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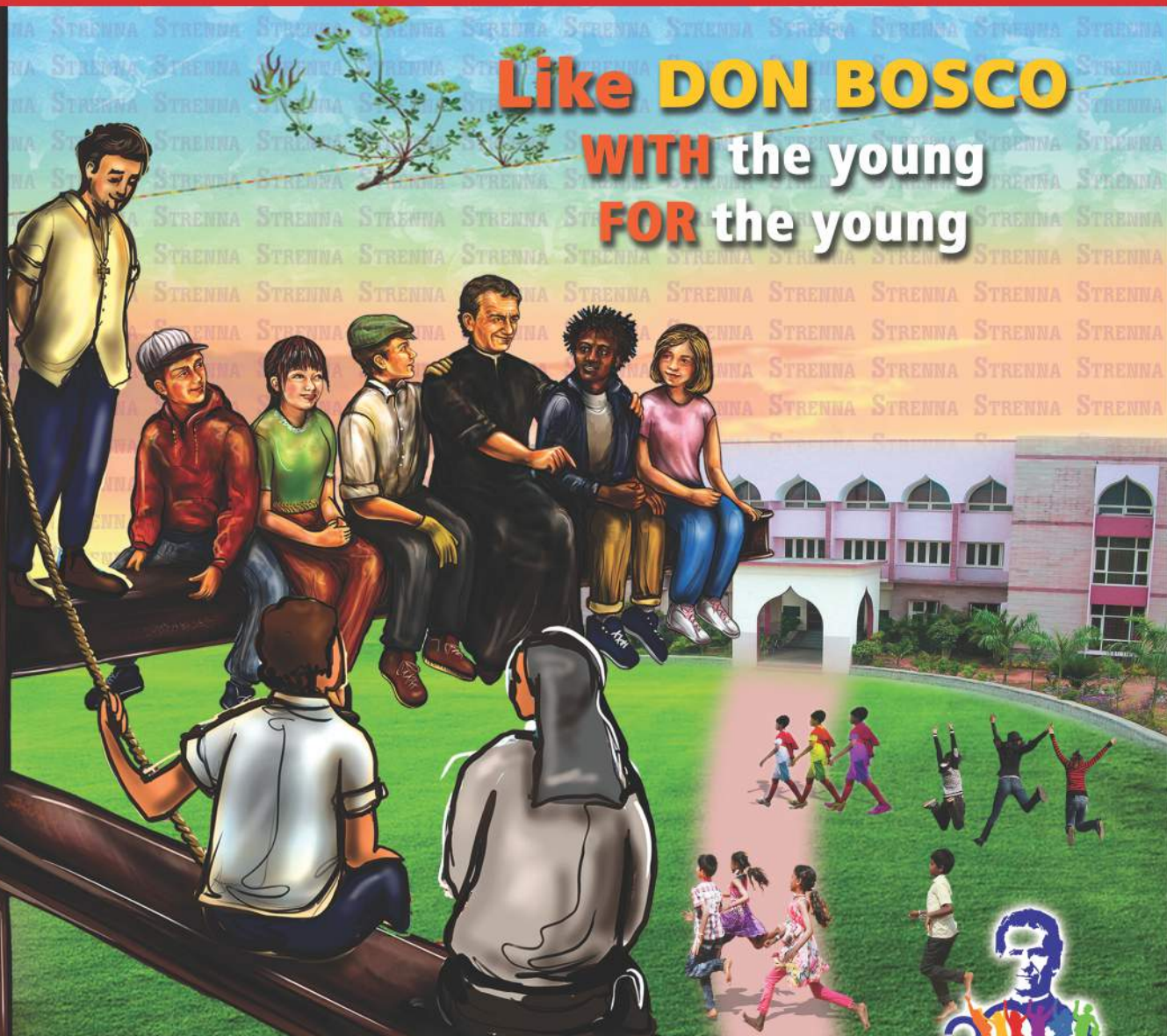
SALESIAN PROVINCE OF ST JOSEPH, HYDERABAD

DECEMBER 2014 - JANUARY 2015

Vol. XV

Issue No. 1

Like DON BOSCO
WITH the young
FOR the young



STRENNNA 2015

of the Rector Major Fr Ángel Fernández Artime



LENT: AN APPRAISAL

Lent is a golden opportunity given to us by Holy Mother the Church to review our past and to make sensible resolutions for the future. During Lent, we focus on our emptiness, our need to be one with God. Lent is not a kill-joy season, it is not against life; on the contrary, it is about going deep down to the sources of joy and life. We, sometimes have a wrong idea about heaven and God Himself. We often see God as a stern and sour old man, waiting with a cane to thrash us each time we make a mistake. But we have a God who gives, loves and forgives. God's love is unconditional, but God's forgiveness is conditional. The only condition being that we forgive one another.

Lent is the time for a decisive battle against all that is evil. We are invited to a sincere act of conversion. God has compassion for His people who repent of their sins and return to him. It is indeed a season of happy homecoming. (Like the prodigal son.)

The Lenten season which by its call to conversion, leads the faithful through prayers, penance and acts of charity to renew or reinvigorate our friendship with Jesus. It is a golden opportunity to free ourselves from the deceptive allure of the evil forces and once again savour the harmony of interior life.

During this grace-filled season we our divine master had. Jesus retires for fasting. The Israelites had forty years of experience this desert experience. It misunderstandings, painful tempted in the wilderness, so Jesus the devil. But the difference is that whereas Jesus came out victorious. A the sunrise must live through the night. of the rainbow must endure the rain. beyond the defeat there is the triumph,



contemplate the desert experience that Jesus forty days in the wilderness in prayer and desert experience. All of us do may be sickness, failures, certain criticisms etc. Just as Israel was was also tempted in the wilderness by Israel succumbed to temptations person who wants to enjoy the glory of A person who wants to enjoy the beauty Beyond the cross, there is the crown, beyond death, there is life.

A moment of repentance, a real conversion, a moment of grace is worth more than the whole universe. No sinner is lost because of his sins. He is lost because he does not trust in the mercy of God, he does not rise and go to his Father and say to him "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son" (Lk 15/ 18-19). The Lord is ever ready to receive the repentant sinner. We must pray with the prophet Daniel: "We have sinned against you God" (Dan 9/8). There is repentance unto God and there is repentance unto self. Repentance unto God obtains forgiveness of sin. Repentance unto self brings despair and condemnation. The tragedy of the life of Judas was that he might have been St. Judas if he had repented. The difference between the good thief and the bad thief was that one repented and the other did not repent. Repentance means a complete change of heart. It is the readiness to accept God's forgiveness ;and live a healthy interpersonal relationship.

Repentance entails change of heart. It means "cease to do evil, learn to do good, seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow" (Is 1:17). During Lent we concentrate attention not only on the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ but also his resurrection. Lent is not merely a sorrowful season but also a joyful season. There is much we can do in Lent without harming our health. We can be more charitable and loving. We can be more outgoing and optimistic. In fact the expansion of the word LENT could be: Leave Every Negative Thought.

In this holy season of Lent let us make it a point to care for the uncared, welcome the unwelcome, accept the unacceptable and love the unlovable.

– Fr Jose Therampil



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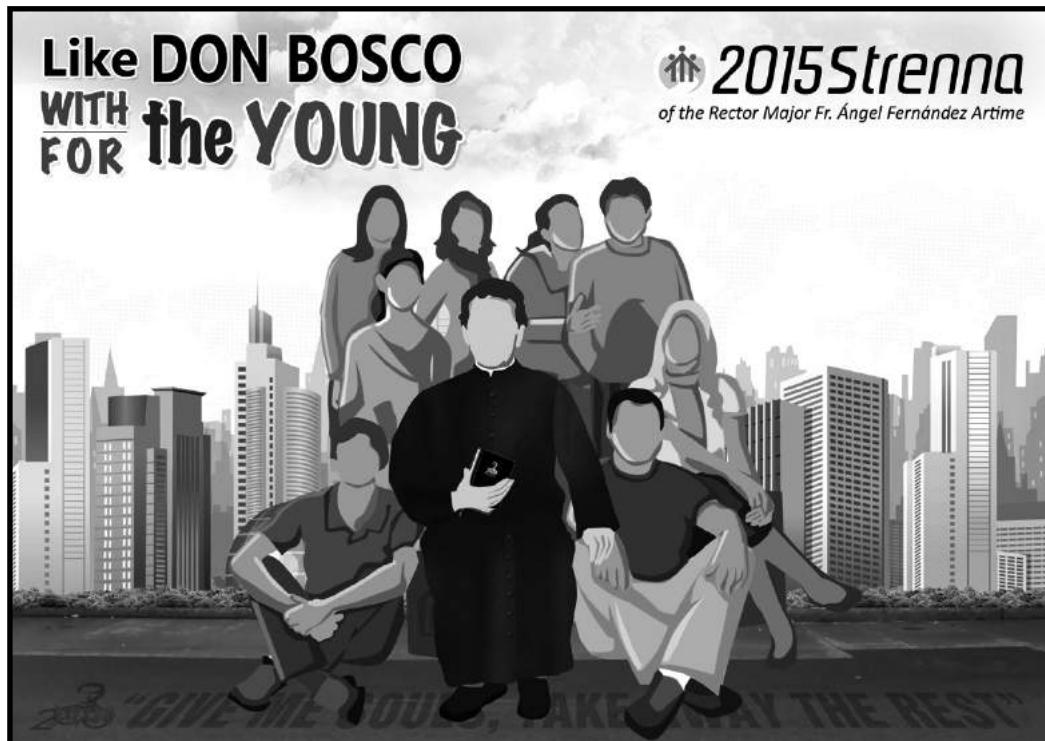
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Grand Re-Opening of Don Bosco Hostel at Kollapur



Kollapur, 1 December, 2014: We accept the truth that our Salesian apostolate finds meaning only in educating poor boys through schools, oratories and hostels. Hence the Salesian community decided to create a space for poor boys in our campus to be educated through hostel and allowed

lay people to take care of those boys. In fact in Kollapur, we find a number of poor boys who are uneducated and a great number of youth who are unorganized. Hostel would be the place to take care of the poor boys and to educate them to be honest citizens. With the help of lay collaboration Fr. 'Alex, the In-Charge re-opened a hostel in the name of Don Bosco on 1st December with 20 boys. Mr. Ravi, a Salesian co-operator takes care of them. He educates them in our Salesian system. This Don Bosco Hostel surely strengthens our school at Kollapur with a Salesian discipline and a steady number in the school.

- Cl Kornana Suresh

Blood Donation Camp at D.B. Degree College, Motinagar

Erragadda, 4 December, 2014: Blood is the source of life. Donating blood to someone in need, is a great service. The students of Don Bosco Degree College volunteered to donate blood in a blood donation camp conducted in the college. The Red Cross society of Vidyanagar, Hyderabad came forward to organize the camp. About 100 students volunteered to offer their blood after staff members B. Bal Raj and B. Ravi motivated them. A few staff members also joined the list of donors.



- Fr Vadakeparasseril George



YaR Day Re-echoes - 'Children's Right to Be Heard'

Rajahmundry, 6-7, December, 2014: Children from INH YaR homes gathered together at Ekalavya Children's Home, Rajahmundry to deepen their understanding of CRC - particularly their Right to Be Heard

promulgation of the United Nations Child Rights Convention (UNCRC), Bicentenary of the Birth of Don Bosco and the conclusion of the child rights week based on the theme of the year 'I have a Right to be heard'.



To grace this occasion and to inaugurate the event we had Child representatives from seven YaR centres of the INH Province who took part in the event. Along with them we had Fr Thomas Koshy SDB National YaR Coordinator, Mr. Girish Pingle from Rastra Seva Dal, Pune, Fr Sudhakar Bellamkonda Province YaR coordinator and Fr Thomas Pallithanam, Director PARA, Ravulapalem. In his short message Fr Koshy called on

- through Interactive, Joyous exchange of their experiences and celebration of their knowledge, skills and attitude. It was a commemoration of three important events: the occasion of the 25th year of the

the 140 bubbling children and youngsters aging from 7 years to 17 years to understand their (children) Rights and in a right perspectivits meaning and implications. Fr Sudhakar, Province YaR coordinator invoked





Development and Right to Participate.

In the following session Fr Koshy Thomas and Mr Santosh elaborated for them CRC Art 12, the Right to Be Heard. They encouraged them to exercise self-expression which is an integral part of their Right to be Heard.

the God's blessing and reminded the children that they are representatives of the respective children homes of INH Province and they need to carry back the learning's of the event to others who could not take part in the programme.

In the following session on the first day resource persons Mr Dhananjay and Mr Kandham from Rastra Seva Dal, Pune showed through a game of colour how although they are different their coming together gives rise to a variety of new things. Through aerobics they helped them to express themselves freely.

The afternoon session focused on the four major rights of the children namely, Right to Life, Right to Protection, Right to

Before Lunch resource persons from Rastra Seva Dal took the sessions on the personality Development and Calisthenics.

The post lunch session has evolved as "Paint Your Rights Wall". The compound wall of Ekalavya Children's Home was beautifully, artfully and thought provokingly painted by children - each one painting their understanding of rights on the wall.

In the afternoon all the children gathered for the valedictory function. Every centre performed well choreographed dances. We were honored with the presence of Asst. Commissioner RPF Mr. Sambasivarao and Mr. Sharatkumar CI RPF. Mr Sharatkumar in his message recalled his relationship with Fr Koshy and Navajeevan homes at Vijayawada and called upon the students to make use of the opportunities provided at Don Bosco Homes and congratulated organizers for organizing such meaningful programme for the children. A memorable moment was exchanging of the mementos of the respective Navajeevan homes. Children then joyfully dispersed for their respective destinations wishing each other adieu till they would meet again at Vizag in 2015.

- Fr Pallithanam Thomas



Celebrating the Salesian (Fr) LENS of Christ

Karunapuram, 11, December 2014: The memorial Mass of Fr John Lens, was celebrated at Don Bosco Philosophate, Karunapuram. The Vice-Provincial (Fr Thathireddy Vijayabhaskar) in his introductory words recalled Fr Lens' words uttered during an interview with him: "I worked hard and I worked for the poor!" With the strong conviction that we were praying to him, rather than for him, 150 members of the Salesian family gathered for the occasion, spent the morning in Eucharistic thanksgiving and prayer.

The Provincial, Fr Ramedini Balaraju, in his sermon, highlighted some of the virtues of Fr John Lens from his own autobiography, the existence of which was made known during the funeral. He stated that Fr Lens truly knew the value of genuine love, over and above other virtues. In one entry of his, sometime around the silver Jubilee of his ordination, he noted three dangers of getting too engrossed in work: one becomes

superficial (too many things to do); one becomes uncharitable (comparison with others); and finally one seeks and justifies compensation for the hard work by giving in the temptations of the flesh.

He also stressed the fact that Fr Lens was a cheerful person. He reiterated the words of Pope Francis, while speaking of the year of the Consecrated Life, that a single word which best describes a consecrated person is 'joy'. To celebrate his joyful charity and service, that members of the Salesian family, Presentation Convent and Sacred Heart Novitiate, and JMJ congregation, gathered for the Holy Eucharistic celebration at 11 am. It was followed by a short prayer service at the tomb.

Fr Kannadipara Mathew, who had the good fortune of living with Fr Lens shared with the congregation, their rich experience with Fr Lens. They were unanimous in stating that he truly inspired thousands of young religious all along his life living a life of

consistency, generosity, optimism, transparency and a simple, humble spirituality.

The Salesian novices made up the choir for the Mass and the liturgical animation was seen to by the community of Don Bosco, Karunapuram.

- *Cl Neelam Naresh*



MACS Staff get Tech-savvy

Guntur-BIRD, 11-12, December 2014: Fifty Seven members of MACS participated in a two-day training & camp; capacity building program on use of computers for reporting and documentation. The key resource persons for the training were Fr. Thomas Santiago, Executive Director, BSK and Mr. Rajesh, Tutor, Don Bosco School, PT Paruru. The main aim of the training was to empower the women with skills to document, report and communicate the progress in their respective MACS with their counterparts and the Head Office. Each participant got the opportunity to practically



try out the learning's at the computer lab. The second day, Fr. Santiago, spoke on the best practices for MACS to succeed.

At the close of the second day Christmas celebrations began with Fr. Santaigu's message to participants: "Jesus says, 'Love all' and he 'does all'. Fr. Aruldas, Asst Director also give a meaningful message on LIFE. A crib was arranged and decorations set in a festive mood. All the participants participated joyfully and shared good wishes for Christmas, greeting each other with gifts.

- Fr Santiago Thomas

Children's Parliament Ministers' Training

Bandlaguda, 12-13, December 2014: A two days residential training was conducted at "BIRDY" Bandlaguda, Hyderabad. 32 boys and 26 girls from classes III to VIII were elected as Ministers of Children's Parliament.



the world". Other noted guests were Mr. Saibabu a well known social worker belonging to the Lok Satta Party and Mr. Rambabu, another social worker from the BSP party.

Children were from 9 tuition centers viz., 1.NTR Nagar Phase I, 2. NTR Nagar PhaseII, 3. Banjara Colony, 4.Subhashnagar, 5. Errakunta, 6.Nacharam, 7.Lakshmipatigudem, 8. Vavilala and 9.Sanjaygandhinagar (Lalapet)

Fr. Thatireddy the Salesian vice provincial was the chief guest during the inaugural session. He showed the participants a clipping of Ms. Malala Yousufzai receiving Nobel Prize. He said that this was an example to show that - "Children can change

Children felt energized by the fun activities that were interspersed with sessions dealing with topics like 'What is Parliament?', 'What are the responsibilities of a member of parliament?', 'What is my role in the development of my community/area?', etc.

At the end of the session, the child ministers felt a sense of urgency to go back and share their knowledge and experience with their peers. Many of the children said they can't wait to start implementing several of the ideas that gathered from the training!

- Fr Santiago Thomas



Young at Risk Children to participate as Researchers

Vijayawada, 11-13 December 2014: The YaR (Young at Risk) National Forum of the Salesians in South Asia, headed by Fr. Thomas Koshy sdb, has started on a beautiful journey of research with the young at risk as participants in a research programme. It will have the scope of studying how YaR centres can be run with the active involvement of the children themselves. The directors of 10 YaR centres from five South Indian Salesian provinces met together at Chiguru, Vijayawada, to chalk out this programme of Participatory Action Research (PAR) in their centres to begin with.

Starting from January 2015, the Bicentenary Year of Don Bosco's birth, 30 researchers along with the staff and children will be on a 3-year participatory research process. They will be seeking ways of making the YaR centres to be run by the children, for the children and with the children.

The idea of starting a Participatory Action Research programme was first mooted at the National YaR Workshop in March this year on the theme, "Behavioural Difficulties of the Young at Risk". The findings of a 6-month experiment in PAR with the theme of aggression among children was presented. The response of the participants was overwhelming. The Forum took it up as a national venture and wanted to use the methodology of PAR to make the YaR centres not only more child friendly, but more child directed and child managed. Just

as the centres are meant for the children and we are at their service, the research is oriented to make the children not only the participants, but the subjects as well as agents, not objects of the research.

Fr. John Tharakan SDB supplemented the sociological and developmental approach with a psychological approach to social communication as a tool to build up understanding as well as relationship among the PAR participants. To look at the behavioural difficulties that the children face, their running away from home is seen as the journey of the archetypal hero or heroine into exile, their struggle with their own shadows as well as other unexpected obstacles that challenge them to trace out a new path to liberation and genuine growth. The result would be a behavioural transformation of all the participants in the research, the children, the care administrators and the researchers themselves.

The entire discussion was given depth with the ethnographic approach proposed by Dr. Fr. Jose Maliekal sdb, a philosopher in his own right. He showed the group how understanding the children from a socio-cultural background, assuring their agency and involving them in the research as

subjects could make the Participatory Action Research a resounding success.

After a thorough briefing on the subject matter, the directors and the Forum Secretary



drew up a practical plan of action for the 30 researchers for the coming three years.

Every participant felt that we are initiating a process whose time has come and felt proud of being part of a process that has the potential to transform the way the

children are in our centres and in the society at large. Participation is not going to be just one of the listed rights of children; participation will be what they live, breath and experience.

- Fr John Tharakan

DB Tech - Kurnool

Kurnool, 17 December 2014:

“Thank you very much... for giving us wings to fly...” is the expression expressed by one of the DB Tech student in Kurnool DB Tech Centre, during the visit of the DB Tech State Head Fr. P. Arul Das sdb. Indeed our province is reaching to 2500 youngsters in a year through BASE Programme (Bosco Academy for Skills and Employment) at our DB Tech Centres.

Fr P. Arul and Mr. K. Sridhar visited DB Tech Centre, Kurnool. The team had interaction with the staff and students. During the students interaction, they were eager to know about the training method, interest of students and their readiness for the placements after completing the training. The trainees even presented few demonstrations according to their trade.



Fr. P. Arul Das explained about DB Tech's aim and objectives for imparting such skill training to needy youth. He highlighted the roles and responsibilities of the students to make the program successful, by hinting at the Bicentenary of Don Bosco “spoke about the hard work and dedication that Don Bosco put into his works for the young people particularly those rejected by the society and marginalized. He said that the Holy Spirit always guided Don Bosco in his works for young people and he surrendered himself completely to the will of God. ‘Don Bosco loves young and he was ready to live and die for them.’ Don Bosco’s motto for the young ‘for you I live... for you I work... for you I am ready even to give my life’ is the hall mark of his life.

- Cl Salibindla Praveen



Tuition Centre Teachers' Review Meeting

BIRDY, 18 December 2014: Year-end review of Tuition Centre teachers of Hyderabad area was held at BIRDY, at Provincial House, Hyderabad. Thirty teachers participated in the meeting.

The meeting started with a 2-minute silence observed for the children brutally killed in Pakistan. The main agenda for the meeting, sharing of monthly reports was carried out first. Those who failed to do so were given the task of singing songs, telling stories to entertain the others.

Teachers shared about the children's day celebrated at their respective centres and the enthusiasm shown by their students. They felt encouraged to adopt participative approach in all their activities.



Importance of involving parents in activities at the tuition centres was reiterated and participants came up with different ways of getting the uninterested parents also to contribute to the healthy growth and development of their children and the local community.

Innovative and joyful methods of teaching were explained. Play-acting, story-board and other creative methods to bring out the talents of the children were discussed.

The larger goal of conducting evening tuition centres is to encourage formation of Children's Parliament and increase local ownership and participation among the elders through the demonstration of the children.

- Fr Santiago Thomas

A Special Meet for Foster Families

Vijayawada, 18 December 2014: Navajeevan Shelter, Poornanandapet, Vijayawada held a meet for all foster families. About ten families along with the respective child participated in the meeting that was presided by Mrs. Ch. Vani, in-charge Alternative Care Desk. Special guests for the meeting were Mr. Vijay Kumar, DCPO, ICPS, Krishna, Fr. S. Bala-showry, Member CWC, Krishna and Mr. Krishna Prasad Das, Member JJB, Krishna Dist.



Mr. Krishna Prasad briefed about the importance of family to a child and the care and protection to be given to a child coming from outside the biological family. The need of understanding between the child and the family and about the adjustments required to make the child feel as a part of the family.

Mr. Vijay Kumar, DCPO explained about the process of foster care and adoption as per the norms of Women & Child Welfare Department. Every district has a committee consisting of DCPO, CWC Chairman / Member, NGO Representative, Protection Officer, ICPS and Women & child Welfare Officer. Now as foster care is also a part of ICPS Scheme, the department will now start processing. The families providing foster care can go for legal adoption, but it will take

time as the guidelines from central Govt. to be received. Now any potential family can apply for foster care at ICPS office and they will take up the enquiries and process. Their social workers will make a home visit twice before handing over the child and periodical visits will be made by the DCPU staff after foster care placement or Adoption.

Fr. S. Balashowry invited the families to be promoters of this scheme and be a part of a group to give an orphan / neglected child a caring family. To promote the programme the department and the CWC wish to prepare a documentary on opinions of foster parents sharing their experience and show it in a bigger platform to advocate the importance of Foster Care.

- Fr Salibindla Balashowry

Semi Christmas @ Pezzonipet



Semi Christmas Celebrations at Gunadala

Gunadala, 22 December 2014:

The community of Don Bosco has anticipated the Christmas celebrations. In fact the preparation for the Christmas began with various prayer services such as wreath services and novena services of Christmas. The spiritual journey

transformed and enabled to center the importance on Christ than the periphery things such as cakes and cookies. Keeping in mind so much anti-Christian activities in the society the community has given a good insight to build the crib systematically where in child Jesus was surrendered by church, temples and mosque through which we articulated the



fact that the Child Jesus the greatest gift from God is born to share the love of the Father to all irrespective of caste, region and religion. All those who glanced at this structure have been thrilled and gained thriving insights and convinced about various characteristic traits of contemporary Catholics especially religious.

Having offered special prayers for the peace, joy and unity of the humanity we have taken active participation in the festive Eucharistic celebration. Later the staff aspirants and domestic staff have expressed our togetherness by sharing Christmas gifts.

- Cl Muthyala Sudhakar

Pope appoints a Salesian as Bishop of a new Diocese in Tamilnadu

Chennai, 22 December, 2014:

Fr. Jeromedhas Varuvel SDB, belonging to the Salesian Province of Chennai (INM) has been nominated as the Bishop of Kuzhithurai, a new diocese carved out of Kottar diocese in Tamilnadu, South India.

Fr. Jeromedhas Varuvel is presently the Director of Novices at Idhaya Deepam Salesian Novitiate situated at Yellagiri in the province of Chennai. He was born on 21 October, 1951 in Paduvloor, diocese of Kottar.



Answering God's call to be a priest, he joined the diocesan seminary in 1968 and continued right up to his philosophical training at Sacred Heart Seminary, Poonamallee. It was in 1976 that he heard the call within this call and discerned his vocation to be a Salesian.

He entered the Salesian Novitiate in 1977 and made his first profession on 24 May 1978. He made his perpetual profession on 24 May 1981 and began his theological formation at Salesian Pontifical University, Rome. He has a bachelor's degree in



Economics, and a Masters in Pedagogy from Salesian Pontifical University in Rome. Ordained a priest by the Holy Father St. John Paul II on 2 June 1985, he returned to India in 1986 and became the Vice Rector of the Novitiate of the Province in Coimbatore till 1990.

From 1990 he served as the Rector of the Pre-Novitiate for four years. After two years as dean of students of Theology at AMSAM, Tiruchy, in 1996 he assumed office as Rector and parish priest of St. Mary's Co-cathedral, Armenian Street Chennai - a post he held until 2001.

Apart from having served the province of Chennai as a Provincial Councillor from 1999 to 2003, he has held office as the Director of Kalvi Solai, the department for Coordination of Education and Culture in the province. His seven years of service at Don Bosco Thalavadi (2003 - 2010) was a great boon to the tribal mission taken up in that area.

In the year 2010, he was entrusted with the important task of directing the Novices of

the Salesian provinces of Chennai and Trichy. He has been Rector and Director of Novices at Don Bosco Idaya Deepam, Yelagiri Hills till date.

Fr. Jerome is known for his heart for the poor and his loving ways with everyone around. His gentleness and firmness combine in such a unique manner that he has been thus far a runaway success in every field: formation, social ministry or pastoral care.

The choice of Fr. Jerome comes at a time when two of the three Salesian bishops in Tamilnadu, in these past three years, have laid down their office having reached the age of retirement. "It is the best Christmas gift our province has ever received," said the Provincial, Rev. Fr. Jayapalan, communicating the official announcement to those gathered at a Christmas gathering in the Provincial House in Chennai.

Not merely for the province of Chennai, but for the entire Salesian India this is indeed a bountiful gift in the bicentenary year of Don Bosco's birth.

- BIS Correspondent

D.B. Chandur Semi-Christmas Celebrations

Chandur, 23 December 2014: Don Bosco Junior College Chandur celebrated its semi-Christmas celebrations. It was well planned and executed by the Principal Fr. Bhaskar. There was a beautiful procession from the college campus to Don Bosco Shrine with baby Jesus accompanied by Fr. Kollamparambil Joseph, Rector, the college staff and the students, with singing carols, by playing band instruments and dancing in procession reached the manger i.e. crib. The enthusiasm and the vigor of the Principal and the staff made the gathering memorable. As a matter of fact, the Aspirants put in hard work to make the day a beautiful one. The Rector, inaugurated the crib and the passages were read out from three holy books namely i) The Bible ii) The Bhagvat Gita and





iii) The Quran drawing the attention and the meaning of the celebration. The message delivered by the principal, made an impact on the audiences with regard to Jesus' birth in this world. At the end of the celebrations the staff was served a delicious meal and the Christmas gifts were presented by the parish priest Fr.Anthaiah and cheered every ones heart and soul.

- Fr Pasala Bhaskar

Christmas Celebrations at DB Mariapuram Mission Complex

Mariapuram, 23 December 2014: We rejoiced over celebrating Jesus' birth amidst many children, youth and parishners. Based on the theme "Unto us the child is born"

rocked the stage with a variety of dances. A Christmas cake was cut and shared and the community presented each child a Christmas gift and the day concluded with solemn mass.



Over 750 faithful have participated for vigil mass on 24th December. Fr George offered mass for the faithful with meaningful sermon. The melodious singing highlighted the mass and led the faithful into spiritual realm. Soon after the mass snacks were distributed and the faithful went home by taking Christmas message, "Life is all about sharing Christ's message".

- Cl Dasari Shiva Johannes

children had given the programme and mesmerized the audience. Fr Rector in his message said that the message of Christmas is nothing but sharing of a true love and friendship. He also urged the children to do some charity for the poor as a sign of Christmas. On the same day the Don Bosco Mariapuram Boarding boys had Semi Christmas celebrations. Boys



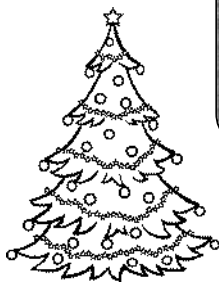
Christmas Revelry @ Don Bosco Provincial House



DB Provincial House, 23 December 2014: Christmas was celebrated with fun and frolic with the Provincial House community and staff. The right tone and spirit of the Lord's birth was set in with carols and decoration of the house with balloons and dumplings. The provincial house wore a cheerful and festive look. Program started with families of the staff being special invitees. Fun team games were organised for the staff. There was joy and laughter every where.

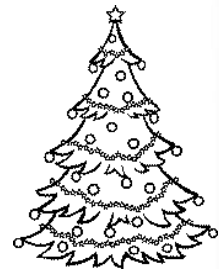


Provincial Fr. R. Balaraju inaugurated the crib that was set up with great planning by Administrator Fr. Showrilu. It was assembled with objects left unused like a guitar with broken string, a worn-out car tyre, etc



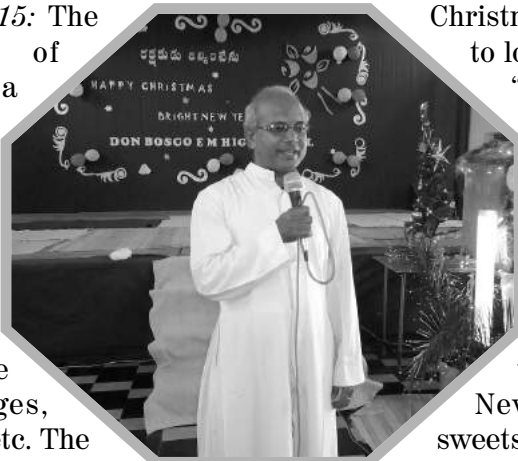
giving great meaning to the idea of Jesus being the savior of the whole world regardless of social or economic status. There was further fun in store for the staff and their families. Funny gifts for the community and staff brought laughter and good cheer among all. Christmas message was given by the Provincial, Vice-provincial followed by distribution of gifts to all. The Provincial then cut the cake and it was followed by sharing of refreshments among the invitees.

- Fr Arul Das



Semi Christmas @ Wyra

Wyra, 23 December 2015: The School Community of DBEMHS, Thallada celebrated in anticipation, the Birth of the Saviour of the world with much pomp and glory on, Students actively participated in Carol Singing Competition. Programme was creative with Quiz, messages, Santaclause *Sandhadi* etc. The highlight of the programme was the message of Fr. Thankachan, the Chief Guest. He spoke of the several 'C's in connection to



Christmas and exhorted all not to lose focus on the the main "C" i.e, Christ himself. The sudden sight of Santaclause frightened the nursery kids and amused the rest. Children dispersed for Christmas vacation with much joy carrying with them a calendar of the New Year, balloons, and sweets together with a number of good thoughts to ponder over.

- Cl Pale Justin

Foot Ball Coaching at Don Bosco Junior College

Chandur, 26-28 December 2014: Football coaching was organized for the aspirants. The Rector Fr. K K Joseph has taken this initiative to make use of the Christmas holidays in a fruitful manner. Fr. Bhaskar the Dean has looked into other details of arranging the coach and setting up the time table. Mr. Ronalds was invited from Hyderabad to coach the aspirants. It was indeed an opportune time for the aspirants to make use of the opportunity in the best

manner. The exercises and the rudiments and the basic movements were well demonstrated by the coach and the learners grasped them easily. At the end of these three days of vigorous coaching the staff found the aspirants have reached certain level of improvement in the game. We thank Mr. Ronald for his availability and skill in trainings.

- Cl Kona Mukthiraj



Inauguration of the DB Tech Courses at Nalgonda

“Enough that you are Young for me to love you”

Nalgonda, 29 December 2014: The 13th batch of electrical and hotel management courses were inaugurated at Don Bosco Academy, Nalgonda. The Programme was presided over by the Rector of Don Bosco Academy, Fr Anand, other Fathers and the Staff, Mr Sridhar the state coordinator, Mr Arun and Mr Viplav the helping staff. Fr. Anand in his inaugural address emphasized that Don Bosco Academy always works for the betterment of the young. He also added that Academy provides many opportunities and asked them not to let down any of those opportunities and exhorted them to be efficient to have a better future. At the end of his address he also thanked all the staff who are instrumental in guiding the Young through their involvement in the work. He too spoke about the great work that DB



Tech India is carrying out throughout India especially in Nalgonda. Mr. Sridhar the State Coordinator asked the students to learn to be punctual and practice the work again and again to be perfect and master the work. Finally the inaugural function is concluded with cultural events.

- CI Kalapala Rajesh

Salesian Archbishop / Charles Bo Nominated Cardinal

Kolkata, 4 January, 2015: Among the twenty names of future Cardinals announced by Pope Francis another Salesian Archbishop Charles Maung Bo of Yangon, Myanmar. This is a great news for the five hundred year old Catholic Church in Myanmar and for the Salesians as well, who have been playing a prominent role in the Catholic presence in that country. Incidentally the future Cardinal, prior to becoming a bishop was also the head of the Burmese Salesians when they were a part of the Salesian Kolkata Province in the early 80's. The pope will raise him to the dignity of the Cardinalate on February 14 at the annual consistory. He will be the first Myanmarese Cardinal.



An Enthusiastic Inauguration of Don Bosco Month

Gunadala, 8 January 2015:

The inauguration of Don Bosco Month brought great enthusiasm to the community of Don Bosco Gunadala. While inaugurating the Bosco Month the rector of the community Fr Rayappa once more made aware of the specialty of this year as we feel proud and bound to be part of the bicentenary year of the birth of our father, founder and friend of youth Don Bosco. On that same evening we had prayer service thanking and praising God for his gift of Salesian vocation and for his conscious grace filled presence in our lives. Spontaneously the aspirants expressed that they feel proud to be known as the followers of St. John Bosco who contributed



and offered his entire life for the welfare of the poor abandon youth. Having planned together ahead the whole month was prearranged with various prayer services, tournaments among four groups such as Don Bosco, Don Rua, Don Rinaldi and Dominic Savio. A variety of competitions such as quiz, singing, drawing, dance etc. have been planned to enhance the knowledge of our community on Don Bosco. Many aspirants willingly came forward to express their views on Don Bosco. We planned to host a cultural gathering for the neighborhood children and the students of the nearby schools to make known Don Bosco and his love for the young.

- Cl Palem Jeevan Kumar

DB Tech India wins Rural Livelihood Award

New Delhi, 8 January

2015: In the year-end event award ceremony to honour and felicitate people who have dedicated their time and energy for a higher and more inclusive growth for the country a Salesian organization won the award in the Non-Profit Rural Livelihood category.



The awards were given by ICICI Foundation & CNBC TV18 during their 2nd edition of the Inclusive India awards dedicated to celebrating excellence in bringing positive

change to India's economic development.

The Executive Director of Delhi based Don Bosco Tech India, Fr. A.M. Joseph received the award.

Fr Joseph believes, "skill Training is the effective tool to bring the desired change in the lives of the young for growth and livelihood."

Don Bosco Tech has set a goal of training two million youth by 2022.



To achieve this target it partners with Government, Corporates and like-minded NGOs to scale up the programme.

DB Tech, a network of Don Bosco skill training centres, attempts to bridge the widening divide between those who have access to opportunities and those who are increasingly being marginalized from the 'new economy' jobs.

The DB Tech network addresses this endemic problem with a market-based approach that is sensitive to the socio-economic needs of marginalized youth in the 18-35 years age group.

DB Tech is an example of synchronous social action of various stakeholders, aimed at mainstreaming and ensuring economic security for youth by helping them acquire the required livelihood and soft skills in an environment of learning and mentoring that is responsive to the individual's emotional and developmental needs.

Set up in 2006 with an objective to provide quality vocational training to disadvantaged youth DB Tech today is a network of 230 skill training centres, arguably the largest network after the government spread across 28 states of India.

- Fr Arul Das

Fr Arockia Nathan Celebrates Thanksgiving Mass Amidst His Companions

Mangalagiri, 11 January 2015: Fr. Arockia Nathan, who was ordained a priest in Rome on 28th June, 2014 celebrated Thanksgiving Mass on Sunday, January 11, amidst 50 priests and well-wishers at Don Bosco Premnivas, Mangalagiri. His fellow novitiate companions from Bangalore and Hyderabad Provinces, along with their novice master were present for the Mass.

Fr. Nathan, who professed as a Salesian on 24th May 1992 after prayer and reflection

changed over to be a Salesian Brother. As a Brother he completed his studies and served as Head Master in the province. Once again after the completion of his studies, he reflected about his vocation after consulting his spiritual director and then provincial and changed over to priesthood. He was sent to Rome to pursue his studies in Theology in order to become Priest. He successfully completed Theological studies at Universita Pontificia Salesiana, Rome.



During the solemn Thanksgiving Mass he thanked the Almighty for being with him in the moments of hard decisions that he had to take personally. During the sermon Fr Sudhakar reminded words of Pope Francis who called on the world's priests to bring the healing power of God's grace to everyone in need, to stay close to the marginalized and to be "shepherds living with the smell of the sheep."





Fr. Pius Palithingail, Novice Master while addressing his novices has expressed his happiness to see in 19 of his novices as priests serving various capacities in Bangalore, Hyderabad, other provinces and also in abroad. In his message he said 'be close to the Lord and rest he will take care of it'.

- Fr Bellamkonda Sudhakar

DB Tech - Bandlaguda Certification Day

***Never give up.
If you work hard with a hope in
mind, success will be yours***

Bandlaguda, 12 January 2015: DB Tech, Bandlaguda, Hyderabad team had organised eighth batch valedictory programme. Mr. Sridhar, the DB Tech State Coordinator initiated the session by offering a warm welcome to the guests; Fr. T. Vijaya Bhaskar (Vice Provincial), Fr. P. Sojan (Centre Head), Fr. P. Arul Das (DB Tech State Head) and Fr. Y. Kalyan (Province secretary) were present. Their address to the students was very pragmatic and resonating. Fr. Vijaya Bhaskar in his speech spoke the significance of changing one's own attitude towards the betterment of the future. He discussed one of his friend's inspirational stories....quoting

"Never give up. If you work hard with a hope in mind, success will be yours." Fr. P. Arul in his speech said, to be a successful person in life, we need to follow a LIFE principle: Love your job, be Integrated person, have Faith in God and have Endurance in everything. Fr. Kalyan distributed certificates to all the students. All the 35 students of the batch were job placed through campus recruitment. Students left the campus with joy in their hearts... promising to bring more young people for the skill training...

The event was also an occasion for the young people to reflect upon what difference the skill training programme has brought to their lives and share their experience to the impending students.

- Fr Arul Das



Sankranthi Sandhadi @ Wyra



Wyra, 13 January 2015: It was a special day for girl-students of our school. They were ready in their colourful attire to apply more colours to their *Rangoli*. The class-wise *Rangoli* Competition evoked much fighting spirit



among the girl-students to stand first. Bonfire, famously known as *Bhogi Manta* was kindled in the school precinct with the message of burning our old selves and start life afresh. The fire was welcomed with much cheer and applause. News reporter covered the event and it appeared in the district edition on the following day.

- Cl Pale Justin

Teachers' Animation Programme @ Wyra



Wyra, 14 January 2015: Teachers' Animation Programme: Fr. K.T. Jose spent 14th January with our staff members animating them to be better teachers. Teachers felt at



home with the ice-breakers and action songs, group activities etc. They got to know their own flaws in teacher-student approach. Optimism, win-win attitude, loving and understanding the students were the means to make oneself a better teacher.

- Cl Pale Justin

Golden Bells of Life @ Wyra

Wyra, 21 January 2015: Golden red letter-day in Don Bosco Wyra Fr. James Jerome turned 50. The different corners of the House like students expressed their wishes teachers expressed with gifts and Eucharist and a cultural the celebration.



Bells of Life - 21st of January is a as it was the day when its Rector day began with B'day songs from hostel, school and convent. School through song and address, sisters wished with love. Holy programme and dinner culminated

- Cl Pale Justin



Provincial Visitation at Ravulapalem

Ravulapalem, 20-21

January 2015: Don Bosco Community at Ravulapalem was over-whelmed with Joy to have Fr Provincial on his annual visit to our community for two days. Fr Provincial begun the official visitation with Holy Eucharist. Fr Provincial had initial meeting with all the Salesian confreres, then, he spoken to Don Bosco school staff members, Salesian co operators, catechists, catechism teachers, parish councilors and youth group members. The boys and girls together staged a cultu-ral programme to



felicitate Fr Provincial as a token of honour which was followed by sumptuous meal together with fathers, sisters and children. On the second day Fr Provincial had celebrated Holy Eucharist for MSMHC community. Then he spoke to school Children

at assembly. Then, he had visited Surakshita home, a home for women who are in particular situation at certain period of their life. He appreciated them for keeping themselves busy by making craft works. Then, Fr Provincial visited PARA accompanied by Fr Guvvala Balaraju. Fr Pallithanam Thomas had arranged a meeting with PARA staff members. During meeting Fr Provincial had spoken to the staff regarding three problems which the society is facing. They are Corruption, trafficking the girls and women and individualism.

He also encouraged them for making people aware of the human rights. Fr Provincial had concluded his annual visitation to Ravualapalem with a good night talk to the boys.

- Fr Guvvala Balaraju



Bicentenary Volleyball Tournament @ Karunapuram

Karunapuram, 25 January 2015: the community of Don Bosco Philosophate, Karunapuram conducted a volleyball tournament for the Oratory youth, as part of the bicentenary celebrations of the birth of Don Bosco. Nine teams from the different Oratory centres, frequented by the Brothers on Sundays, competed for the cash prizes in a zealous sportive manner. The chief guest(s) for the occasion were the young people themselves!

The team from Diesel colony, Kazipet won the coveted first prize (Rs.1,500/- in cash and the rolling trophy). The last year runners up, from Battupalli village, retained their title this year too as they won Rs.1,000/-. Fr Mallavarapu Rayanna, the Rector, while giving away the prizes, reiterated the message of Don Bosco for the young: to be



good and honest citizens. He expressed his joy at their presence and active participation in the day-long event.

The organizing committee of Brothers K.Ravi, Paul Makri, Pramod, Sravan and L. David who volunteered, did an excellent job of seeing to every detail and ensuring a smooth and enriching experience for all those involved.

- Cl Neelam Naresh

Brothers' Meet 2015 @ Provincial House

Provincial House, 25-26 January 2015: A two day seminar was conducted for all the Practical trainees and student brothers, on the theme 'Being a religious today: change, challenges and choices', at Don Bosco Provincial House, Hyderabad.



Mr. Leo Fernandez, the manager of the Talent institution has animated the first day of the seminar. Being in the corporate Sector, his reflections made lot of impact in the meeting.

He said that the religious life is facing with many changes. Challenges from within and outside. The changes in social life like computer, Speed of information and multiple options have opened the windows for better life. The question that remains in front of each one of us is whether we can be authentic in our relationships.

“One should learn to become a sign value for others rather than merely following the

religious duties and orders”, said Mr. Leo with a sharp voice .

This motivational stories, methods and talks were inspiring and eye openers to the participants. “Spending 20 minutes in silent meditation daily twice in a day makes person deep rooted in one’s belief system,” he said.

Many hands were raised during the sessions to clarify some of the questions. All the sessions are very motivative, reflective and useful to us. Some of the points are very new and challenging to implement in life.

- Cl Vanga Joseph

Cultural Hungama - Kalavedhika

Chandur, 28 January 2015:

Don Bosco Junior College, Chandur celebrated the awesome CULTURAL HUNGAMA

– KALAVEDHIKA, (Folk and Western Group dance Competitions) in honour of Bi-centenary of the birth of Don Bosco. All the schools and colleges in and around chandur mandal were invited to take part in this great event. Nearly 13

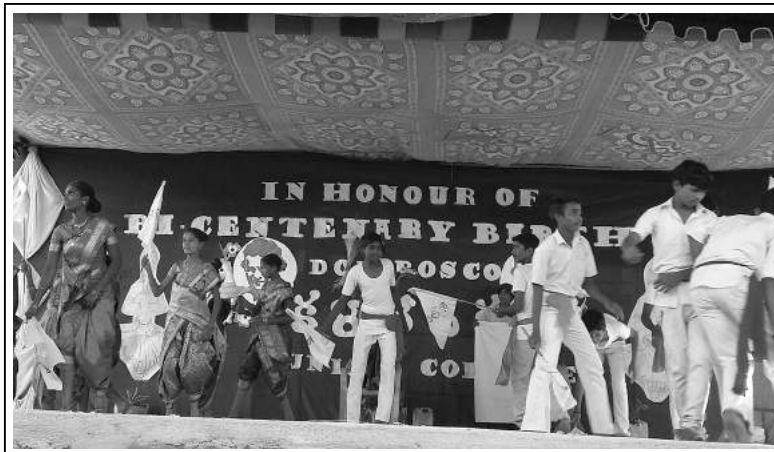
schools and two colleges took part in this event and made the programme successful. This event made all the schools and respected correspondents and Headmasters to come to one platform. All the schools excelled in their performance. All the performances were unique and innovative. In fact this event made us believe that today’s youth are full of vigor and vitality in proving their identity and skills.



Rev. Fr. Bhaskar the Principal, who is the backbone of this entire happening, welcomed the gathering and honoured all the correspondents of the schools and colleges. The college campus was compacted with the audience’s cheers and yells for such wonderful and mind-blowing performances. It was such that the judges were dumb-founded to distinguish students’ talents in dance. It is very interesting to see varied cultures, traditions, customs and religions projected



in these items. In the panel discussion all the school correspondents have expressed their joy of studying in Don Bosco College. They did express their joy of being past pupil of Don Bosco junior college.



The day was also marked with the birthday celebrations of the college correspondent Rev. Fr. K.K. Joseph. He too, had encouraged the participants with his presence amidst the young which brought smiles and joys. Rev.

Fr. Anthaiah the Vice-Principal expressed vote of thanks.

The program ended with the distribution of prizes and mementos. As we know well the famous quote "All well that ends well"; was evident at the end of this very successful event.

- Fr Pasala Bhaskar

Don Bosco Tech Kurnool Alumni Interaction

Kurnool, 10 December 2014: Mr. Satish, alumni of DB Tech Hospitality Training (Accenture Project Batch 03 Roll no. 077) was invited to speak to the current batch of trainees at DB Tech Kurnool. Satish is now employed with Pizza Hut Delivery in Hyderabad.

On 10th December 2014 he interacted with

the trainees with great passion. He reinforced in the trainees the importance of good communication skills in Hotel Industry. He shared several anecdotes from his personal experience at the work place.

He felt proud to be back at the institute that prepared him well and urged the trainees to make good use of this wonderful opportunity

they were getting to learn and groom themselves into successful young professionals.

Thirty-five trainees are undergoing the Hospitality course at DB Tech Kurnool. They felt encouraged and happy to see and hear practical advice from one of their own seniors.

- Cl Salibindla Praveen



'Action 2015' flagged off in Hyderabad & Warangal



Karunapuram, January 2015: In solidarity with the whole world, and specially as a bicentenary initiative, the Salesians of the Province of Hyderabad along with Dalit Bahujan Front (DBF) flagged off the awareness campaign of Action 2015. Aimed at conscientizing, the short programmes in Hyderabad and Warangal witnessed a group of 15 children meet Dr Rajaiah, the deputy Chief Minister of Telangana State on January 15 and present him with a memorandum in both the places. The group also requested the esteemed politician, as did batches of 15 children all across the country with their respective political big-wigs, starting from the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Mr Narendra Modi, to commit themselves to



ensuring the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets set before ourselves for a better world get governmental support and endorsement.

Dr Rajaiah, speaking on the occasion, at Don Bosco Philosophate, Warangal reiterated the need for better health and educational facilities, especially for children and women, for a prosperous tomorrow. He was duly impressed by the children and pledged his support for the cause.

The whole effort was spearheaded in Hyderabad and Warangal by Fr Pallithanam Thomas, in collabor-ation with the DBF and



the Salesians and most importantly, the child-ren involved in the campaign. Fr Raminedi Balaraju, the Provin-cial of the Salesian Province of Hyderabad was also present.

After the Millennium Developmental Goals (MDGs) were formulated and propagated since 2000, much has been achieved by way of awareness and involvement. However, the recent study and survey conducted by the United Nations revealed that the expected results were far from achieved. Drawing lessons from this, the whole motive of Action



2015 is basically to plug the gap between the formulation, propagation and implementation of the goals. With September 2015 set as the target for spreading awareness and driving home the need for a more stronger and concrete action, the events of 15th of January in 2015, are but a mere take off.

In the year, the Salesians of Don Bosco commemorate the bicentenary of the founder

and dreamer of a better world for children, the Action 2015 is a golden opportunity to get all stakeholders to ensure their contribution for a better world. It also offers a great possibility of networking with numerous other like-minded organisations and individuals keen on ensuring that children of today have a voice and a dignified future.

- Br Castilino Vincent

Fr. Peyyala Ignatius SDB obtains a New Doctorate

Ramanthapur, 7 January 2015:

Work with the Young at Risk of Fr. Ignatius Peyyala has borne fruit in the form of a doctoral thesis which he defended with flying colours on 7th of January 2015. Father Made his study on the effects of counselling on post traumatic stress, mental health status and coping strategies in abused children.

Fr. Ignatius did his study on a sample of 300 Navajeevan Children at Vijayawada under the guidance of his Research Supervisor and Guide Prof. Chandraiah Kotta of Sri Venkateswara University, Thirupathi. He defended his doctoral thesis at the Department of Distance Education, Acharya Nagarjuna University, Guntur.

The defense was an enlightening experience. A team of five professors examined the Research Scholar. After he presented the synopsis, each of the professors sought clarifications and raised questions. From the discussion we could understand that he had done a quantitative research on the subject of abuse and how abused children could be helped through counselling.



The Researcher made important proposals that could be followed by the government as well as the public interested in children and working with abused children or preventing abuse of children. At the end of the defence, the head of the team, the Director of the Department of Distance Education, gathered the approval of all the five examiners and congratulated Fr. Ignatius for his successful defence. They started referring to him as Dr. (Fr.) Ignatius Peyyala. Incidentally, this is the second doctorate procured by Fr. Ignatius.

- Fr Bellamkonda Sudhakar



The DB Mission Kollapur Reaching out to the remote areas!

Kollapur: Don Bosco mission Kollapur has opened another substation, **BAADUGA DINNE** as part of our province mission. The village is precisely an important locus for evangelization. The village is known as an abandoned village where there is no proper transport facilities even to reach the place. It is located 15 km away from Kollapur. There are nearly 20 families who are open to the gospel message. A good number of youth are also present over there for a typical Salesian mission too. Fr. Alex along with Br. Suresh and parishioners have made a visit to the village on 30 November 2014



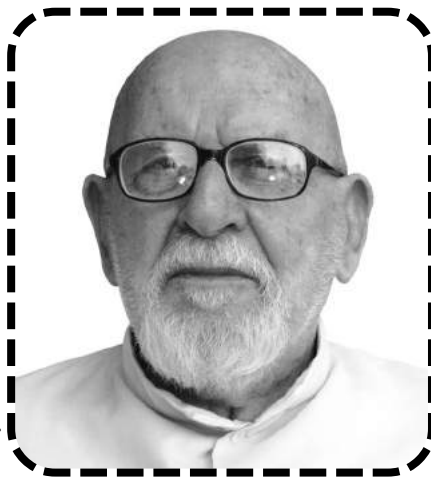
and conducted a short prayer service and preached to them the quality of Jesus to be compassionate and lovable. After which we have met a few youngsters and provoked in them the zeal to be part of Don Bosco mission by being members of Don Bosco youth movement.

- Cl Kornana Suresh

St. Theresa - Parishioner about Fr. Lens

Fr. John Lens....

It was in the year 1975, when Fr. John Lens took over as the parish priest of St. Theresa's Church, Sanathnagar, the parish then consisted of over 2000 families. We were a mixture of people from different walks of life. Having him was a great honor since we could see him handling everything and every person in a unique



way. He began the Vincent De Paul Society, the educational society for the children, the Legion of Mary and the Salesian Co-operators, all of which were smoothly handled by this precious soul. He valued every second of life he was given by God. He'd never rest during the day, instead he

would spend his time reaching out to the sick and needy. He trusted the people who worked with him. He led a simple life, so simple that he'd be off to all the hospitals in the neighborhood carrying biscuits for the sick riding his TVS. He'd not only visit them but spend time with them assuring them that God was taking care of them. His smile was a ray of hope to

the weakest of hearts, soothing and warm. His actions reflected his dedication towards his vocation to God, His words radiated love for all around him.

He had immense love for the poor children around him who were deprived of their



childhood. He played with them, made them smile and gave them moments they could cherish all their lives. There was never a person who wasn't helped by him when they needed his help. He drew many souls close to God by his words and deeds, imparting to them the importance of God, prayer and reconciliation.

His simple yet generous gestures of love like visiting the sick and the poor, carrying food for them, giving them hope and courage are just small examples of how great a soul he was. A saintly figure who was never at rest but deeply engrossed in instilling love and faith in God in the people around him. A humble soul, obedient to his call, persevered



in his day to day life and completed his journey in perfection, simplicity, humility, love and in every way pleasing to God.

No amount of words would actually suffice to express how blessed we are to have had a saintly figure like Fr. John Lens amongst us. Though he is no longer present with us physically he has left behind his mark of being an exemplary priest, a dedicated messenger of God, a healer of souls that will reside in our memories till the end of time. We cannot thank God enough for having planted one of his most beautiful creations in our lives...

- St. Theresa's Church Parishioner

Semi Christmas at DB Tech-Bandlaguda



“THANK YOU” for your Visit and “SEE YOU” again

Ramanthapur, 5-9 January

2015: Ms Kapila and Ms Souad, our ex-Volunteers from Netherlands through their visit and presence at Don Bosco Nava-jeevan, New Bhoiguda and by their visit to other homes in Twin Cities. Though it was just for five days but they left indelible mark on every one they met.

All began in 2007 when they made their maiden visit to DBNJ with another three more friends. Their passion for the children was so immense that they never missed any moment of their presence with the children. Their presence was formative presence among the boys.

It was good to know that they came to us with well-prepared programme and every moment was well utilized. All began with a movie followed by drawing competition,



outing to ‘Jalvihar’ and concluded with a grand farewell and a meal in ‘Bawarchi’ biriyani hotel.

They are very happy to see some of the boys whom they met at their first visit are getting settled well in their life

and want to see also present group of children to settle well in their life in future.

During informal farewell gathering, children at Don Bosco Navajeevan, New Bhoiguda put up a well prepared programme and expressed their sentiments of gratitude for their generosity and thoughtfulness to come over here to spend these precious days amidst them. Fr Sudhakar, Director, thanked them for their visit and recalled their contribution to the community over the years.

- Fr Bellamkonda Sudhakar

Group Dynamics for class 10th of Don Bosco, Wyr

Wyr, 24 January 2015: It was a enthralling day for the students of class - 10 of our school, as the day of Group Dynamics was animated by Fr. K.T. Jose. This one day animation helped students to building up the self-esteem, Being - Leader to the Society, Stress management. For this animation Programme not only our students but also neighboring school - (Immaculate school) joined us.

After the animation, students looked boosted up. They were thankful to Fr. K.T. Jose and Fr. Chinnappa the Principal, for the dynamic sessions.

- Cl Pale Justin



Don Bosco's Feast Celebrations @ DBRC, Ramanthapur

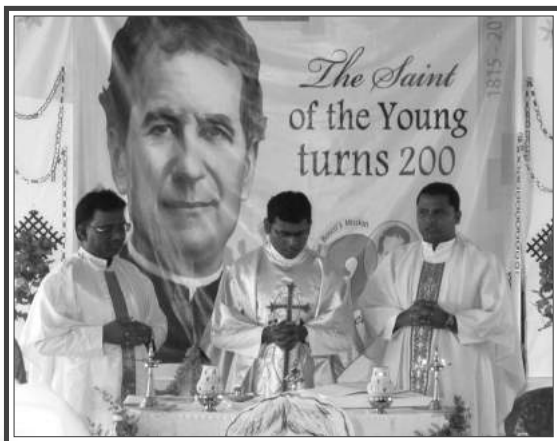
Ramanthapur, 31 January 2015: Annual feast of Don Bosco was celebrated with a difference at Don Bosco Rehabilitation Centre, Ramanthapur. Children who have been rescued from Bangle Industry from Old City, Hyderabad were brought to our home on 24th of January 2015. Last eight days they have been residing at our campus. This year, they were our special guests for the feast of Don Bosco. We were blessed to have them amidst us.

We approached Mr Imtiyas, District Child Protection Officer (DCPO) of Hyderabad to allow them to be with us for the cultural programme staged by our children on the occasion of the feast of Don Bosco and for the special meal served for these children. He was kind enough to permit them to be with us.

The ground in front of outdoor stage was packed with the presence of these children. They were welcomed with a Band piece and Navajeevan theme dance by our children. On this occasion the Director of Don Bosco Navajeevan Homes Fr Bellamkonda Sudhakar, welcomed every one for the programme and wished Happy Feast of Don



Bosco. In his message, he has called upon the gathering to be alert to protect the children, in this year 2015, let us spread Child Line No. 1098, which is a toll free number and helps to save children in difficult who are in need of care and protection. As part of the raising funds towards education of the children we organized a Lucky dip and draw taken during this function. We had Ms Gloria from ISB and Fr. Kondaveeti Anthaiah, Administrator, St. John's Seminary, Ramanthapur as our guests for the draw of the winners. Our children at Ramanthapur put up colourful dances for these children. They were so happy and enjoyed every bit of the programme.



The festive celebration began with the Holy Eucharist celebrated by the Director for the all the inmates of the DBRC, Ramanthapur Community. During Mass, he said that, we all should become another Don Bosco to be ambassadors of the Change in the society. Don Bosco personally accompanied every child and everyone felt each one was loved more than the other. His presence was very formative presence.

Fr Provincial made a visit to Ramanthapur to wish Salesians and children for the feast.



He was happy to see rescued children in our campus. He also interacted and spent time with these children. He also congratulated the community for going out of our way to take care of these children. DCPO of Hyderabad thanked Fr Provincial and Don Bosco Ramanthapur for providing place for these children in our campus.



said that Don Bosco began Operation Smile programme in 1841 itself when he went around in Turin city and gathered all the children with the aim to make them as "God fearing people and honest citizens". After Mass, children at Nampally also put up a short cultural programme to

The Feast Day Mass was celebrated by Fr Thathireddy Vijay Bhaskar, Vice Provincial at our campus Don Bosco Navajeevan, Nampally. The staff and Students of New Bhoiguda and Nampally present for the celebrations. All local donors and religious of in and around Nampally home were invited. In his message Vice Provincial said that Don Bosco was sent by God. He also

thank guests for their generosity. Director also thanked Vice Provincial for accepting to be our main celebrant. He also thanked everyone for being part of Don Bosco Navajeevan family members through their contribution to help these children. He also thanked Sr. Chinnamma, Provincial, Holy Spirit sisters for taking care of our children at Nampally.

- Fr Bellamkonda Sudhkar

College Day 2015 of Don Bosco, Narsipatnam

Narsipatnam, 31 January 2015: The students, staff, parents, and well-wishers of Don Bosco College celebrated our College Day festivities on the feast day of St. John Bosco. The celebrations were all the more because 2015 marks the bicentennial of Don Bosco's birth.

Holy Mass in the morning was celebrated by the Most Rt. Rev. Prakash Mallavarappu DD, the archbishop of Visakhapatnam.

The evening College Annual Day celebrations began with the lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries, guests of honor, including Fr. Rayappa, our principle, Theresa Kennedy, a guest

from the United States and others (Sr. Eliemma, Fr. Joseph, and Mr. Rajarao). Followed by Words of welcome were given by Bro. Marreddy, who was bookended with two great dances by Sowjanya and Team (Yahova Naa Mora) and Lavanya and Team (Brundavanamali). After that, Fr. Rayappa





gave our annual report, speaking on milestone events and test scores from the past year. The colourful evening continued with further programmes like kuchipudi, classical, folk, Dimsa and other traditional dances, skit on early life of Johnny Bosco and songs. In between these dances, Mrs. Theresa Kennedy gave a speech on the

importance of education, not only as a means of developing the mind, but the entire person. She quoted Gandhi, who said the following of education:

The real difficulty is that people have no idea of what education truly is. We assess the value of education in the same manner as we assess the value of land or of shares in the stock-exchange market. We want to provide only such education as would enable the student to earn more. We hardly give any thought to the improvement of the character of the educated. The girls, we say, do not have to earn; so why should they be educated? As long as such ideas persist there is no hope of our ever knowing the true value of education.

- *Cl Salibindla Marreddy*

OPERATION 'SMILE'

Hyderabad, 25 January, 2015: Over 200 children, held bondage as child labourers, were rescued by the city police of Hyderabad on Saturday, 24 January, from one apartment building in Talabkatta, Bhavaninagar, Hyderabad. Finding no appropriate place to shelter these hapless children, most of whom are from Bihar, they were brought to Don Bosco Navajeevan, Ramanthapur where the Salesians, staff and especially resident children have been going out of their way to make them feel comfortable and secure.

The operation based on a tip off was carried out by over 400 police personnel under the leadership of Dy. Commissioner of Police, Mr V. Satyanarayana. It is said a cordon and search operation as part of anti-terrorism checks led to his huge rescue operation.

The children were below 12 years, a number of them could be over 18 years. They hail



mostly from Bihar. They were brought to the city by owners of bangle manufacturing units hailing from Uttar Pradesh or Bihar. The parents of the children have received advances to the tune of 10 to 20 thousand Rupees.

Further, the children used to be paid only two to five thousand rupees a month as wages and were made to work for long hours and not allowed to leave the place of work. The newspaper reports said that children who should be holding books or playing games



were working with chemicals and in hazardous conditions.

It is said that the police have taken into custody as many as 20 brokers and employers involved in child and bonded labour. A police official described the high tech vigilance used by the owners with CCTV Cameras monitoring the work of these children. They also mentioned that those who did not perform were beaten. The children were not provided blankets or warm clothes.

The rescue operation was a part of Operation SMILE, a month long programme initiated by the Home Ministry on New Year's Day this year, and carried out by the CID department. As they had not given prior information



about it to the other departments, the people of the Labour Department (NCLP) and the Child Welfare Department were taken by surprise and did not know how to handle the huge number of children suddenly brought to

them.

Though the TV news bulletins flashed the news that the children would be accommodated in different children's homes, at the end of the day, all the children except 3 girls were brought to Don Bosco Navajeevan, Ramanthapur. Interestingly, the media did not realize this and hence there was no secondary abuse of these children by them.

- Fr Tharakan John

What gender is Computer? – This is Funny

A student asked, 'What gender is 'Computer'?

Instead of giving the answer, the teacher split the class into two groups, male and female, and asked them to decide for them-selves whether computer' should be a masculine or a feminine noun. Each group was asked to give four reasons for its recommendation.

The men's group decided that 'computer' should definitely be of the feminine gender ('la computadora'), because:

1. No one but their creator understands their internal logic;
2. The native language they use to communicate with other computers is incomprehensible to everyone else;
3. Even the smallest mistakes are stored in long term memory for possible later retrieval; and

4. As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half your paycheck on accessories for it.

The women's group, however, concluded that computers should be Masculine ('el computador'), because:

1. In order to do anything with them, you have to turn them on;
2. They have a lot of data but still can't think for themselves;
3. They are supposed to help you solve problems, but half the time they ARE the problem; and
4. As soon as you commit to one, you realize that if you had waited a little longer, you could have gotten a better model.

The women won.

- Fr T.V. Jose



III - Spiritual Retreat @ Provincial House



ORDINATIONS



Fr Dasari Nireekshana Raju (13-12-2014)



Fr Medi Sleevaraju (27-12-2014)



Fr Parry Rayulu Sarath (08-12-2014)



Fr Putti Thambi Joseph Balaraju (20-12-2014)



DB SUMMER VOCATION CAMPS - 2015

April 18-21	Don Bosco Academy, SLBC Colony, Nalgonda
May 1-4	Don Bosco ITC, Station Road, Kadapa
May 8-10	Don Bosco Mission, Ravulapalem, EG. Dt.
May 15-18	Don Bosco Nilayam, Gunadala, Vijayawada

Note:

- *Kindly encourage 10th std. & above Catholic boys to participate in any one of the camps.*
- *All the camps begin on the first day at 6.00 p.m. and conclude at 12.30 p.m. on the last day.*
- *For more details kindly contact Vocation Promoter*



Contact: Fr. Yeruva Joji, Cell: 81799 98014
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 Passion*



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Exposure Visit



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Guest Lecture



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Congratulations



Fr Dasari Nireekshana Raju
(13-12-2014)



Fr Medi Sleevaraju
(27-12-2014)



Fr Parry Rayulu Sarath
(08-12-2014)



Fr Putti Thambi Joseph Balaraju
(20-12-2014)

Priestly Ordination