, can pay rent on a home, and even bought himself a small motorcycle to go to work.

Learn more! Visit www.SalesianMissions.org/medellin

PARAGUAY: Cultivating a Better Future

Salesian missionaries in Paraguay have launched a new project to help reduce poverty among the rural populations they serve.

Because agriculture is the predominant industry in Paraguay – nearly 50 percent of the population participates in farming and forestry activities – the project focuses on improvements in this area.

Missionaries provide youth with the knowledge and skills they need to build a good life for themselves, their families and their communities. The program offers basic education as well as advanced studies in modern farming practices. Students also participate in hands-on agricultural and livestock training at a working farm at the Carlos Pfanni Salesian Institute. “The Salesian Institute trains thousands of students nationally,” says Fr. Mark Hyde, “and has always supported rural communities and smaller farms within the villages. With this new project, our missionaries feel highly engaged in Paraguay’s economic advancement.”



Student farmers gain skills to improve their lives.

INDIA: Bringing medical care to the streets

Access to health care, in general, is challenging in India. Socioeconomic status, gender, and geography all contribute to a system where many people do not have adequate care. This is even truer for street children.

In order to help address this challenge, Salesian missionaries in New



Delhi have launched a new mobile health clinic. Each day, a doctor, nurse and social worker travel in a specially-equipped van to 11 different areas of the city where homeless children congregate. Once there, they offer free medical exams and treatment for those under the age of 18.

The health care team covers four rotating locations, with as many as 25 children showing up at each site. Most often, they treat malaria, traumatic injuries and infected wounds, upper respiratory issues, anemia, fever and abdominal pain. And, because despair often breeds substance abuse – a serious, and growing, problem throughout India – the team also provides alcohol, drug and tobacco counseling for those who need it.

Finally, Salesians teach the children proper hygiene, and explain the preventive measures they can take to maintain a healthy body and mind.



With your help, Salesians bring medical help to impoverished children in the most remote areas of India.

MORE NEWS! Salesian Missions' donor funds medical van

A very generous benefactor recently funded a medical van and necessary equipment to serve remote villages in the Province of New Delhi, India. The van will be used as an ambulance to transport sick children and families to a hospital that is over 100 miles away. In this undeveloped region, malaria, malnutrition and especially snake bites are prevalent. This one act of kindness will undoubtedly save countless lives. ♥

You are special to us.... and we love hearing from you!

Many of you have taken precious time out of your lives to offer your inspiring messages. You have lovingly handwritten your heartwarming thoughts, and returned them to us. Some of them are shown here.

Thank you so much for doing this! Your beautiful words mean so much to us and our missionaries. We are very blessed to have good friends like you that make so many sacrifices for poor children around the world. May God bless you in return.

With a grateful heart,



Father Mark Hyde

I am passionate about supporting Salesian Missions because:
Dear Fr. Mark,
I believe we are to share what we have with others.
Acts 4: 32-37
Wish I could do more.

I am passionate about supporting Salesian Missions because: 4/15/18
FR. MARK:
YOUR MISSION DOES EXTREMELY GOOD WORK!! I AM GRATEFUL TO THE LORD IN THAT I CAN HELP!!

I am passionate about supporting Salesian Missions because:
Everyone involved seems to have such passion for what they do, and it gives me hope for the future. Every child helped has the potential to change the world.

(PLEASE FILL-IN, DETACH AND RETURN THIS FORM)

SUM/FALL 2018

Yes, I would like to share my thoughts at this time:

I am passionate about supporting Salesian Missions because:

Also, please pray for my following intentions:

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Salesian Missionaries travel to the U.S.

to share their stories...



The Missionary Cooperative Program

Each summer, a special group of Salesian missionaries travel to parishes throughout the United States. They share personal stories of their work on behalf of marginalized youth and families around the world – and we invite you to join them!

“Nothing can replace these first-hand accounts of our missionaries,” says Fr. Mark Hyde, director of Salesian Missions. *“In more than 130 countries around the world, these missionaries are literally in the trenches – offering comfort, hope and pathways out of poverty.”*

This work is only possible thanks to the caring compassion of our friends here at home through their participation in our annual Mission Cooperative Program (MCP). In 2018, a dozen Salesian missionaries from several countries visited parishes across the U.S. from Connecticut, to Michigan, North Carolina, Texas, California and more! They shared stories that demonstrate the power of your support. They tell how Salesian-run clinics, schools, training programs, emergency relief, farming education and more, change lives for the better every day.

Please visit:

www.SalesianMissions.org/MCP

to view a complete list of parishes that hosted Salesian missionaries this past summer.

Fr. Ashok Lawrence, one of the missionaries assigned to our MCP program this year

Fr. Ashok, from India, served as teacher and director in various schools before settling into his current position, in 2016, as Secretary of the Salesian Province of Tiruchy, India.

Fr. Ashok visited five states in the eastern U.S. this summer, sharing his story and asking for your help and prayers.



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 “2019 Angel Datebook” and Christmas book, “We Three Kings” – 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.

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

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

PLEASE SEND ME THE FOLLOWING BOOKS.

Summer/Fall 2018

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

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"We Three Kings" Qty _____

Name _____

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OSMAN, THE CHILD WHO WANTED TO ESCAPE THE STREETS



Good news doesn't often come from Sierra Leone, a country wounded by war, disease and poverty. But what happened to Osman portends hope – and offers a vision of what his country might become in the not-too-distant future.

Like so many boys and girls in Freetown, Osman's childhood had been lost to the streets. He had lived there for so long, in fact, that he couldn't recall his age, when he had last attended school, or where his family was living – if they were even alive. He only knew the daily struggle of staying safe, searching for a morsel to eat, and finding shelter from the elements. And so, when Salesian volunteers told him about Don Bosco Fambul, Osman listened. He was ready for a change in his life.

Each year, Don Bosco Fambul reaches out to an estimated 2,500 homeless youth in and around the city. A mobile bus staffed with Salesian missionaries and professional staff travels among the most impoverished neighborhoods, offering meals, clean clothes, showers, and basic health care. Youth who wish to leave the streets



can enter a Salesian-run rehabilitation program and receive family reunification counseling, if and when possible.

For a long time, Osman visited Don Bosco Fambul, but only at night. Standing by the entrance, he talked to people on their way in and out: his way of feeling safe. “What do I have to do to become one of Fambul?” he would ask. Curious, yet hesitant, Osman had to make that decision for himself. He noticed that other kids like him, some of whom he had known on the streets, were happy and well-behaved, and he wanted to be among them.

One day, Osman approached a Salesian missionary and said, “Look, I already understand: it is not Fambul that changes boys; it is Don Bosco, because he has already changed me, and I am still outside.”

Little by little, staff encouraged Osman to play, then to have meals; later, they offered him a shower and gave him clean clothes. Finally, he attended school, even though he did not immediately understand everything being taught in the classroom.

Without realizing it, Osman indeed became “one of Fambul:” distinguishing himself for his joy, service and commitment to transform his life. ❤



Learn More! Go to: www.SalesianMissions.org/sierra-leone

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These youngsters are proudly wearing their "Hope Bracelets" – a cherished gift that you helped give them.

Due to so many of you who responded so generously to our Easter Cards Appeal... a poor child in our missions received a "Hope Bracelet" to wear in appreciation of you – and your love for them.

What joy it is to see the smiles on these children's faces and to realize how such a simple gesture can bring so much happiness.

We will continue to distribute "Hope Bracelets" to even more of our mission kids. In this way, in a true sense, you are there with them, always reminding them of your goodness and compassion.

