

Winter/Spring 2019

SALESIAN®



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...



SALESIAN MISSIONS

2 Lefevre Lane, PO BOX 728, New Rochelle NY 10802-0728

TEL: (914) 633-8344

• www.SalesianMissions.org/giving

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Page.

Same Mission, New Locale! 2

Notes From the Field:

A personal account by Salesian
Lay Missioner, Megan Schneider . . . 5

Salesians in the US and Canada:
Father Tom Uzhunnalil, S.D.B. 10

Salesian Snapshots 17

In Egypt, the Salesian Missions'
"Sunrise Project" 22

Óscar, the child who rediscovered
his childhood 26

OUR NEW WEBSITE IS HERE!

And it is filled with even more stories and photos of all the good works YOU help make possible.



So keep visiting us at:

www.SalesianMissions.org

See you online!



www.facebook.com/FindYourMission



www.twitter.com/SalMissions



www.instagram.com/salesian_missions



Letter from the Editor



Dear Friend and Partner in Mission!

“This truth has finally settled: big things take time.”

How often do we, in today’s culture of immediacy, find ourselves hoping – expecting, even – that our goals be achieved, our dreams realized, our prayers answered ... right this second? During particularly challenging circumstances, especially, it’s hard to escape this kind of thinking; we want to skip the line and move directly to the checkout counter, with as little inconvenience as possible.

Reading the story of Salesian Lay Missioner Megan Schneider (p. 5), therefore, I delighted in the fact that, during the course of her two years’ service in Bolivia, she learned that life doesn’t always adhere to a timeline ... and that good things come to those who wait.

Megan’s realization recalls the wisdom of our Salesian missionaries serving around the world. Despite their most fervent desires, these patient men and women understand, through experience, that the problems of poverty cannot be solved overnight. Instead, they approach their service on behalf of the hungry, the abandoned, the ill, and the despairing with “trust in the slow work of God.” You may read about some of these good works, and our long-term commitment to them, in this issue of SALESIAN.

Thank you for staying the course with us. *Together, we are making a remarkable difference! May God Bless You!*

Sincerely,

Fr. Mark Hyde, S.D.B.



Please know that throughout 2019, 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.

Same Mission, New Locale!

After 32 years of continuous service to India's poor, Father Thomas Pallithanam ("Fr. Palli," as he is affectionately called) experienced a tearful, yet joyful, sendoff at Ravulapalem, Andhra Pradesh. His life's journey now leads him to a new post in the United States, where he has been appointed as the next Salesian representative to the United Nations.



Father Thomas Pallithanam (Fr. Palli)

Nominated by Father Ángel Fernández Artime, Rector Major of the Salesians, Fr. Palli has been advocating and lobbying for the youngest, and most vulnerable, for over 30 years – both nationally and internationally. He will succeed Father Thomas Brennan, who has represented the Salesians at the United Nations since the order was first granted official Consultive status in 2007.

Fr. Palli's resumé boasts an impressive list of projects and accomplishments. He initiated the People's Action for Rural Awakening (PARA), to establish a rapid emergency response plan for people affected by natural and human-made disasters. He has tirelessly organized events and campaigns to promote the needs of society's most impoverished; has participated in conferences, congresses and international initiatives; and has curated reports and scientific publications on the same themes.



*Fr. Palli and his
“flock” at Mass, while
serving and working
for many years in
his native India.*



At the U.N. since October 2, 2018, Fr. Palli’s task remains the same – just the location, and scale, are new!

Fr. Palli now lives at the Salesian Provincial Center in New Rochelle, NY which allows him a quick train ride to his post. There, he interacts with ECOSOC, a consultative and coordinating body of the United Nations for Economic and Social Activities, and the various organizations associated with it. Among its responsibilities are to institute economic development programs and seek technical and financial assistance for less developed countries. It also promotes studies and reports on economic, social, cultural, educational and health issues. The main focus is always the well-being and protection of children worldwide.

Welcome to New York, and we pray for your success, Fr. Palli! ♥



The United Nations General Assembly in New York.

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

Is something missing from your life?



MORE WAYS TO GET INVOLVED AND SERVE



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

Find out more!

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





Notes From the Field...

A Salesian Lay Missioner Experience

Lay Missioner: Megan Schneider

Mission Assignment: Bolivia

Chau Bolivia!

Goodbye Bolivia;

Hello United States!



I wrote a different version of this two months ago. It read exactly as it should have: as if it were written by a grieving, anxious, quietly angry person. And, as I write this today, it's true that those parts of me are still voicing themselves – but I seem to have found a peace and clarity that leave me less overwhelmed by grief and sadness. Instead, I am dominated by hope, and a trust in what comes next.

I write in thanksgiving that I was given these two-plus years. I know I am grieving because I am leaving behind a beautiful time in my life; because I am leaving family; because I am leaving a chapter that was full



The infectious joy of the children makes any sacrifice well worth while for Megan!

to the brim with struggle, tears, and suffering, but all held in the palms of a loving Father who used those experiences to manifest peace and trust within me.

My perspective on life has certainly been shaken up a bit, and some crucial truths have finally truly moved from my head to my heart.

Like: the fact that my happiness is not determined by ticking off the boxes I've convinced myself I must tick. I've come to realize that I don't have to figure out any big plans awaiting me. The plan isn't defined by when I enter my vocation, or land on a career track, or live in a perfectly decorated home. This is it. This is the big plan. I'm living it, right now.

My life in Cochabamba is simple. The plumbing rarely functions. I don't know the last time I had a hot shower. My digestive system may never quite be the



"This is where God has willed me to be – here with the Salesians." – Megan

same. I'm not in a long-term relationship, I have no job lined up; heck, I don't even own a couch or pots and pans. But every single minute of life here has been full. And the only way I can explain that, given the suffering I've lived and seen, is that I've known that this is where God has willed me to be – here with the Salesians, helping them to help the poorest of the poor.

This truth has finally settled: big things take time. As Pierre Teilhard de Chardin said, *"Trust in the slow work of God."* I remember hearing that phrase during my orientation with the Salesians, and



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*



found myself pushing back against it. I'd always lived by a timeline, the requisite milestones easily measured, and I sincerely believed that life just might end if I didn't nail down every achievement I'd imagined and mapped out my future. Now, as I survey the unknown, I feel less as if I'm about to fall off a cliff, and more like I'm running full-force at what appears to be a brick wall, but what in reality is a door – borne of my faith and trust that when I pass through, more miracles await.



On an outdoor excursion with her "girls."

I've come to accept that inching my way along, feeling myself fighting against pride and plans and expectations, isn't such a bad thing.

As Brother Isaiah sings: *“Every good thing is born of a struggle.”* Or, as my fellow lay missionary and friend Sarah Jane quips, “The phrase is not, ‘Every good thing is born of my perfectly-executed plans,’ or ‘Every good thing is born of my color coded to-do list!’” I realized, a few months ago as I started to “plan” for my time back home, that I had been attempting to perfectly orchestrate everything in order to mitigate the pain of leaving here. Which just ain’t how it works!



Thank you! – A simple word that means so much.

It’s been a blessed two years, and yet, I trust that what comes next will be just as beautiful – even if it will feel a bit like wandering through the desert in search of the promised land. And when I have left the desert, I will look back fondly on that time, knowing it was necessary and willed by my loving Father.

I ask for your prayers for the girls and the sisters at the Salesian mission here in Bolivia. I have every confidence that He will be taking care of them, as He always has.

I ask for your prayers for my family.

I ask for your prayers for me, especially that I may maintain my peace as I navigate the challenges of the transition ahead.

And I give thanks to God for you all, who have walked beside me in so many ways during the past two plus years. ♥

*Que Dios
los bendiga,
Megan*

ANNOUNCED RECENTLY... 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!

WIN/SPR
2019 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 \$ _____

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

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!

FR. TOM UZHUNNALIL, A SALESIAN PRIEST KIDNAPPED IN YEMEN, DETAILS ORDEAL IN NEW ROCHELLE VISIT

Adapted from a story in Catholic New York by Christie L. Chicoine



(L) Fr. Tom, forced to plea for help during his capture, and (R) Fr. Tom today.

Repeatedly celebrating the Mass in his mind and resolutely praying the Stations of the Cross, the Angelus, the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet. These were among the spiritual survival tactics used by Father Tom Uzhunnalil, S.D.B., while being held in captivity for 557 days in war-torn Yemen.



Fr. Tom tells his emotional story at the Salesian Missions office.

Yet the humble Salesian priest from Kerala, India, recalls questioning his worthiness to be a martyr like the nuns who were murdered minutes before he was placed in the trunk of a vehicle and driven away.

A chaplain assigned to the Missionaries of Charity Sisters in Yemen, Fr. Tom, now 60, was abducted March 4, 2016, after a group of gunmen barged into the home for the elderly run by the religious sisters. Sixteen people, including four Missionaries of

Charity, were killed in the attack.

He was released Sept. 12, 2017, after enduring a lonely captivity in some unknown locations.

This past September, Fr. Tom recounted his harrowing experience at the Salesian Missions Office in New Rochelle, NY. The attentive audience included students from nearby Salesian High School as well as Salesian Missions administration and staff members. Fr. Mark Hyde, S.D.B., director of Salesian Missions, had invited Father Tom to share his story. A question-and-answer session followed.

The day marked the feast of St. Teresa of Kolkata, foundress of the Missionaries of Charity.

“First, I say a big thanks to our Lord for permitting me to be present here, and to see you all and to thank you all in Jesus’ name for the prayers that I have received,” Father Tom said.

Relaying his story, he said he was relegated to a chair by his captors and witnessed either by sound or sight or both, some of the murders that day, including those of four nuns who, a mere 50 feet from

continued on page 13



Your Love and Generosity Help Give Him a Decent Life...

With your compassion, your heartfelt prayers and your generous financial support, we are making a tremendous impact in the lives of needy children in more than 130 countries around the globe. **St. John Bosco**, our founder, said, **“Without you I can do nothing,”** and his words still ring true today. Together we can help make the world a better place.

PLEASE CONSIDER THESE UNIQUE WAYS TO PARTNER WITH US

Bequests - Bequests via your will or revocable living trust allow you to leave a significant legacy to Salesian Missions. Since bequests are deductible for federal estate tax purposes and subject to an unlimited deduction, gifts through your will or trust can save you and your heirs estate taxes and allow you to make a much larger gift.

Retirement Accounts - Qualified retirement plan assets are the most tax-burdened assets you can own. Many people do not realize that if they die with no surviving spouse, any remaining balance in their qualified plan will be subject to multiple levels of taxation that can claim 50% or more of its value. Indicating Salesian Missions as the beneficiary is an option.

Life Insurance – You may find that giving life insurance can provide you with an efficient, affordable way to achieve your philanthropic goals! It is easy to name Salesian Missions as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy. There are even other creative tactics for using life insurance as a gifting option.

These are just a few unique ways you can partner with us and make a meaningful impact in the life of a poor child. If you would like more information about these special gifting opportunities and other Planned Giving options, please contact our Stewardship and Mission Specialist:

Liz Cahn, Tel: 914-500-1409
lizc@salesianmissions.org



Salesian staff and students listen in awe during Fr. Tom's emotional story of faith.



Fr. Tom offers his book to Fr. Bill Ferruzzi, S.D.B. Information on how to obtain this fascinating memoir is available on page 14.

him, were shot in the back of the head and fell to the ground face down. "It was a big shock," he said. "I just prayed to the Lord, Please have mercy on these poor sisters," he said, explaining they had regularly prayed "for peace and for the end of war."

Fr. Tom has written a book about his captivity and release, titled *"By the Grace of God: Recounting 557 Days of Terrorist Captivity in War-Torn Yemen."*

Among the numerous poignant excerpts of the book, published in Bengaluru, India, this year, is his account of being placed in captivity. "They took the chain that was on my neck, looked at the medals on it and said, 'Miriam.' I said 'yes,' for they were medals of Mother Mary and Don Bosco."

The threat of death did not crush him. "All this while, from 8:30 a.m. on March 4, 2016, to the moment of release, no fear of death overtook me," he said.

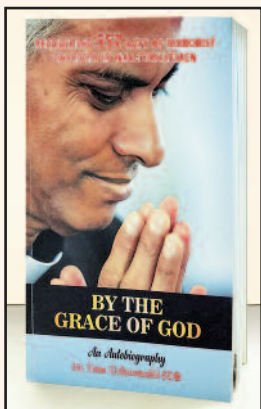
“Often, I wonder at those 557 days. I was vulnerable, but not defeated. I was anxious but not desperate. I had worries but never lost trust in His Almighty hands. My captors could have hurt me, but they never did,” he said.

“While God gave me trials on one side, He strengthened me with graces on the other.”

The murder of the sisters

continued to disturb him as he lay in captivity, he said. “In my disturbed mind I kept asking God if the sisters were already with Him. I kept pleading with God for a tangible sign that they are in His company in heaven. In fact, this was the biggest preoccupation of my prayers in the initial days of captivity.

“One day, something made me



BY THE GRACE OF GOD

By Fr. Tom Uzhunnalil, S.D.B.

This incredible memoir is a moving testimonial of unwavering faith and the power of prayer. 160 pages.

*Limited copies are available,
so please request your copy today!*

Suggested offering: \$19.99 Free Shipping!

ITEM	QTY.	SUGG. OFFERING	TOTAL
BGOG BY THE GRACE OF GOD		\$19.99	
Please allow 2 to 3 weeks for delivery		TOTAL OFFERING ENCL:	

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



--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

EXP. DATE (MO/YR)

--	--	--	--

CID # REQUIRED
(LAST 3 DIGITS ON
SIGNATURE PANEL
ON BACK OF CARD)

Signature X _____

Name _____

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Address _____ Apt.# _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Win/Spr 2019
OO-BGOG

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

Or order safely online at www.SalesianMissions.org/Grace



pray that God should give rain as a sign from heaven that the sisters are now enjoying the Beatific Vision,” he continues in his book. “Believe it or not, that evening there was a very heavy shower; there was lightning and thunder as well. Looking at the rain through the window and feeling the lightning and thunder, I thanked the Lord in my heart. The Lord has heard my prayers.”

The profound pain Fr. Tom felt at the martyrdom of the sisters then disappeared, he said, and he prayed for their intercession.

“All of you have prayed for me for the past one- and-a-half years, with sacrifice, with love,” he said to the attendees of the Salesian Missions forum.

“Trust in the Lord, trust in prayer,” he told them. Father Tom underscored that “the Lord calls each of us with a mission. Let’s be attentive to what that mission is.”

The priest said he understands his “present duty is to be a witness,” which he is doing by sharing his story around the globe.



*Fr. Jose Koyickal, S.D.B., Fr. Mark Hyde, S.D.B.,
Fr. Tom Uzhunnalil, S.D.B. and
Fr. Shalbin Kalanchery Paul, S.D.B.*

“In Yemen now,” he said, “the war is still not over. Let’s pray for the end of war,” he concluded.

Accompanying Father Tom to Salesian Missions were Fr. Jose Koyickal, S.D.B., vice provincial of the Bangalore Province, in India, and Fr. Shalbin Kalanchery Paul, S.D.B., mission procurator of the Bangalore province’s Don Bosco Mission.

That evening the three priests celebrated Mass at St. Thomas Syro-Malabar parish in the Bronx, at the invitation of the pastor, Fr. Jos Kandathikudy. Fr. Tom served as principal celebrant and homilist. ♥

***Learn more! Visit
www.SalesianMissions.org/lp/fr-tom***

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.

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



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.

WIN/SPR 2019 CH

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 _____

Address _____ (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY) _____ 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

Salesian Snapshots



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

LIBERIA: A new laboratory for Salesian school

Thanks to the generosity of many benefactors, the Salesians in Liberia can now equip a new scientific laboratory, and expand academic courses at Mary Help of Christians School in the capital city of Monrovia.

Mary Help of Christians began operating in 1993, and currently hosts almost 600 elementary and secondary school students. Here, children who otherwise would have very few opportunities to improve their lives, receive education and support. The Salesians have also developed a food program that guarantees a nutritious lunch to over 100 students. For most, the only meal they would eat all day.

In addition to the school, Salesian missionaries run the Don Bosco Youth Center in Monrovia, which supports young people with extracurricular and leisure activities.

Students can also attend vocational training, including specific courses for girls, so that they can become self-sufficient.



*A bright future for students at
Mary Help of Christians School in Liberia!*

NICARAGUA: 42,322 pounds of nutritious rice meals delivered to Salesian programs

Children and their families living in poverty within the Salesian Diocese of Estelí, the third largest city in Nicaragua, now have access to better nutrition. Thanks to an ongoing partnership between

Salesian Missions and Feed My Starving Children, a nonprofit Christian organization, nutritious meals are provided to children who otherwise would eat nothing during the school day.

The donated rice-meals provided to Salesian schools are given to students as part of a free lunch program begun by Salesian missionaries. The meals ensure students receive proper nutrition and a balanced diet, helping them to focus on their studies and extracurricular activities.

Salesian Missions partners with organizations that provide in-kind donations such as emergency food aid, medicine, and other necessities. They work to identify needs and coordinate delivery of shipping containers full of life-saving supplies. From shipping donated school buses to distributing rice meals, Salesian Missions is entrusted to coordinate the safe delivery and distribution of this essential aid (many times in very hard-to-reach places).



*Students holding rice meals.
Good nutrition is vital for developing
minds and bodies.*



GUATEMALA: A legacy of care

Named for Blessed Artemide Zatti – a Salesian missionary, pharmacist and nurse noted for his devotion to the poor – the Zatti Clinic in San Benito Petén, Guatemala, continues his legacy. The clinic helps fill a critical need in an area where a single hospital serves a population of nearly one million people, many of whom live on less than one dollar per day. “Here, health care is not a recognized right,” explains Fr. Giampiero, the clinic’s director. “This situation makes people prefer to die at home rather than seek treatment at the hospital.”



A volunteer physician examines children who would otherwise have no access to healthcare.

The Zatti Clinic follows the principle of its namesake: “He who has little, pays little; and the one who has nothing, pays nothing.” Still, the Salesians persevere, stretching their limited resources as far as they can. Fr. Giampiero is grateful for a recent, significant donation of food, medicine and surgical masks. He is also excited for a pilot program being launched at Zatti, in which two volunteer physicians travel to remote communities once per week, making house calls to patients unable to get to the clinic. And thanks to a generous benefactor, the clinic will soon offer electrocardiograms, dental examinations and x-rays, and some laboratory services.

In the meantime, those at the Zatti Clinic exemplify Don Bosco’s advice – advice that Blessed Artemide Zatti fully embraced himself: “Take special care of the sick, the children, the elderly, the poor.”

INDIA: After the floods, help for Kerala victims

August 2018 brought the worst monsoon season in nearly a century to India's southern state of Kerala. The unrelenting rains triggered catastrophic flooding and mudslides that killed more than 400 people, and forced more than 600,000 families from their homes. Immediately – and despite significant damage to their own structures – Salesian missionaries, lay staff, youth groups and volunteers throughout the region mobilized to assist tens of thousands of victims.



Bringing life-saving supplies by boat to those affected by the floods.

Because they already work and live in some of the hardest-hit communities, our missionaries were well-poised to respond – spearheading relief efforts that were commended by victims and government officials alike. Emergency efforts included delivering food, clean water, medicine, dry bedding, clothing and other essential items.

In addition to continuing the cleanup, Salesians have identified 2,000 poor families who will be provided household items because they do not have the money to buy them again. And, monetary compensation will be offered to 200 farmers and their families who lost their primary means of making a living – their land, crops and livestock.

Looking ahead, the Salesians intend to lead long-term, sustainable reconstruction projects, including home repair and sanitation system engineering, an effort with an estimated cost of nearly \$7 million. Despite this significant price tag, the Salesians are steadfast in their mission. ♥

You can be part of a modern-day Loaves and Fishes miracle!

Every \$1 = \$14



Several organizations have partnered with Salesian Missions because they have tons (literally!) of essential items that they want to donate free of charge... but we need your help so we can deliver them into the hands of poor children and families who need them the most.

YOU CAN HELP MAKE THIS HAPPEN!

We can pack a large container – about the size of a tractor-trailer truck – with \$70,000 worth of donated food, medicine, clothing or school supplies... and the overseas shipping cost would be only \$5,000.

Simply put, every \$1 you give enables us to ship \$14 worth of life-changing – and life-saving – supplies!

What's more, your generosity will be a testament to the Loaves and Fishes miracle when Jesus multiplied seven loaves of bread and a few small fish into enough food to feed four thousand people! *So much is at stake. Thank you for whatever you can give today!*




MAKE A SECURE DONATION ONLINE AT WWW.SALESIANMISSIONS.ORG/MIRACLE

YES! I want to be part of this modern-day Loaves & Fishes miracle!

WIN/SPR 2019
DE

Enclosed is my gift that will multiply 14X! \$10 \$15 \$25 \$_____

ENCLOSE CHECK, MONEY ORDER (PAYABLE TO: SALESIAN MISSIONS) OR CREDIT CARD INFORMATION:

   CARD NUMBER

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

SIGNATURE _____

EXP. DATE (MO/YR)

--	--	--	--

CID# REQUIRED (Last 3 digits on signature panel on back of card)

Name _____ Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

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

In Egypt, the Salesian Missions’ “SUNRISE PROJECT”

Today, thanks to the Salesian-run “Sunrise Project for Urban Refugees,” Rania Edris Youniss operates a successful home-based business in Cairo, Egypt – earning enough money to support herself and her four children, the youngest of whom is two years old.

Like so many other refugees from Sudan – some officials estimate the numbers to be in the millions, living in Cairo alone – Rania sought relief from the war that killed her husband and left her a widow. But the abject poverty she faced in a foreign land, combined with the lack of basic social support to assist in her family’s resettlement, quickly overshadowed the gains she’d made in physical safety.

This is why, in 2014, Salesian Missions began working with the



Instituto Don Bosco in Cairo, funding scholarships as part of the Sunrise Project. This skills training program assists refugees and vulnerable Egyptians in gaining the technical and life skills they need to find employment



and support their families. In addition to vocational education, participants learn valuable life skills and receive counseling. Today, 400 people are receiving support, and 80 past graduates were recently invited to participate in seed fund grant opportunities. These graduates submitted entrepreneurial projects to the Sunrise team who chose to fund approximately 40 projects, including Rania's.

Rania offers henna, hairstyling, makeup, perfumes, incense, and dress and shoe rentals for weddings. She also sells small perfumes, skincare products, and handmaid crocheted crafts. Often, she will bring her skills on the road – traveling to weddings where she sells her henna designs to entire families and friends. Girls from the nearby school in her neighborhood of Ain Shams also purchase her wares. Although Rania studied eldercare in the Sunrise Project, she has medical issues that prevent her from working in the health field. This business provides a viable alternative. Her goal



The Sunrise team funds projects to help talented artisans become self-sufficient.



Thanks to this Salesian project and her entrepreneurial spirit, Rania's future is bright.

is to purchase more items to sell at local businesses.

Another grantee, Yohana Maniel Mafeer, has been in Egypt for six years, and is married with two children. In Ain Shams, he operates the Abyei Salon, named for his hometown in South Sudan. He has built much of the salon himself, including the front door and window. With his seed grant, he purchased barbershop chairs and supplies. He also sells traditional shirts from Nigeria. Yohana studied English in the Sunrise Project, fine-tuning his already-excellent language skills. He and his cousin open the salon seven days a week, and he makes nearly enough to support his family. His goal is to offer women's hair-dressing as well.

According to Father Mark Hyde, director of Salesian Missions, the additional social services that Sunrise participants receive – such as transportation, grocery, and healthcare vouchers – have proven integral to their success.

“When their basic needs are met, people like Rania and Yohana



Yohana Maniel Mafeer proudly at work in his salon.

are better able to focus on their learning and performance,” he says, “so that they ultimately can meet those needs for themselves.”

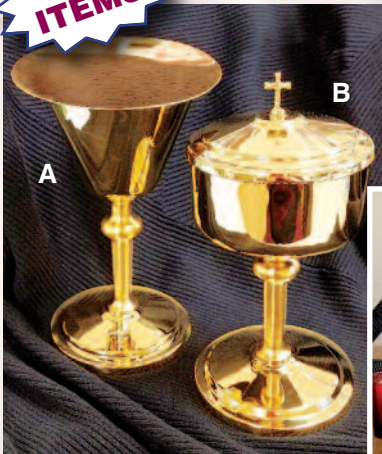
The Sunrise Project also provides entrepreneurship and literacy workshops, job placement services, and other training to help refugees build the skills needed to succeed in the workplace.

Including this project year, the Sunrise Project has already improved the lives and livelihoods of more than 1,300 vulnerable people. ❤️

**NEW
ITEMS!**

Memorials or Gifts

*...in memory or in honor of a loved one
...for a new priest as an ordination gift
...for the Missions*



24KT Gold plated • Made in the USA

Our missionaries service up to 30 villages in rural areas. They have a great need for these items for use in Eucharistic adoration and for special celebrations.

Enclosed is my offering of:

WIN/SPR 2019

- | | | |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| (A) Ciborium (8½" H) | <input type="checkbox"/> Without engraving: \$395.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> With engraving: \$410.00 |
| (B) Chalice/Paten (7½" H) | <input type="checkbox"/> Without engraving: \$395.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> With engraving: \$410.00 |
| Ciborium/Chalice/Paten Set | <input type="checkbox"/> Without engraving: \$790.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> With engraving: \$820.00 |
| (C) Mass Kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Without engraving: \$675.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> With engraving: \$690.00 |

Special instructions for ENGRAVING:

In Loving Memory of: In Honor of: NAME _____

PLEASE CHECK ONE: I WISH TO DONATE THIS ITEM TO SALESIAN MISSIONS

I WISH THIS ITEM BE SENT TO MY HOME (Shipping included. Please allow 6 to 8 weeks for delivery.)

Name _____

PLEASE PRINT CAREFULLY

Address _____ Apt.# _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

PLEASE ENCLOSE CHECK, MONEY ORDER (PAYABLE TO: SALESIAN MISSIONS) OR CREDIT CARD NUMBER:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



CID# **REQUIRED** (Last 3 digits on signature panel on back of card)

EXP. DATE (MO./YR)

SIGNATURE X _____

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

TELEPHONE: (914) 633-8344 • WEBSITE: www.SalesianMissions.org

Order online at www.SalesianMissions.org/memorials

Óscar, the child who rediscovered his childhood

In Ecuador, more than 360,000 children try to survive on the streets – selling candy, or begging, in order to help support their families. Óscar, age 9, was one them.



Now 11 years old, Oscar fortunately has been attending the Don Bosco House in Ambato for over a year. At this Salesian-run center, he attends school, receives healthy meals, practices sports, and has discovered people who really care about him. In other words: *he has hope.*

Together with Salesian-run projects in seven different cities throughout the country, Salesian missionaries in Ambato serve more than 1,200 of Ecuador's most vulnerable children and adolescents. Their projects are in desperate need of funding in order to continue welcoming, supporting and educating children of the streets.



Youngsters who participate in these projects are like Óscar: children who come from families with very few resources, and very serious problems. “My parents are from Colombia, and we arrived in Ecuador in 2007 after fleeing the war,” Óscar explains. “My mother was pregnant with me, and saw my two brothers killed. Brothers I never met. My mother has serious health problems and cannot work. My father is the only one who brings money home.”

Just as Don Bosco House serves children like Óscar, Salesian missionaries across the country seek to improve the quality of life for street children – by offering safe accommodations and facilities; nutritional food; health care; counseling; and education and vocational training.

Today, Óscar has rediscovered his childhood and is happy. And, thanks to your generosity, the Salesians will continue to reach out to the thousands of street children throughout Ecuador and around the globe. ❤️



Joy and a sense of hope has once again entered Óscar's life through the care and guidance of the Salesians.

CURRENT SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS

WINNER OF EARLY BIRD PRIZE
JUNE 30, 2018
MARILYN LA LONE, WATERTOWN NY

WINNER OF GRAND PRIZE
JULY 31, 2018
JAMES KLUEMPERS, CEDAR HILL MO

WINNER OF EARLY BIRD PRIZE
AUGUST 31, 2018

WINNER OF GRAND PRIZE
SEPTEMBER 30, 2018
FRANCES M. MITILIERI, STATEN ISLAND NY

WINNER OF EARLY BIRD PRIZE
OCTOBER 31, 2018
ELAINE A. RUPPENTHAL, ROSWELL GA

WINNER OF GRAND PRIZE
NOVEMBER 30, 2018
KATHERINE DEAL, BRICK NJ

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

Join us in Anticipation of Easter!

Lent is a time for intentional prayer, reflection and joyful anticipation of Easter.

Sign up for our Lenten Devotionals and each week during Lent, you will receive a special email with daily Scripture passages and inspirational messages.

These reflections will help guide you and lift your spirit as the Resurrection comes to light.

Sign up now at:

www.SalesianMissions.org/Lent



