

CAGLIERO 11

Newsletter for Salesian Missionary Animation

A Publication of the Mission Department for the Salesian Communities and Friends of the Salesian Mission



Dear friends of the Salesian mission and missionaries,
First, I wish you all the greatest certainty of our faith, that the risen Lord lives among us! Every time I come to Valdocco I am impressed by the image of the risen Christ in the Pinardi Chapel. Even when I enter the Basilica at Colle Don Bosco I feel embraced by the great statue of the Risen Christ! This is the Christ of Don Bosco, the Salesian Christ!

This Easter season of 2012 I share with you an invitation of Don Bosco, one of the pillars of Salesian missionary culture: **Look beyond the courtyard of Valdocco!**

It means to habitually focus our attention beyond the walls of our house, school, parish, Province or over our country! It means educating with the eyes of a catholic, universal faith. We have inherited from Don Bosco this way of seeing the world!

I invite you to watch a short video clip («A workshop of the Holy Spirit», text by Fr. Aldo Giraudo SDB, 1999) which was prepared as guide for the visit to the rooms of Don Bosco at Valdocco, and available on YouTube [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bwSv4WbjpNM>]. From the windows of his room in Valdocco Don Bosco's gaze went beyond the courtyard and the church. He dreamt of the youth of the world, their avail-

ability, their need for training and friendship. He fixed his gaze at the Church, the mother of all peoples, and its mission of salvation. He sensed the urgency of the command of Jesus: «Go into all the world, proclaim the Gospel to every creature. »

During the first year of preparation for the Bicentennial of Don Bosco's birth I invite you all to know the story and the person of Don Bosco from the missionary point of view. This helps us to foster a missionary culture in our communities, among our lay collaborators and youth!

Václav Klement
Fr. Václav Klement, SDB
Councilor for the Missions



«The pilgrim Church in Africa is also called to contribute to the

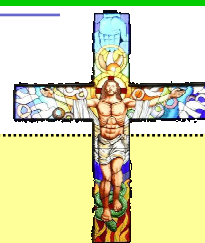
***Missionaries from Africa:
a concrete sign of the fruitfulness
of missio ad gentes!***

new evangelisation in secularised countries which once provided numerous missionaries but are today sadly lacking in vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life. In the meantime, great numbers of African men and women have accepted the invitation of the Lord of the harvest (Mt 9:37-38) to work in his vineyard (Mt 20:1-16). Without weakening the missionary impulse *ad gentes* in the different countries, and indeed on the whole continent, the bishops of Africa should respond generously to the requests of their confreres in countries lacking vocations and assist the faithful deprived of priests. This form of cooperation, which should be governed by accords between the sending and the receiving Churches, becomes a concrete sign of the fruitfulness of the *missio ad gentes*. Blessed by the Lord, the Good Shepherd (Jn 10:11-18), it provides valuable support for the new evangelisation in countries of ancient Christian tradition »

Benedict XVI, *Africae munus*, n. 167

We wish all the readers of "Cagliero 11" a Blessed Easter!

Christ is truly risen, Alleluia!



I Invite Austrians to sing God's praises with the same melody of love but with a new rhythm!



When I was in the Noviciate, after the short visit of one of the Provincials from Spain who presented to us the reality of the Salesians and the scarcity of vocations in that country, I thought: "We are 22 Novices for two Provinces; why not give 3 or 5 to Spain so as to help them start anew?" But I soon forgot about it until the visit of Fr. Alencherry when he presented to us 60 Post-novices the missionary needs of the congregation. During the 26th General Chapter I read the "goodnight" of the Provincial of Vietnam where he spoke of the difficulties they go through to continue the work of Don Bosco. This made me decide to talk to my Rector and, later, to my Provincial.

With their permission I presented my application to go to the missions and the Rector Major sent me to Austria. Certainly, it was not easy for me to decide to become a missionary. I thought of my former Province ATE, the confreres, my Family, the typical Salesian African dynamism. But, when God calls there is no way I could turn away from him.

The *Course for New Missionaries* in Rome and Turin prepared me to face a new reality in a new world with a new Culture. When I go through thick and thin, I remember what I learnt during the course. Sometimes, I smile when I realise that what was predicted during the course really happens. Forewarned is forearmed!

But I draw strength from my personal prayer. The confreres too are another great Pillar. They help me stand and overcome my tough moments of initial introduction to a new culture, new Province with love and understanding.

"Go into the whole World..." As a missionary in Austria I see myself as a bearer of the Gospel; one who invites God's children to sing the same melody of love but with a new rhythm. Some sort of a "remix"! If young people no longer come to us, we need to go to them. When we go to them, it is Don Bosco who goes to them. The idea of being another Don Bosco helps me to be in contact with young people. But an African Don Bosco often surprises people. Yet, I consider it as a good opportunity to establish a new form of friendship.

With the love and support of all my confreres, Austria, which was a foreign land for me, is now becoming more and more my homeland!



Cl. Simplicie Tchoungang
Cameroonian, missionary in Austria



Salesian Missionary Intention

AFRICA - For young Salesians in Africa who are preparing for the Priesthood

That Salesian candidates for the priesthood in Africa may grow as true disciples of Christ the good shepherd who lays down his life totally for the good of his sheep

The Lord continues to call many young people of the African continent to the consecrated and priestly life. Today there are several Salesian communities in Africa and three theological study centres which accompany over 150 Salesian candidates to the priesthood through the last stage of formation in Lubumbashi (Democratic Republic of Congo) Nairobi (Kenya) and Yaounde (Cameroon). We pray that they may grow as true followers of Christ the good shepherd who offers his whole life for the good of his sheep.



All previous issues of "Cagliero 11" are available at purl.org/sdb/sdl/Cagliero