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CAGLIERO 11

newsletter for Salesian Missionary Animation



Publication of the missions sector for SDB communities and friends of the salesian mission



Hello everyone,

In this month, in which we remember the Salesian missionaries, radiators of Don Bosco's charism throughout the world, we pause to reflect on the sufferings of the little ones. In our globalised society, we would well to recognise that the 'culture of waste' is now increasingly rampant, and its effects are devastating. As Christians, we are called to overcome indifference and to witness that the Gospel is good news of Joy and leaves no room for sadness. This summer in Venezuela, I greatly appreciated the smile and welcome of the poor in the 'barrio', ready to let you into their humble homes without having to hide their daily hardships and humble living conditions. I have experienced that to alleviate suffering, it is indeed necessary to engage in social works, to guaranty fundamental rights, to educate the young. It is even more important to stop and share one's time with those close to us.

Are we capable of 'wasting time' to get close to, and to listen to, those who suffer without falling into the 'efficiencyism' of those who want to solve all the problems of others?

With this doubt, wishing you a good reading of Cagliero11.

■ Marco Fulgoso
Lay Member of the Salesian
Missions Sector

There is poverty in the United States

The **SFYC** (Salesian Family Youth Centre) is located in a low-income neighbourhood in Los Angeles CA. Many of the children we serve were born in the United States, but their parents are immigrants from Spanish speaking countries – Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, among others.

The majority of the children are **bilingual**, yet the Spanish they speak is limited because they normally learn at home. Meanwhile, their parents take on two or three backbreaking jobs just to survive. This results in their children spending much of their time by themselves. Parents try to provide everything for their children with the idea that "they should have what I didn't have". This attitude creates a sort of entitlement and other behavioural issues in their children.

Without a clear **accompaniment** and a support system many children will end up living in danger and in fear; easy access to drugs and gangs complicates matters. To give a real-life example, a couple of months ago, a 14-year-old boy was killed in a gang related crime in the neighbourhood. The boy, at one point, was part of the SFYC but he had stopped participating in the programme two years ago.

As regards **education**, many of our youth do not aspire to go to college or trade schools. Once they finish high school or they drop out, they look for a job in an attempt to help their families. There is one more element I would like to mention. The majority of our young people have an **identity crisis** because they walk a wobbly path between being Latinos and being United States citizens. Once this crisis is resolved, it becomes a huge advantage for the young person and for society because he/she can then navigate happily and productively in both the dominant cultures of the country.

We are one of the important presences of Don Bosco in the SUO Province, if you would like to know more about us, please visit our website at www.SalesianClubs-LA.org.

■ Jc Montenegro

Provincial Delegate for Missionary Animation (PDMA), SUO province

FOR REFLECTION AND SHARING

- What kind of poverty do I encounter most among the young people in my area?
- How can I help children and young people who are suffering?



SALESIANS IN HAITI HELP PEOPLE WHO SUFFER



Dear Bro. Ricardo, Haiti is a poor country afflicted by natural disasters. What do the local people need most besides financial aid?

Haiti is classified as the most vulnerable country in the Caribbean in terms of natural disasters. From 2010 to 2021, three major natural disasters hit the country:

- the earthquake of 12 January 2010 (222,570 dead and 3.7 million people affected);
- the Hurricane Matthew in October 2016 (500 deaths and 2.1 million people affected);
- the earthquake on 14 August 2021 (2,300 deaths and over 700,000 people affected).

These natural disasters have increased the level of vulnerability of the population, especially the poorest. After each disaster, the affected people generally find themselves in a state of humanitarian emergency. Therefore, in addition to financial aid, kits of food material and hygiene, hot meals are their main immediate need. Medium and long-term needs include psychosocial activities, resilience-building programmes, skills-training programmes and socio-economic recovery programmes.

How do the Salesians in Haiti help the poorest children and young people?

To assist the poorest children and young people, the Salesians in Haiti intervene at different levels.

Emergency programmes: the Salesians, through structures like the Rinaldi Foundation, distribute food and hygiene kits, serve hot meals and provide psychosocial activities for young people and children.

Socio-economic recovery programmes: the Salesians assist farmers by providing them with agricultural materials such as seeds to help them recover economically and offer skills-training programmes for desperate young people.

The situation of the people and the Salesians in Haiti is difficult. Yet, you too experience joyful moments and positive moments in your life and in your missionary service: do you?

It is true. In fact, the Salesians in Haiti are working to restore hope to children and young people in these difficult times. They carry out various activities: patronage, school engineering, socio-cultural activities (Jesus carnival, Jesus bike, theatre, dance), games (football, volleyball and basketball), environmental awareness. Our young people and children, being musicians at heart, love festivals. We also take advantage of the Rector Major's proposals to help the animators to become leaven for each other.



Bro. Ricardo BELAS, SDB

Born in Jérémie in **Haiti** in 1981, entered the pre-novitiate in October 2002, he made his profession in 2004 as a Salesian **Brother**.

He has completed philosophical and pedagogical studies in Haiti and pastoral theology at **Crocetta** Turin, also carrying out the two-year experience of international formation for the Brothers in Valdocco.

He specialized in accounting and auditing in **Ecuador** (Universidad Politécnica Salesiana). In the Vice Province, Blessed Filippo Rinaldi is responsible for youth ministry and from July 2022 for **missionary animation**.



F O R U M

TOP 10 COUNTRIES WITH THE HIGHEST FERTILITY RATE (birth per woman)

1. Niger 6.8	1. South Korea 0.9
2. Somalia 6.0	2. Puerto Rico 1.0
3. Mali 5.8	3. Hong Kong (China) 1.1
4. DR Congo 5.8	4. Malta 1.1
5. Chad 5.6	5. Singapore 1.1
6. Angola 5.4	6. Spain 1.2
7. Burundi 5.3	7. Macau (China) 1.2
8. Nigeria 5.3	8. Ukraine 1.2
9. Gambia 5.2	9. Italy 1.3
10. Burkina Faso 5.1	10. Moldova 1.3

**NOVEMBER
SALESIAN
MISSIONARY
INTENTION**

Children who suffer

For alleviation of the suffering of poor and homeless children and orphans in Haiti

We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.
[Pope Francis' prayer intention]

