

# Making a World of Difference

Your love is being put into action around the world by more than 34,000 Priests, Brothers and Sisters known as Salesians. Salesian Missions touched the lives of close to three million poor young people in 2007 through the orphanages, shelters, hospitals, clinics, nurseries and schools it operates in 131 countries.



## YOUR GIFTS AT WORK IN 131 COUNTRIES

### **AFRICA**

Angola  
Benin  
Burkina Faso  
Burundi  
Cameroon  
Cape Verde  
Central African Republic  
Chad  
Congo  
(Brazzaville)  
Congo  
(Democratic Republic)  
Egypt  
Equatorial Guinea  
Eritrea  
Ethiopia  
Gabon  
Ghana  
Guinea Conakry

Ivory Coast  
Kenya  
Lesotho  
Liberia  
Libya  
Madagascar  
Malawi  
Mali  
Mauritius  
Morocco  
Mozambique  
Namibia  
Nigeria  
Rwanda  
Senegal  
Sierra Leone  
South Africa  
Sudan  
Swaziland  
Tanzania  
Togo  
Tunisia  
Uganda

Zambia

Zimbabwe

### **MIDDLE EAST**

Azerbaijan  
Iran  
Israel  
Kuwait  
Lebanon  
Syria  
Turkey  
Yemen

### **ASIA**

Cambodia  
China,  
People's Republic  
Hong Kong  
India  
Indonesia  
Japan  
Korea  
Macao

Mongolia

Myanmar

Nepal

Pakistan

Philippines

Sri Lanka

Taiwan

Thailand

Vietnam

### **NORTH AMERICA**

Canada  
United States  
Mexico

### **CENTRAL AMERICA**

Costa Rica  
El Salvador  
Guatemala  
Honduras  
Nicaragua  
Panama

### **SOUTH AMERICA**

Argentina  
Bolivia  
Brazil  
Chile  
Colombia  
Ecuador  
Paraguay  
Peru  
Uruguay  
Venezuela

### **CARIBBEAN**

Cuba  
Curaçao  
Dominican Republic  
Haiti  
Puerto Rico

### **EUROPE**

Albania

Andorra

Austria

Belarus

Belgium

Bosnia-  
Herzegovina

Bulgaria

Croatia

Czech

Republic

England

France

Georgia

Germany

Hungary

Ireland

Italy

Lithuania

Malta

Montenegro

Netherlands

Poland

Portugal

Romania

Russia

San Marino

Scotland

Serbia

Slovakia

Slovenia

Spain

Sweden

Switzerland

Ukraine

Vatican

### **OCEANIA**

Australia

East Timor

Fiji

Papua New

Guinea

Samoa

Solomon

Islands



**SALESIAN MISSIONS**

2 LEFEVRE LANE • NEW ROCHELLE NY 10801-5710

[www.salesianmissions.org](http://www.salesianmissions.org)



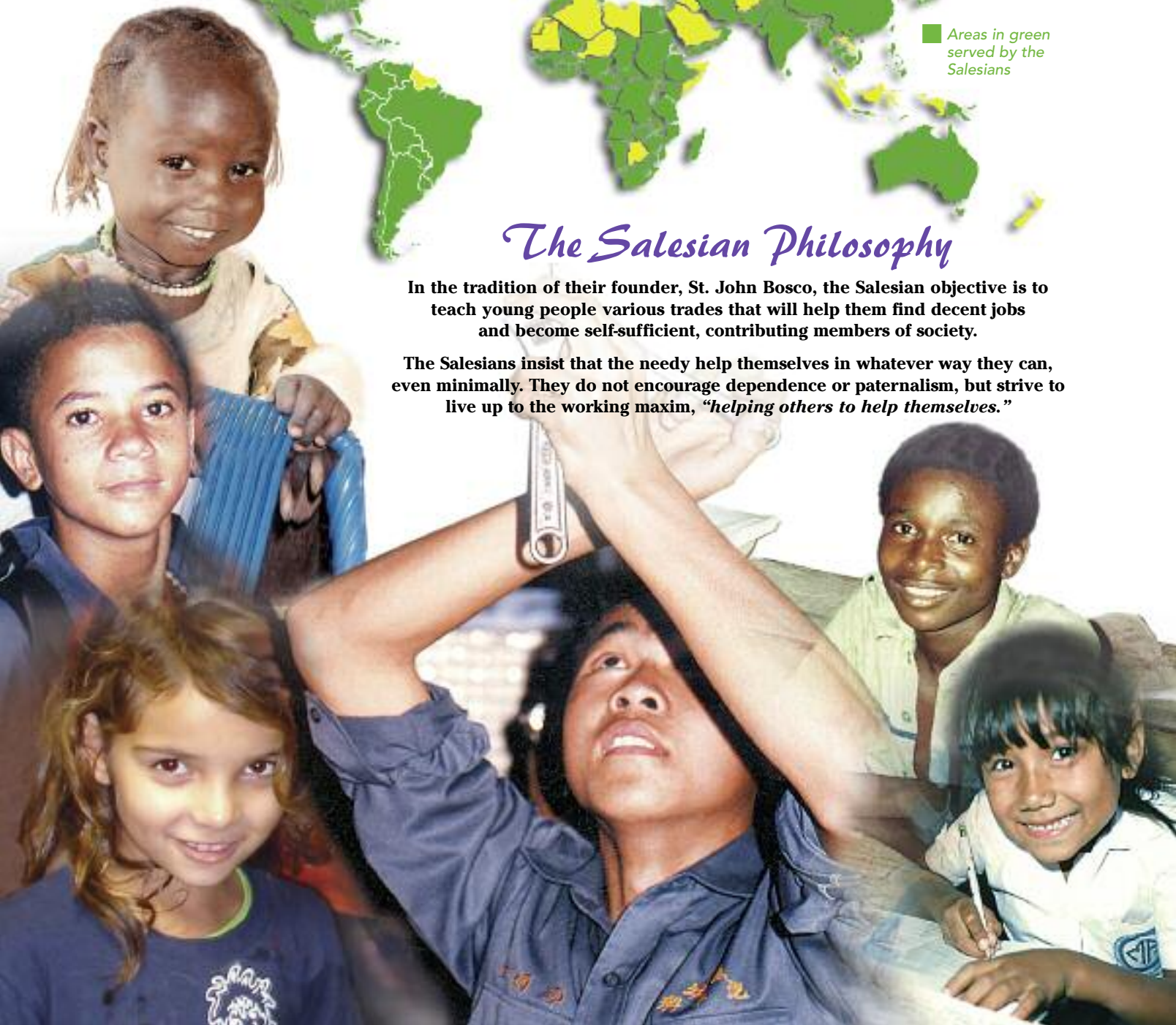
# SALESIAN MISSIONS 2007 ANNUAL REPORT



## *The Salesian Philosophy*

**In the tradition of their founder, St. John Bosco, the Salesian objective is to teach young people various trades that will help them find decent jobs and become self-sufficient, contributing members of society.**

**The Salesians insist that the needy help themselves in whatever way they can, even minimally. They do not encourage dependence or paternalism, but strive to live up to the working maxim, *"helping others to help themselves."***





## From the Director's Desk...



Dear Friend,

The enclosed 2007 Annual Report is a witness to your generous assistance and sacrifices. You are a partner in the life-saving work of over 34,000 Salesian Fathers, Brothers, and Sisters. Together we are reaching out to the children of the world: easing their pain, nourishing their bodies and minds, giving them the chance to live decent and dignified lives.

As indispensable partners, we continue to strive to banish poverty, ignorance, and sickness from the lives of the young. St. John Bosco, our founder, used to say, "Without you I can do nothing," and his words still ring true today. With you by our side, we can break the terrible cycle of poverty and ignorance that consumes so many young lives.

Our missionaries are now in 131 countries, staffing thousands of Orphanages, Shelters, Hospitals, Clinics, Nurseries, Youth Centers, Chapels, Trade and Agricultural Schools, Parishes, and Academic Schools. How wonderful it is to see Don Bosco's dream fulfilled! What started as a humble effort by a single priest to help poor, local street children has blossomed into an international humanitarian effort that touches the lives of millions.

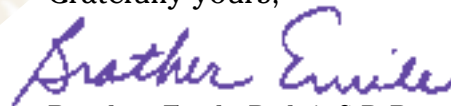
While 2007 was a productive year for us, we did realize decreased income and, sadly, lost some vital government funding. The immediate financial future seems challenging as prices rise and we all face hardships. Though I am hopeful and optimistic that good people like you will continue to be there for the children and God's grace will bless our good works. Your prayers and concern for the poor keep us positive and energized.

I promise to always be a responsible and dedicated steward of your generosity. I will continue to look for ways to stretch your dollars and lower costs so as much as possible is used to benefit poor children and their families.

I speak for our missionaries, but more importantly, for millions of young people as I say THANK YOU for all you have done. You have helped touch the lives of millions of innocent children and their hopeful futures are a testament of your love and compassion.

May God touch your minds with His wisdom, your hearts with His love, and may He watch over you and your loved ones. I pray that He blesses all of you abundantly.

Gratefully yours,

  
Brother Emile Dubé, S.D.B.

P.S. – Please pray that our good works continue, that the future will be prosperous, and that all children – wherever they may be – are treated with respect and decency.

## Distribution of Funds

How Salesian Missions allocates its financial resources



*Salesian Missions is audited by  
Graf Repetti & Co., LLP*

### EXECUTIVES & BOARD MEMBERS AS OF JULY 1, 2007

#### EXECUTIVES

Brother Emile Dubé *Executive Director*

Brother Bruno Busatto *Assistant Director*

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Very Rev. James Heuser *Provincial*

Brother Emile Dubé *Director*

Brother Thomas Dion *Economer*

Brother Bruno Busatto *Asst. Director*

*These Executives and Board Members serve without pay.*

## **SOURCES OF SUPPORT**

### **Private Support**

The generous offerings of individual Americans account for most of the aid dispensed by Salesian Missions. They are received primarily through direct mail solicitations.

Schools, community groups - both secular and religious - foundations, private agencies and companies which offer matching funds account for the remaining portion of private funding.

### **Support From Host Countries**

In line with the Salesian policy of not creating a passive dependence on outside help, Salesian Missions has fostered an attitude of "helping people help themselves." Salesian Missions seeks and obtains local funds, as well as assistance for its social programs from individuals, businesses and governments of host countries. These funds are not reflected in the distribution chart above.

### **International and United States Agencies**

Salesian Missions expresses its thanks to Catholic Relief Services for its help in the Salesian overseas school lunch programs. The value of these donated commodities is not included in the financial statement. Also, Salesian Missions would like to acknowledge the U.S. Department of Agriculture for its assistance in various agricultural training projects.

Salesian Missions has also received grants from the U.S. Agency for International Development, and from several U.S. Foundations. Grants have also been received from the Belgian Government through COMIDE, from the Association for Food and Development of Rome, and from the European Community.

*Children are  
the future of  
the world...*



Today's children are tomorrow's adult society. That is why it is so important that young people are given the love and guidance they need to become healthy adults...in body, mind and spirit. As responsible adults we must give of ourselves in whatever capacity to ensure that all children are given what many of us take for granted: love of family, decent living conditions, healthcare, nutritious food, education and the freedom to worship God.

They also need the power of prayer. We should encourage prayer in the lives of everyone, especially children... and together as one almighty force, work and pray for the well-being of all children.

***The children of the world  
are too important to be ignored!***

For over 125 years, the Salesians of St. John Bosco have been reinforcing this message by reaching out to poor and needy children worldwide. For more information about our work, please write to:

***Salesian Missions***  
***2 Lefevre Lane, New Rochelle, NY 10801-5710***  
***or visit our website at:***  
***[www.salesianmissions.org](http://www.salesianmissions.org)***



*Not just caring for the poor children of the world but also teaching them to care for themselves!*

"Remember that education is a matter of the heart, of which God alone is the Master, and we can do nothing unless God teaches us the art and gives the key in our hands."

- St. John Bosco



**2007 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT:** *The Bosco Bakery School was recently opened in Cambodia through the hard work and determination of Salesian missionaries. The school, equipped with modern baking equipment, will teach poor and needy children the baking skills that will enable them to obtain good jobs.*

## Trade Schools

A strikingly distinctive contribution of Salesian Missions is its 559 Trade/Technical schools. Through the teaching of job skills, poor youngsters will be able to earn a decent living while contributing to the development of their own countries.

These schools feature regular four-year courses designed to result in qualified workers able to take their place in industry. Some skilled trades commonly taught

are tool and die-making, printing and allied trades, mechanics, electronics, welding, dressmaking, woodworking, computer and office skills.

Alongside this extended program is short-term training which lasts six to eighteen months and corresponds to our job-training courses. This program is conducted in the evenings so as to use school facilities to the maximum and to prepare many more young people for the working world with the skills that are in demand.

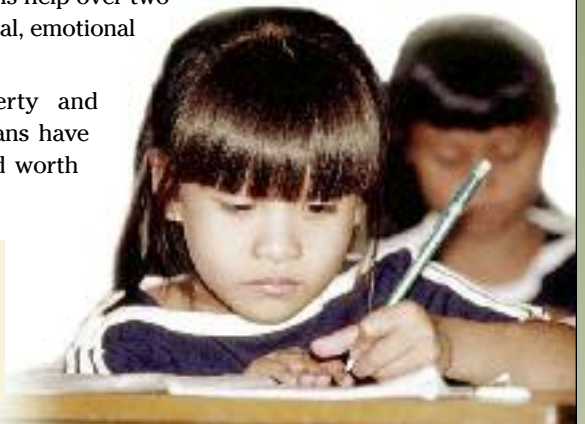
## Education

By far the most important contribution that Salesian Missions has made to the youth of the world is in the field of education. In 3,408 schools around the world, the Salesians help over two million young people develop their personalities to the fullest so as to attain intellectual, emotional and spiritual maturity.

No stronger and more effective means of breaking the cycle of poverty and underdevelopment exists than education. For well over a hundred years, the Salesians have experienced how education gives the impoverished a sense of personal dignity and worth through their skilled work and consequent contribution to society.



**2007 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT:** *In 2007, a new school opened in Nyangassoba, Mali providing 360 children with the opportunity to attend school. The students will attend academic classes in a stable, structured classroom environment. This is the culmination of more than two decades of service in Mali towards a goal of eradicating poverty through education.*



## Moral and Spiritual Direction

Don Bosco was a zealous priest who believed that the only way to truly battle poverty, illiteracy, and hunger was with reason, religion, and kindness. For him, the properly formed and mature adult was the citizen with faith, who stands true to his own religious convictions. His educational process was a pathway of prayer, liturgy, sacramental life, and spiritual direction. To this day, this is the foundation on which all our youth programs and school curriculums are built. The result, hopefully, is young people with good morals, a respect for life, and a lasting faith. Also, our Seminaries around the world are shaping young men into future Salesian Fathers and Brothers who will be tomorrow's leaders of faith and morality. Currently, we are fortunate to have over 200 candidates in our Seminaries who have been called by God to serve His church.



**2007 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT:** *Without the Salesian Chapel Program, many people in the most remote and rural areas would not have a proper place to worship. With the help of good people in the USA, Salesian missionaries around the world were given the funding to start construction on 59 chapels in 2007.*

✦ Not just caring for the poor children of the world but also teaching them to care for themselves! ✦

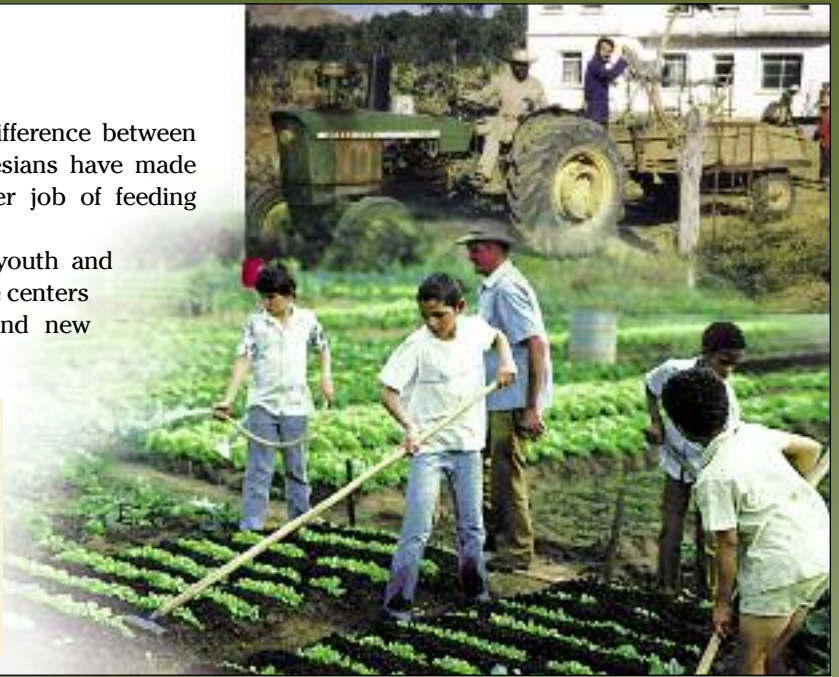
# Agricultural Schools

In rural areas, knowing how to farm can make the difference between eating and going hungry. Since their beginning, the Salesians have made special efforts to help those in rural areas do a better job of feeding themselves and others in their communities.

Salesians staff 91 Agricultural schools serving rural youth and developing farm communities. These schools have become centers for training people in modern agricultural methods and new marketing techniques.



**2007 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT:** In 2007, the Don Bosco Agro-Mechanical Technology Center in Legazpi Island, Philippines added two new classrooms and an extension of its educational programs. Now more young farmers can benefit from the application of technology, by learning to use the tools and machines for cultivating the land for crops and animal husbandry.



# Medical Assistance

The Salesians extend their work to the ill and disabled through 216 clinics and hospitals located mostly in rural areas. The care of victims afflicted with leprosy, also known as Hansen's disease, has been part of the Salesians' concern for the sick and suffering for well over a hundred years.

There are Salesian leper hospitals and leprosy control programs in Brazil, Colombia, India, Thailand, Macao, and a number of nations in Africa.



**2007 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT:** At the "Pinardi Shed," a youth center in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, needy children not only have a place to play, but they also receive nutritious meals and necessary medical care. The medical care is especially important for children who arrive at the center sick or injured because of violence or abuse. The Pinardi Shed offers neglected street children a safe refuge and gentle guidance from the dedicated Salesians to help put their fragile lives on a positive road.



# Emergency Relief

One of the ever-growing activities of Salesian Missions is emergency relief. Time and again, the Salesians have become involved in emergency efforts wherever there are victims of natural disasters, tragic circumstances or civil strife. Some of the current activity includes relieving famine in Africa, assisting flood victims in India, offering refugee assistance in Europe, and feeding undernourished children in the Philippines and in the slums of Haiti.



**2007 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT:** After the devastating Inalala cyclone in Madagascar in 2007, villages became submerged under water and families lacked food, shelter, and clothing. Salesians in Bemaneviky immediately aided victims by converting their own home into a makeshift shelter and distributing food and medicine.



✧ Not just caring for the poor children of the world but also teaching them to care for themselves! ✧

# Family Assistance and Development of Women

Guidance, counseling, and assistance for troubled families are important features of the Salesian social outreach programs. This activity is centered in 850 nurseries and in the many Salesian parishes and youth clubs. A stable and happy family life is the foundation for a healthy society. That is why it is one of the main concerns of the Salesians.

Half of the Salesian Family is composed of dedicated women, the Salesian Sisters, who give their lives for the education and advancement of women. In a variety of programs from elementary schools through college, the Salesian Sisters provide excellent educational opportunities for girls and women.

The outstanding quality of their training enables their alumnae to qualify for jobs on every level of production and management.

In addition, the Salesian Sisters are active in many social programs directly geared to working women, their issues and their advancement.



**2007 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT:** In 2007, the Salesian House of Saint Antony the Abbot in Valencia, Spain opened its doors to refugees primarily from sub-Saharan Africa who were living under the Ademuz Bridge along the Turin River. Displaced families were provided with meals, playground facilities for children, and educational resources, which should ultimately help improve their lives.

## Children of the Streets

One of the phenomena of modern times is the great increase of children living on the streets in the cities of underdeveloped countries around the world. The Salesians have addressed this problem by providing youth shelters and homes, which offer food, clothing, counseling and educational opportunities. Efforts are also made to reunite these children with their families if possible.

The Salesians are also active in communities with educational seminars and child-advocacy programs that promote and protect the well-being and the rights of these vulnerable boys and girls.



**2007 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT:** In 2007, more than 750 at-risk children benefited from programs at the new Salesian Center in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, which has dormitories, classrooms, a recreation hall, and a cafeteria. They not only received food and shelter, but they also obtained skills and knowledge that will last a lifetime.

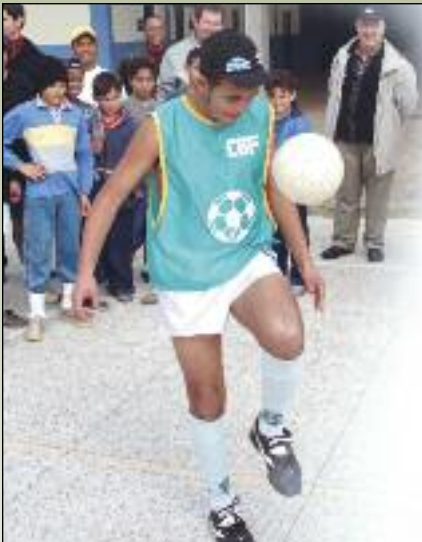
## Youth Clubs

Youth clubs are a very important sector of Salesian service to the young. Generally, they function side by side with Salesian schools and serve all the youngsters of an area, whether or not they attend the schools.

Their objective is to keep the young occupied in constructive activities during their leisure time and, through organized projects suited to age, to contribute to their growth and maturity. Several of the youth clubs have small medical clinics and, where needed, a lunch program to protect children from malnutrition.



**2007 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT:** A new Salesian Youth Center opened in Saltillo, Mexico in 2007. Its goal is to combat and prevent the high dropout rate in local schools. At the same time the center will help boost the self-confidence of attendees by combining education, social activities, and technical training to give them the opportunity to grow and flourish.



# The Mission...

**John Bosco was more than a priest from northern Italy. He was a priest who heard a special call to bring all young people to the awareness that God truly loves them. But John Bosco was not a man who was content only with words. By his actions he stood against an anti-religious age and reached out to the orphaned and abandoned children of the streets. He taught them working skills, restored their dignity, and gave them direction towards a positive and moral life.**

**John Bosco's philosophy was practical: Love what the young love! This sincere identification with the young effected a confidence and trust that would reach thousands of poor children in his lifetime, until his death on January 31, 1888, at age 72. John Bosco's legacy lives on today in a way that even he – a man of great vision – may have never imagined.**

*"It is not enough to love the young. They must know that they are loved." - St. John Bosco*



# The Beginning

It was the mid-1850s and times were bad for religion. The radical government in Italy was closing convents and monasteries and showing contempt for religion.

In the midst of this turmoil, a young priest wanted to begin a religious society of Brothers and Priests to help him care for young people. He knew that the government would never allow this. So with gospel shrewdness, he made friends with the Minister of Internal Affairs (who had written the anti-religion laws), and learned how he could get around the laws and establish a religious society.

Finally, on December 18, 1859, this young priest named John Bosco and eighteen young men – who were once poor street children he cared for – began a new society. John Bosco called them the "Salesians" after St. Francis de Sales, Bishop of Geneva, whom he had always admired for his kindness and religious zeal.

A new era in caring for young people had begun.

# The Mission Today

With Priests, Brothers, and Sisters numbering more than 34,000, the Salesians serve almost three million youth in 131 countries. The Salesians improve the lives of poor youngsters through the teaching of skilled trades and scientific agriculture. There are 225 Salesian orphanages and shelters, 216 hospitals and clinics, 850 nurseries and 3,408 schools. Of these, 559 are vocational and technical, 91 agricultural, 1,440 high schools, 23 colleges, and 1,295 elementary schools.

In all these various programs, the spirit and the memory of John Bosco live on. The men and women who have followed in his footsteps have dedicated their lives to be friends, counselors, and educators of poor young people.

*"He who welcomes a child in My name, welcomes Me."  
- Luke 9:48*



Bro. Emile Dubé, S.D.B.,  
Director of Salesian Missions,  
on a recent visit to one of  
our missions in Brazil.