

# SALESIAN®

**When I Was Hungry:  
Nourishing Schoolchildren  
Around the World**



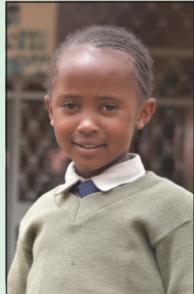
# Leave a Legacy of Love and Hope... And Help Make the World a Better Place.

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, P.O.Box 728, New Rochelle, NY 10802-0728  
Tel:(914)633-8344      [www.SalesianMissions.org/giving](http://www.SalesianMissions.org/giving)

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

## PAGE

When I Was Hungry: Nourishing Schoolchildren Around the World.....	2
Notes From The Field A personal account by Salesian Lay Missioner John Funk.....	7
Catching Up with Fr. Mark Hyde Harvey, LA.....	13
New Home, New Dreams.....	17
Serving on the Front Lines of Despair: Salesian Response to the Crisis in Ukraine.....	22
Salesian Snapshots.....	26

**EXPLORE  
AND LEARN  
MORE  
AT OUR  
WEBSITE**

SALESIAN MISSIONS

About Us Our Work Act Now Gift Catalog

GIVE THE GIFT OF FOOD to starving children and families! Every \$1 = \$20 worth of meals! Give Now »

Giving hope to millions of youth around the globe

Our mission is to teach young people various trades that will help them find decent job and become self-sufficient contributing members of society.

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

**So keep visiting us online at:  
[www.SalesianMissions.org](http://www.SalesianMissions.org)**



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



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



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



## Letter From The Editor



Dear Friend and Partner in Mission!

As I'm sure many of you will, I enjoyed reading about St. Rosalie and Saint John Bosco parishes in Harvey, Louisiana—where

my predecessor dedicates remarkable time, even on his days off, to bringing youth and families closer to God through his ministry.

While I read the story, I also found myself reflecting on legacy: The one Fr. Mark stewards as an instrument of Don Bosco; and the one I carry forward as Father Mark's torch-bearer here in New Rochelle.

As you know, Don Bosco transformed the hopes and futures of thousands of disadvantaged youth during his lifetime. He also inspired a worldwide movement that today comprises close to 30,000 Salesian priests, brothers, and sisters who—like Fr. Mark—breathe our patron saint's mission to life in more than 130 countries around the world. And they succeed because of loyal friends like you, whose generosity lights the path toward much brighter futures through the many projects you help us fund.

You may catch up with Fr. Mark on page 13. I also hope you'll read the many other uplifting stories found within this issue of SALESIAN.

Whether it's disabled youth accessing new employment opportunities (page 26), refugee families discovering crucial support (page 22), hungry children finally getting enough to eat (page 2), and more—this shared legacy is one I feel blessed to cultivate.

Thank you for helping us keep Don Bosco's spirit alive each and every day.

With sincere gratitude,

*Fr. Gus Baek*

Fr. Gus Baek, S.D.B.

P.S. On the following pages, you'll notice several ways to demonstrate your continued compassion. Whether it's a gift that will be multiplied 14 times, building a chapel in someone's honor, or including Salesian Missions in your estate plans, your generosity makes a difference.



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



## When I Was Hungry: **Nourishing Schoolchildren Around the World**

Roleidys is just 11 years old, yet she's already experienced hardships no child should endure. Today, she and dozens of other vulnerable kids in Bogotá can finally enjoy regular, nutritious meals.

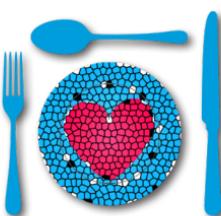
In the Los Mártires neighborhood where Roleidys lives, extreme poverty contours every corner. Wedged among downtown Bogotá's informal settlements (which were created by an influx of rural migrants too overwhelming for the city to absorb) Los Mártires once served as a hub for the illegal drug trade—a legacy it grapples with today. Many residents are generational homeless with few opportunities to reverse their circumstances. Unsupervised youth face heightened risk of forced labor, exploitation, food insecurity, and substance abuse. Roleidys herself spent most of her time on the streets—a way to escape the violence she suffered at home.

"Since 1965, Salesian missionaries in Colombia have been serving kids like Roleidys," says Father Gus Baek, director of Salesian Missions. "During that time, they have developed a unique understanding of the despair that damages families and challenges communities. And every day across the country, they work to address its root causes while simultaneously easing its effects in locally tailored ways."

At the Salesian-run Youth Services Organization (YSO) in Bogotá, Roleidys now finds comfort in the form of a safe shelter and nutritious meals. In partnership with the city's Archdiocesan Food Bank, missionaries and staff provide these meals for at-risk youth ages 5-18. Outreach workers from YSO fanned out onto the streets to identify those who needed food and housing assistance, and invited them to participate in this program. As a result, more than 60 now live among a team of trained professionals who provide good nutrition, protection, and a home environment where they are cared for and feel loved.



"Every child deserves a warm meal and a safe place to sleep at night," says Fr. Gus "We are grateful that children who are homeless and living in extreme poverty now have access to the nutrition they need for good health and to focus on their studies."



This initiative was made possible by generous friends like you, who help fund feeding programs at Salesian-run schools and centers around the world. Together with organizations like Rise Against Hunger, an international relief

organization that provides food and life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable, Salesian Missions identifies needs and coordinates delivery of 40-foot shipping

containers full of nutritious meals and supplemented with additional supplies when available.

"We are passionate about feeding the hungry," says Fr. Gus. "During today's challenging times, our dedicated Salesian missionaries, staff, and volunteers work tirelessly in countries

around the world to ensure that impoverished schoolchildren, their families, and others in their communities have enough to eat."

# Thank you!

Salesian Missions is proud to highlight programs such as this one in Colombia, funded in part through your generous donations.

Pope Francis said that “the right to nutrition can be guaranteed only if we care about the actual subject; that is, the person who suffers the effects of hunger and malnutrition.”

Together with your support, we continue to care deeply about the subject—one child like Roleidys at a time.



## JOIN US FOR HOLY MASS!

Now streaming LIVE every week from our Salesian Missions Chapel.

Just go to our website

[SalesianMissions.org/Mass](https://SalesianMissions.org/Mass)

every Wednesday at 10:00am(EST)



*I hope you will be with us to worship and pray together...  
and be sure to invite your friends and loved ones.*

# WHAT WAS ONCE MUD AND TIN...



Millions of people throughout Africa, Central and South America and India 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 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.

...**NOW IS THIS!**  
**THANKS TO GENEROUS**  
**PEOPLE LIKE YOU!**



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)

- Enclosed is my gift of \$18,000.00 to build a Village Memorial Chapel. SUM/FALL  
2022 CH
- Enclosed is my gift of \$23,000.00 to build a Memorial Chapel in a remote and difficult area.
- Enclosed is my gift of \$28,000.00 to build a Memorial Chapel in the most far removed and neglected area.

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

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

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

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

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

 **SALESIAN MISSIONS** 2 LEFEVRE LANE, PO BOX 728 • NEW ROCHELLE NY 10802-0728  
TELEPHONE: (914) 633-8344 • Email: [chapels@salsianmissions.org](mailto:chapels@salsianmissions.org)

# Notes From The Field

A Salesian Lay Missioner Experience



**LAY MISSIONER: JOHN FUNK**

**MISSION ASSIGNMENT: LUNGI, SIERRA LEONE**



Recently, I was passing through a village about a 30-minute walk from the Don Bosco Youth Center in Lungi when I saw a familiar face. “I know this kid,” I thought, running through my mental contact list. “I know this kid! He’s walking towards me ...what’s his name?” And then, as often happens, it magically popped into my head.

“Jowry! I haven’t seen you in a while!”

Jowry beamed back a brilliant smile, thrilled by the personal greeting. It was a brief interaction, but a meaningful one. Thank God I remembered his name! After the COVID-19 pandemic shut down the Center for months, its programs are now back in full swing—with as many as 200 youth participating every day. Amid all of that activity, it’s sometimes a challenge to keep everyone’s names straight.

I do a lot of things here at the Center. Among them, I work with a really vibrant young adult group whose members are active in a number of ministries—like planning the summer Bible camp for the little ones, or training the altar servers.



We filmed a movie version of the Living Stations of the Cross production the group did for Good Friday at the parish church. Hopefully we can all watch it “on the big screen” at the Center once I finish editing it!



It has been a struggle to learn Krio, Sierra Leone’s common language, which evolved from the English that former slaves spoke. Very few “hard copy” learning resources exist, but with the help of an amazing teacher and my Krio Bible app, I have made excellent progress. When I see people’s incredulous smiles, and hear their guttural crescendo—a trademark Sierra Leonean exclamation of surprise or shock—I know my efforts are well worth it.

The Salesians in Lungi have started the Don Bosco Climate Club to combat the indifference around environmental issues that is common here. Trash litters the streets, beaches, everywhere. Most people in our area burn their trash, including plastics, which release really toxic chemicals that we breathe in when nearby. Club members are learning about how to be more eco-



conscious, keeping the school and youth center compounds clean, and will eventually spread this knowledge into the community. Ultimately, for members who commit to attending meetings for three years, missionaries hope to cover 50 percent of their university tuition.



The Salesians also hope to start an educational trade center, as there is a real issue in Sierra Leone with a lack of good jobs available. Many students graduate from university, only to find themselves returning to selling “jornks”

(secondhand goods). The spirit is willing, but the job market is weak. A quality trade school would give students the skills they need both to make decent money and to improve the quality of life in their communities. It is so demoralizing for these graduates to find that their studies don't translate into a job. With vocational training, that discouragement can transform into hope. You can watch a short video by scanning the QR Code below or by visiting: [salesianmissions.org/sierra-leone-trade](https://salesianmissions.org/sierra-leone-trade).



Sierra Leoneans have collectively suffered a tremendous amount throughout history—from being raided to supply the slave trade, to blood diamonds, to civil war, to the Ebola outbreak. (Side note: Salesians in Lungi took care of 75 Ebola patients at great personal risk). In some ways, this country where I serve is a ‘forgotten country.’ And yet, many

of the people are extremely kind. It is really remarkable. And I am fortunate and grateful to be working with the Salesians to help make a difference.

*God bless you all  
John*



The Salesian Lay Missioners is a faith-based volunteer program that offers a unique opportunity to serve the marginalized of the world, especially the young. 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  
148 Main Street  
New Rochelle NY 10801  
(914) 636-4225

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



# The Gift That Pays You Even More!

Don't miss this opportunity to receive fixed income for life with a **CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY**. Payout rates are going up July 1, so you can increase your income even more and help poor children around the world. **New Rate Chart (effective July 1, 2022)\***

<u>Age</u>	<u>New Rate</u>	<u>Old Rate</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>New Rate</u>	<u>Old Rate</u>
60	4.5%	3.9%	75	6.0%	5.4%
65	4.8%	4.2%	80	7.0%	6.5%
70	5.3%	4.7%	90	9.1%	8.6%

\*These calculations are estimates of gift benefits; your actual benefits may vary.

## **Receive a guaranteed annual income for life!**

### ***Additional Benefits:***

- A current income tax deduction
- Tax free income on a portion of the income received
- Reduced capital gain tax (on appreciated securities donated)
- You support Salesian Missions with an impactful gift

### **REQUEST YOUR PERSONALIZED ILLUSTRATION:**

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

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

SUM/FALL  
2022 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

WE CANNOT SEND INFORMATION WITHOUT DATE OF BIRTH

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

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

(Not available in the state of Washington)

NAME OF OTHER PARTICIPANT:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

NAME OF OTHER PARTICIPANT:

City \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

NAME OF OTHER PARTICIPANT:

Email \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF OTHER PARTICIPANT:



**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!

## Catching Up With Fr. Mark Hyde *St. John Bosco and St. Rosalie Parishes (Harvey, LA)*

Nearly a century ago, a group of Sicilian immigrants who had settled in the suburbs of New Orleans realized their community was missing something important: a proper Catholic church.

And so, these farmers, bakers, business owners, fruit mongers, and entrepreneurs of all stripes set out to fill the void by establishing one. At first a mission church of the Immaculate Conception in Harvey, it became St. Rosalie's in 1949—named for Rosalia, the patron saint of Palermo venerated for rescuing the city from plague in 1624. After operating as a parish church for



15 years, the diocese entrusted its care to the Salesians, where it has remained—and grown—in the many decades since.

In the 1980s, the Archdiocese of New Orleans approached



the Salesians once again—this time, to ask if they would build a new church in the expanding Woodmere area to serve the needs of Catholics who were living there. From that request, St. John Bosco parish was born.

“I like to think of St. Rosalie as the mother church, and St. John Bosco as the daughter church,” says Father Mark Hyde, who serves as pastor of both.

Today, in addition to these two parishes, the Salesian community in the West Bank of New Orleans comprises Archbishop Shaw High School (grades 8-12 for boys); Academy of our Lady (grades 8-12 for girls); Immaculate Conception school (K-7); Our Lady of Prompt Succor school (pre-K-7); and several vibrant lay organizations that align with Don Bosco’s mission.

## **Fr. Mark**

Many readers likely remember Fr.

Mark well. Before his assignment to Louisiana, he was the beloved director of Salesian Missions from 2008-2020—a responsibility he now calls a “piece of cake” compared to the daily challenges of managing the operations for two very active parishes without the staff he had in New Rochelle.

Assisted by just one other Salesian priest, Fr. Mark is indeed extremely busy. “It keeps us young,” this 70-year-old says of himself and his 88-year-old confrere, Father George Hanna. “It’s constant, constant work. But it’s also very rewarding.”

Fr. Mark does have days off, but still finds himself checking in with staff in the parish offices and contributing to parish bulletins, a task he particularly loves. “I see it as a tool for catechesis and evangelization,” he explains. It’s also one that’s relevant to his goal of further reaching out into surrounding communities.

## Parish activities

The bulletins are one important vehicle for communicating the many pastoral and social services the Salesians offer. Another, of course, is the parish community itself.

Both St. Rosalie and St. John Bosco enjoy vibrant and involved men's and women's clubs, Knights of Columbus chapters, and Ladies' Auxiliary committees. Together with a strong network of Salesian Cooperators—lay volunteers who are committed to serving the young in the footsteps of Don Bosco—members help support many charitable and spiritual initiatives, including:

### *Salesian Youth Center*

Hosted at St. Rosalie, the center is open to girls and boys, grades 6-12, whether parishioners or members of the greater community. Activities include a full complement of indoor and outdoor games such as billiards, foosball, table tennis, floor hockey, basketball, kickball, volleyball, and more.

### *Religious education*

Both parishes share a combined religious education program, which includes CCD for elementary school students and confirmation preparation for older youth. Fr.

Mark heads up this latter group, an experience that brings him “great joy.”

### *Food pantry*

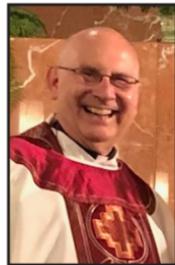
Located at St. Rosalie, the food pantry serves up to 50 community members in need regularly.

It had been shut down during the pandemic, and now Fr. Mark is re-envisioning how the service could operate better. “We used to put [out] pre-assembled bags of food,” he explains, but soon a campus building will function more like a grocery store. Not only will this reduce waste, but it will support their clients’ dignity through autonomy.

### **Looking ahead**

Through each of these initiatives and more, Fr. Mark hopes to keep his parishioners focused on Jesus and inspire more local youth and their families to join the greater Salesian community.

Although he is happy with all he is doing, Fr. Mark adds, “My body is down here in Harvey,” says Fr. Mark. “But half my heart remains in New Rochelle.”



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](http://www.SalesianMissions.org/miracle)**

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

SUM/FALL 2022 DE

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



CAR  
NUMBER

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

SIGNATURE X

**FYR DATE (MO/YR)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Address

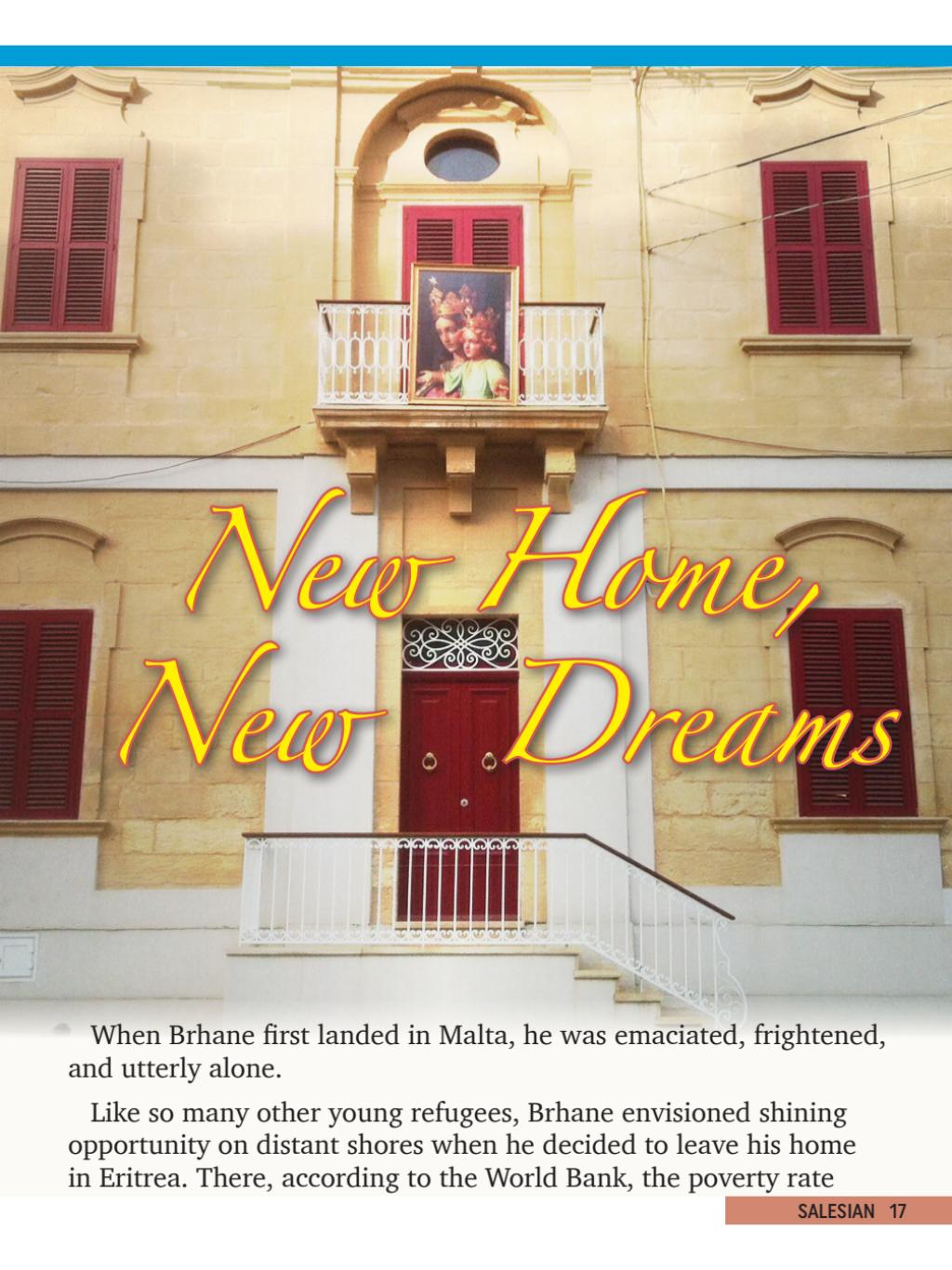
Apt

City

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

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

**Learn more! Visit [www.SalesianMissions.org/miracle](http://www.SalesianMissions.org/miracle)**



# New Home, New Dreams

When Brhane first landed in Malta, he was emaciated, frightened, and utterly alone.

Like so many other young refugees, Brhane envisioned shining opportunity on distant shores when he decided to leave his home in Eritrea. There, according to the World Bank, the poverty rate



approaches 70 percent, children often don't attend school for more than five or six years, and employment opportunities outside the military remain scarce.

"It's understandable that Brhane yearned for something better," says Father Gus Baek,

director of Salesian Missions. Noting that children under the age of 15 comprise more than 40 percent of the country's population, Fr. Gus explains that "when youth look around and see nothing but continued poverty, they often decide they have nothing to lose by running away."

Brhane's own harrowing journey began in a tiny boat with a group of fellow refugees. They ventured into the Mediterranean Sea on a crossing so rough, they nearly didn't survive. Fortunately, the crew from a Lebanese cargo ship noticed their distress, pulled the passengers aboard, and brought them to safety in Malta. Brhane was so weak from hunger when he arrived that his rescuers had to carry him from their vessel—and directly into the hospital. That's where he discovered a Salesian-run day program offered in partnership with the Migrant Offshore Aid Station and the Jesuit Refugee Service. After a period of rest and recovery, during which he participated in the program, Brhane applied to and was accepted into the Mamma Margherita Home in Sliema.

First opened in 2010, this Salesian-run shelter provides accommodations and care to young refugees like Brhane. Here, they

receive food, medicine, and clothing. Residents can also learn English and receive counseling and other job skills education that will make them better equipped to thrive in their new communities.

Director Father Savio Vella says, “The Salesians are taking care of the most vulnerable and needy young refugees that arrive on our shores. We look after them, we care for them, we show them love, and, with them, we plan their future. We offer them hope.”

Thanks to the opportunities he’s found at Mamma Margherita, Brhane is now nourished, confident, and has the social support he needs to achieve self-sufficiency in his adopted country and finally realize his dreams.



# SHARE THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR... FOR YOURSELF, A LOVED ONE, OR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

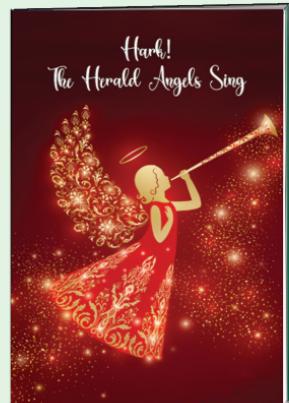
Our new and very popular publications - our "2023 Angel Datebook" and Christmas Book, "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" - are now available. Each book comes with a mailing envelope so you can send them to friends and loved ones.



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 \$3.99 each.**



*Actual size of books is 4" x 6".*

**FOR FASTER PROCESSING, CALL IN YOUR ORDER  
OR ORDER ONLINE.**

**Send our new Christmas Book  
instead of an ordinary card!**

**PLEASE SEND ME THE FOLLOWING BOOKS:**

Summer/Fall  
2022

"2023 Angel Datebook"      Qty \_\_\_\_\_

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"      Qty \_\_\_\_\_

My donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed. (SUGGESTED DONATION IS \$3.99 EACH)  
**MINIMUM REQUEST SHOULD BE FIVE BOOKS OF ANY ONE TITLE.**

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

<input type="checkbox"/> 	<input type="checkbox"/> 	<input type="checkbox"/> 	CARD NUMBER	<input type="text"/>
---	--	--	-------------	---

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

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

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

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

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

*These books are in great demand and supplies are limited.  
So be sure to request them today! Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.*



**SALESIAN MISSIONS**

*Inspirational Books Dept. HB*

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

**REQUEST THESE BOOKS ONLINE AT: [www.SalesianMissions.org/catalog](http://www.SalesianMissions.org/catalog)**

*"We saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him." Matthew 2:2*

# Join Us in *Anticipation of Christmas!*

Advent is a time for intentional prayer, reflection and joyful anticipation of Christmas. [Sign up for our Advent Devotionals](#) and each week during Advent, you will receive a special email with daily Scripture passages and inspirational messages. These reflections will guide you toward a more joyful anticipation of Christmas – and reconnect you to the true reason for the season.



# Sign-Up Now

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



GIVING HOPE TO YOUTH AROUND THE GLOBE FOR 75 YEARS



# A Perfect Christmas Gift!

## **Our Heavy Knit SALESIAN THROW**

Sum/Fall 2022

Designed exclusively for Salesian Missions, this cozy, cable knit throw proudly displays our mission logo.

**Knitted of soft, warm and comfortable machine washable cotton, it measures a generous 48" x 63". Natural color.**      **Suggested Offering: \$68.00 Free Shipping**

*Suggested Offering: \$68.00 Free Shipping!*

ITEM		QTY	SUGG.OFFERING	TOTAL
<b>50048</b>	<b>CABLE KNIT THROW</b>		<b>\$68.00 each</b>	
Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery			<b>TOTAL OFFERING ENCL.</b>	

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



SIGNATURE X

EXP DATE (MO/YR)

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

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

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

**Phone #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

GOALS AND MISSIONS | DEPARTMENT OF POLICE | VETTA POLICE AND COMMUNITY

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

**OR ORDER SAFELY ONLINE AT [www.SalesianMissions.org/throws](http://www.SalesianMissions.org/throws)**

# SERVING ON THE FRONT LINES

## Salesian Response to the Crisis in Ukraine



In the early hours and days following the outbreak of unprovoked war in Ukraine, our Salesian missionaries prioritized whisking women and children to safety—transporting them across the country's borders in makeshift convoys over grueling terrain, despite the very real danger to their own lives.

Months later, amid a refugee crisis so profound that it lacks precedent in this century, these dedicated



**Children carrying their belongings are among the refugees being cared for by Salesian missionaries at Ukraine's border.**

Photo by Father Roman Sikon, Salesians of Don Bosco

# S OF DESPAIR



**Uncertainty faces many refugees who arrive at the Ukraine border.**

Photo by Father Roman Sikon, Salesians of Don Bosco



men and women of Don Bosco continue to serve on the front lines of despair: helping thousands of innocent civilians with crucial humanitarian aid and more—both inside Ukraine and in neighboring countries who are hosting the displaced.\*

“Sadly, we’ve traveled this road before elsewhere in the world,” says Father Gus Baek, director of Salesian Missions. “The one positive thing we can draw from it? Our missionaries on the ground know exactly what to do and how to do it.”

These efforts are carefully thought out, deliberately planned, and well-coordinated. And, while the capabilities and capacity of our missionaries differ from place to place, and the needs of refugees vary, the Salesians are united by the common goal of restoring Ukrainians’ hope by supporting their resilience.

In one recent example, missionaries in northern Hungary opened their community to families with nowhere else to turn. Together with

students at the local Salesian school—who willingly gave up the top two floors of their dormitory—they are providing safe shelter, daily meals, and warm clothing for eight mothers and their children. For those who are unable or unwilling to return to Ukraine after the war, missionaries are also

planning projects to help them integrate into Hungarian society so they may begin rebuilding their lives.

In another example inside Ukraine, missionaries have established a tiny modular community dubbed “Mariapolis,” the “City of Mary.” Here, more than 350 displaced people—many of them women and children—reside in container homes equipped with beds, tables and chairs, and closets. Additional structures provide communal dining spaces, laundry rooms, and toilet and shower facilities. There’s a playground for kids, too, and skilled professionals provide



**Refugees escaping the fighting along the Russian border are being given food and shelter as they are cared for by Salesian missionaries.**

Photo by Father Roman Sikon, Salesians of Don Bosco



**Refugee children find normalcy on the playground at Mariapolis.**

Photo by Father Roman Sikon, Salesians of Don Bosco



psycho-social support to help residents process their hardships and traumas.

"Mary is extremely close to the heart of every Ukrainian and every person on this planet who desires peace," says one Salesian priest who helps with the project. "We wish that those who stay in this modular citadel will be full of hope and that the symbol of this little Mariapolis can become a great prospect for Ukraine's rebirth."

With ongoing generosity and prayers from our many friends, our missionaries will continue to do everything they can to accompany Ukraine's people through this crisis.

*\*In order to protect the safety of those we serve and our missionaries on the ground, we are refraining from reporting specific names or locations at this time.*



SCAN ME

To give to our Ukrainian Relief Fund, please visit [salesianmissions.org/ukraine-aid](https://salesianmissions.org/ukraine-aid) or fill out the coupon below and include it with your donation.

**Dear Father Gus:**

**Yes, I want to help the victims of violence in Ukraine.**

**Enclosed is my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be used  
for immediate relief efforts.**

**From:** (PLEASE PRINT CAREFULLY)

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Apt #** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this completed form with donation to:

**Salesian Missions**

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

**UKE08**

# Salesian Snapshots

a scrapbook of stories from around the Salesian world

## INDIA: Breaking Down Barriers to Inclusion



Around the world, an estimated one billion people—roughly 15 percent of the global population—live with some form of disability. Despite the progress borne of strong advocacy, full inclusion—in the educational system, in job training programs, and in society itself—remains elusive, especially for those living in developing countries.

That's why the Don Bosco Job Placement Network in India recently hosted an employment fair specifically organized to showcase the talents of differently abled candidates.

Headquartered in Bangalore, the network offers career guidance, skills training, and employment referrals for underserved job-seekers. Staff also work at the macro level, advocating for adequate wages, decent working conditions, and quality opportunities for all.

More than 100 youth attended the employment fair, jointly hosted with the Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled and the Salesian-led Bangalore Rural Education and Development Society (BREADS). And, of the 40 attendees who applied for jobs on-site, nearly 30 percent received immediate offers for positions in warehousing; business process outsourcing and e-commerce; logistics; and more.

"Youth with disabilities deserve the same opportunities to train for and find jobs in sustainable employment sectors so they can become contributing members of their communities," says Father Gus Baek, director of Salesian Missions. "Thanks to the Don Bosco Job Placement Network, many of them are succeeding."



## KENYA: High-Tech Hopes for Sustainable Futures



Despite its free educational model, close to 90 percent of children from Kenya's poorest households fail to complete their basic schooling. Why? Because families barely scraping by on less than \$2 per day simply can't afford the associated fees.

In Nairobi, Don Bosco Town offers a viable alternative. Borne in 1985 from modest beginnings in a makeshift, tin-roofed shed, Don Bosco Town is now a bona fide

institution offering primary, secondary, and technical education to nearly 600 poor youth each year. Young men and women between the ages of 18-22—many of whom are former street children—can enroll in a variety of two-year training programs including tailoring, auto mechanics, carpentry, electrical work and welding, secretarial skills, and a full spectrum of computer-related classes.

Recently, Don Bosco Town inaugurated an IT and Innovation Center, equipped with the latest technology and 20 new computers. Here, students enrolled in technical programs can now access additional skills training opportunities required for the modern workforce.

"The goal for Salesian vocational and technical education is to ensure that students can make an easy transition from school to their future jobs," says Father Gus Baek, director of Salesian Missions.

Indeed. In the 35 years since its founding, Don Bosco Town has graduated more than 6,000 students—nearly 80 percent of whom have found employment in their fields of study. "This new IT and Innovation Center will offer the courses current students need to compete even more effectively in today's job market," Fr. Gus says. "And that's how we reverse the tide of generational poverty."



# Count Your Blessings - Grant a Wish!

*The Salesians work in over 130 countries. Just imagine, then, how many of our missionaries write to tell us of their hopes and dreams, trials and successes. Maybe, as you count your blessings, you could grant a wish. God bless you!*

Fr. Gus



# WISHES OF THE MONTH

- **Feed the hungry.** Worldwide, one in nine people goes to bed on an empty stomach. Many of them are children. Together, we can heed our moral call to provide nourishment and dignity to fellow human beings in need: in Colombia, and in the more than 130 other countries where we serve (*See p. 2*).
  - **Support our community parishes.** Before his assignment to St. Rosalie and St. John Bosco parishes in Louisiana, Fr. Mark was the beloved director of Salesian Missions for 11 years. Now he is a dedicated parish priest who oversees churches and programs that help keep the spirit of Don Bosco alive for children and families in need. (*See p. 13*).
  - **Empower marginalized youth to secure decent employment.** The Don Bosco Job Placement Network in India connects underserved job-seekers—including those with disabilities—to companies that are hiring. With your support, even more students around the world can access and participate in opportunities like these (*See p. 26*).
  - **Help former street children.** Around the world, countless youth flee desperate poverty at home only to end up on the streets—where their dreams for brighter futures quickly fade. You can help them learn employment-ready skills in training programs like Don Bosco Town's in Nairobi. (*See p. 27*).

# GRANT A WISH REPLY FORM

SUM/FALL  
2022 WL (RF)

- YES, I want to help make a wish come true for Salesians and the poor children and families they serve. I am enclosing my donation of:  
 \$7    \$10    \$25    Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the life-saving works featured in this magazine and all the other Salesian programs that benefit the needy.

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

SIGNATURE X

EXP. DATE (MO/YR)

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Email: [info@vibrantvillage.com](mailto:info@vibrantvillage.com)

© 2019 Pearson Education, Inc.

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

## CURRENT SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS

WINNER OF GRAND PRIZE

MAY 31, 2022

Bruce Boutet, Grand Rapids MI

WINNER OF EARLY BIRD PRIZE

APRIL 30, 2022

Margo Stewart, Granada Hills CA

WINNER OF GRAND PRIZE

MARCH 31, 2022

Diane Harrison, Holmes NY

WINNER OF EARLY BIRD PRIZE

FEBRUARY 28, 2022

Nicholas Gutilla, Memphis TN

WINNER OF GRAND PRIZE

JANUARY 31, 2022

Donald Davis, Leesburg FL

WINNER OF EARLY BIRD PRIZE

DECEMBER 31, 2021

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Boucher, Denver CO

### 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

# YOUR LOVE IN ACTION



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.

