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DON BOSCO

BULLETIN

VIBRANT
EQUAL DIVERSITY
PEACEFUL DIGNITY
IN GOD UNITY



GENERAL CONTRACTOR



RELIABLE,
INNOVATIVE,
QUALITY CONSTRUCTION PROVIDER



Geom. ANTONIO CARNEVALE

P.O.Box: 4649 Tel. 0911203590 / 0116187565

carconeth@gmail.com

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Editor : Abba Lijo Vadakkan SDB
Graphic Design : TESFAMICHAEL TSIGE
Email : vadakkanvadas@gmail.com
Telephone : +251.931391199
P.O Box : 4640
Website : www.donboscoethiopia.org
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Please Note

Letters to the editor and articles on Spirituality, Self-help, Bible, Social Concern or even news items from various houses are most welcome. All material may be edited for the sake of space or clarity. Please keep a copy of whatever you send to the bulletin for publication. We regret we cannot return unsolicited articles and photographs.



editorial

IT IS ALSO MY JOB!!

It is not my job. This is considered to be one of the worst phrases ever to be pronounced in a job set up. One of the easiest ways of evading your responsibility is to say that something does not really concern you. The age old village story seems to be still valid. Let me try narrating it.

The whole village was in a festive mood after the harvest. They decide to make a wine festival. As all the villagers had their own vineyards, all of them were asked to contribute a bottle of wine each towards the festival. "One bottle of wine! that's so little; we could bring even more" many remarked. The prerequisite was that each one brings the bottle of wine in the night before and pours it in the mighty barrel near the common well. All agreed to do so. The day for the wine party arrived. Everyone approached the barrel to drink the wine that had been collected from every villager. But alas! To the surprise of everyone, there was not a single drop of wine. The whole barrel was full of water. Ohh, is it another miracle like the one of Cana? People couldn't just believe.

What had happened? As you might have already guessed, every villager had thought the same way. "In a barrel where everyone is pouring wine, what difference does it make if I pour a bottle of water"? When everyone thought in the same way, what was the result? There was no more wine but just plain water.

The Catholic Church in Ethiopia is preparing for a great event in its history; the 19th AMECEA Plenary to be held in Addis Abeba from 13 to 23 July 2018. The logo of the meeting has been already in circulation for more than three years. There has been the recitation of the prayer in preparation for the meeting, in all the churches for more than a year. There has been several meetings held at different levels already. The plenary preparations have been very demanding for the Ethiopian Bishops' Conference with not many Catholics in number and with a lot of challenging responsibilities that the preparation requires. But, confident on its Clergy, Religious and the Faithful, they have taken up the challenge positively for the overall development of the local Church and the country.

I think it is here that everyone should feel the responsibility towards the success of this great event. No one can just wash the hands off and say that 'it is not my job', 'I am not personally involved in it' or 'it is the job of Priests and Bishops'. No! This is a venture where everyone is fully involved and all of us, priests, religious and laity together must contribute in whatever way we can, be it with our time or talents or whatever. So that the theme of the 19th Plenary meeting of AMECEA, "Vibrant Diversity, Equal Dignity, Peaceful Unity in God, in the AMECEA region" becomes a reality.

This issue of the Don Bosco Bulletin has been entirely dedicated to this theme of AMECEA hoping that the readers will find enough materials for study and reflection.

**"It is not only
for what we do
that we are held
responsible, but
also for what
we do not do"**



Abba Lijo Vadamkan SDB



GUIDANCE

Abba Estifanos G/meskel SDB
Provincial Superior

Dear Friends,

We are approaching the meeting of AMECEA which will be an important moment of the Spirit of the pilgrim Church in our continent and especially for our country. The theme of the meeting is "A Vibrant Diversity, Equal Dignity and Peaceful Unity in God".

It describes a fundamental reality that is at the same time a gift and a task. It is a gift, because God is always the source of our dignity as persons and the model of unity in diversity for our communities. But it is also a task, because the God of life calls us and makes us active participants and protagonists of the building of His kingdom.

As Christians we are called to have an active role in defending human dignity against anything which denigrates it, and in valuing human diversity in unity.

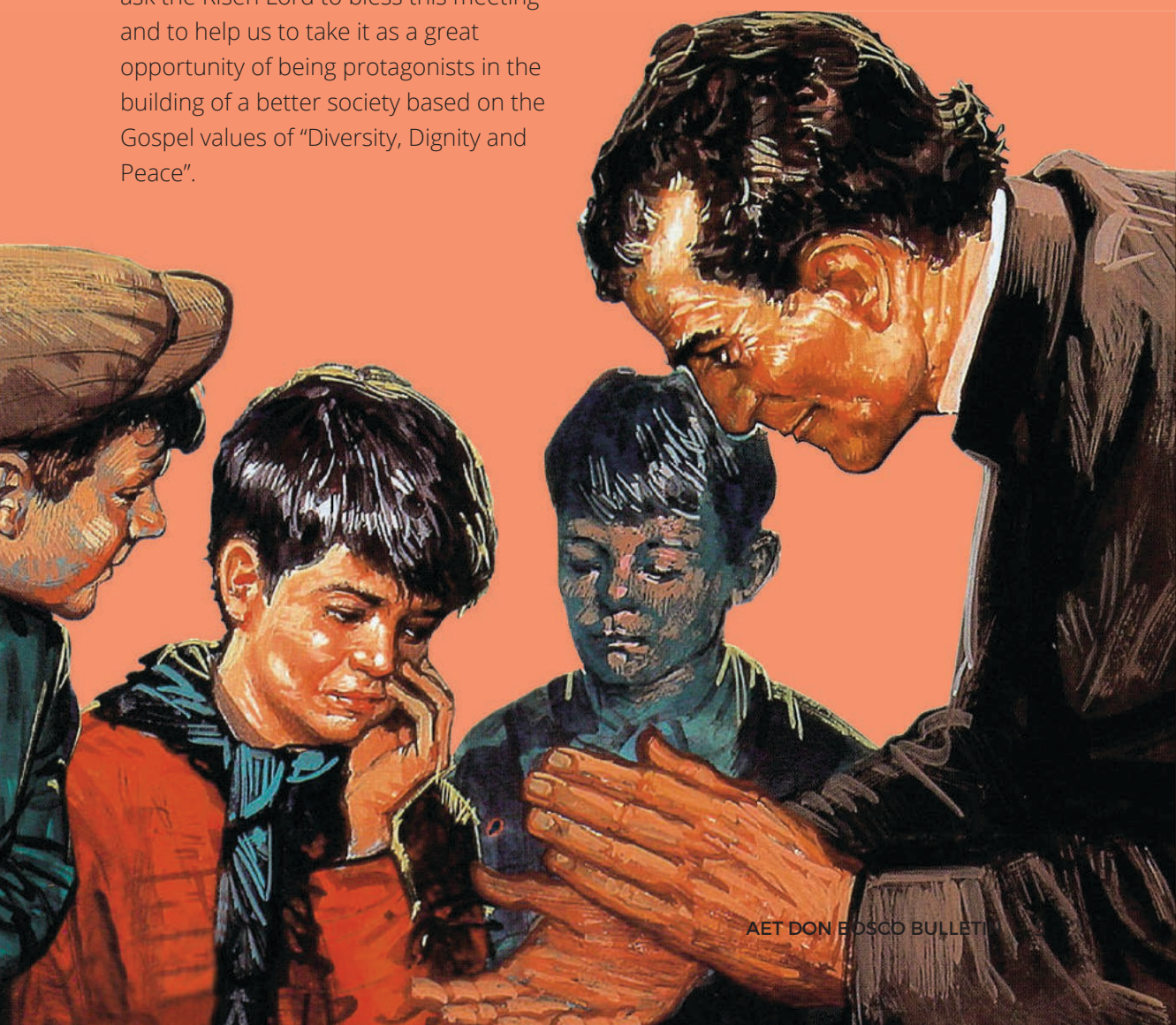
In this regard, I think we can very well look at the image of Don Bosco as a source of inspiration. He was a man filled with a deep love for the Church; he has worked untiringly for the growth of the Church in his time. He has passed on to us, his sons and family, this deep love and concern for our mother Church.

About the defense of human dignity: we can say that he was a pioneer regarding this aspect, according to the understanding and instruments of the society of his time.

In fact, it is really amazing to know that he was the first person in Italy to sign a work contract between an employer and one of his boys in which was clearly mentioned the rights of the young boy to be defended.

Today we are living in a very complex world in which human dignity and the beauty of diversity are not respected or considered in many places. I think, as members of the Church, as educators and pastors of the youth, we have a great responsibility in this field. Let us ask the Risen Lord to bless this meeting and to help us to take it as a great opportunity of being protagonists in the building of a better society based on the Gospel values of "Diversity, Dignity and Peace".

// Don Bosco was the first person in Italy to sign a work contract between an employer and one of his boys in which was clearly mentioned the rights of the young boy to be defended. //



ወንድሞችና እናቶች ተስማምተው በአንድነት ሲኖሩ እንዴት መልካም ነው! (መዝ 133: 1 ተመ.)



አባ ዳንኤል አስፋ

የአንድና የብዙ ጉዳይ የዓለም አፈጣጠር ምሥጢር ነው። የአንድና የብዙ ሁኔታ የብዙ ጠቢባን፣ የብዙ ፈላጊዎች ጥያቄ ነው። አንዳንዶቹ በአሀዳዊው ላይ ሌሎች ደግሞ በብዙው ላይ ያተኩራሉ። ሆኖም ብዝሃነትን ያለ ኅብረት፣ አንድነትን ያለብዝሃነት ማሰብ ይቻል ይሆን? ብዝሃነት ውበት የሚሆነው መቼ ይሆን? አንድነትስ አስደሳች የሚሆነው መቼ ይሆን?

በደስታም ሆነ በኃዘን ጊዜ፣ በሰላምም ሆነ በጭንቅ ወቅት፣ ተፈጥሮን እየቃኙ ወደ ልብ ጓዳ መግባት ሳይጠቅም አይቀርም። ለአንድና ለብዙ ምሥጢርም ሐይቁን መመልከት፣ የወፎቹን ዝማሬ ማዳመጥ፣ በእፀዋት፣ በእንስሳትና በሰማዩ ውበት መማረክ ይረዳል። ምክንያቱም ተፈጥሮ ብዝሃነትንም አንድነትንም አጣምራ ይዛላችና። ምን የመሰለ ኅብረ ቀለም! ምን የመሰለ ኅብረ ዜማ! የሷን ምሥጢር ማድነቅና ከእርሷ መማር የሚታከተው የሰው ልጅ ግን ያስተክዛል፤ ያሳዝናል። ሲተባበርና ሲስማማ ድንቅ ተአምር የሚሠራው የሰው ልጅ ለምን ይሆን የሚከፋፈለው? ብዝሃነቱ ነው የሚያጣላው ወይስ ሌላ ምሥጢር ይኖር ይሆን? የሰው ልጅ በጸጥታ ከራሱ ጋር መማኀን፣ ወደ ኅሊናውም ዞር ብሎ አራሱን መጠየቅ ይገባዋል። መፍትሔ የሚገኘው በመረጋጋት፣ በማዳመጥና በማሰላሰል፤ ከውሱኑ እውቀት በላይ ያለውን እውነት በመፈለግ ነው።

ብዝሃነት ያለ ኅብረት አታምርም፤ ብዝሃነት ተብላ መጠራትም አትችልም፤ ወይም አይገባትም። ይልቁንም “አለመተዋወቅ”፣ “መራራቅ” በሚሉ ቃላት ብትገለጽ ይሻላል። አንድነት ያለብዝሃነት አንድነት ተብላ ልትጠራ ያስቸግራል። ብዝሃነት የሌላት ወይም ያልነበራት አንድነት ትርጉም የላትም። ከመጀመሪያው ወይም ከወዲሁ አንድና አንድ ወጥ ለሆነ ነገር አንድነት የሚባል ቃል ፍች የለውም። ወደ አንድነት ለመምጣትም ሆነ አንድ ለመሆን ቢያንስ ሁለት መሆን ያስፈልጋል፤ ብዙ መሆንም ያሻል።

ብዝሃነት ውበት ሊሆን የሚችለው ከአሀዳዊነት ሲሻገር ነው። ከቃየልና ከአቤል ታሪክ የዔሳውና የያዕቆብ ታሪክ ያስደስታል። የዮሴፍና የወንድሞቹ መጨረሻ ያጽናናል። የቃየልንና የአቤልን ታሪክ ከመድገም የኔልሰን ማንዴላን ራእይ መድገም ይሻላል።

ችቦ በደንብ ደምቆ እንዲያበራ ብዙ እንጨቶች ያስፈልጋሉ። እንጨቶች ኅብረት ሲኖራቸው እሳቱ ይደምቃል። የእሳቱ ውበት ሌሎችን ይሰበስባል፤ ይማርካል! እንጨቶቹ ሲለያዩ ግን እሳቱ ቀስ እያለ ይጠፋል። ብዝሃነት ያለ አንድነት ይበርዳል። አንድነት ያለ ብዝሃነት ያፍናል። ብዝሃነትና አንድነት ሲተቃቀሩና ሲሳሳሙ ደስ ያስኛል። አንድነትና ተስፋ ሲነግሡ ብዝሃነት ቦታ አይጠብበውም፤ ሀብትም

አያንስም፤ መከፈልና መተሳሰብ ስላሉ አይርብም። አንድነትና ተስፋ ሲነግሡ ሕይወት ትርጉም ይኖራታል፤ ጊዜም ይበረክታል።

እኔ እኔን ለመሆን እሱ፣ አሷ፣ አንተና አንቺ ታስፈልጉኛላችሁ፤ ያለ አንተ፣ ያለ አንቺ፣ እኔ የሆኑት ጣዖት አሆናለሁ። ያለ አንተና ያለ አንቺ እኔ እራሴን ማወቅ አልችልም። ሰው ሠራሽ መስታወት ስለ ውጫዊ ገጽታዬ ጊዜያዊ መረጃ ሊሰጠኝ ይችላል። አንተና አንቺ ግን ወደ ውስጤ ዘልቄ እንድንገባ ታደርጉኛላችሁ። አንተና አንቺ ግን የፈጣሪ ሥራ በመሆኔ የሚገኘውን ጸጋና ሞገስ ታዩልኛላችሁ፣ ታሳዩኛላችሁ። መስታወቱ ሊወደኝ አይችልም። አንተና አንቺ ማፍቀርንና መፈቀርን ታስተምሩኛላችሁ፤ ኃላፊነትን ታለብሱኛላችሁ።

የዛሬ ሁለት ሺህ ዓመት ክርስቶስ ስለ ሰው ልጅ ፍቅር ራሱን አሳልፎ ሰጠ። ወገን ወይም ማኅበር አልለየም። በዚህም ልዩ መልእክት አስተላለፈ። እጅግ ልዩ መልእክት፣ ጠላትን መውደድ! ብዝሃነትን አያከበረ አንድነትን አወደሰ። እንዲሁም የዛሬ ሁለት ሺህ ዓመት ሐዋርያው ጵውሎስ ስለ ማንነትና ስለ አባልነት ድንቅ ትምህርት አስተማረ። ብዝሃነትንና አንድነትን ከማንነት ጋር አስተዋወቀ። ብዝሃነትን ሲያከብር አንድነትን አልተወም። አንድነትን ሲያውጅ ብዝሃነትን አልጨፈለቀም። እነዚህን ሁለት እውነቶች እንዴት ማያያዝ እንዲሟቻል ያሳየበትን መንገድ ማጤን ልብ ይሏል። የእሱ መፍትሔ ለብዙ ፈላስፋዎች፣ ለምድር ጠቢባን ምንኛ በጠቀመ። “ማንነቴ በአባልነቴ አይወሰንም፤ ማንነቴ ከአባልነቴ ይበልጣል” አለ።

አይሁዳዊነት፣ ግሪካዊነት፣ ሮማዊነት፣ ወንድነትና ሴትነት የብዝሃነት ማስረጃዎች ናቸው። አይሁዳዊው ልክ እንደ ግሪካዊው፣ ግሪካዊውም እንደ አይሁዳዊ መኖር አያስፈልገውም። እያንዳንዱ የራሱ ውበት አለው። ክርስቶሳዊ ኅብረት ግን የበለጠ ያስውባቸዋል። በግል ከነበራቸው ውበት የበለጠ ውበት ያጎናጽፋቸዋል። ምጡቁ ከወዲሁ የነበረውን

አያጠፋውም። ይልቁንም ያሳድገዋል፤ ፍጹምም ያደርገዋል። “ማንነቴ አይሁዳዊነቴ ብቻ ነው፣ ግሪካዊነቴ ብቻ ነው” ማለት ማንነትን መወሰን ነው። ያለውን ውበት ማገድ ነው። የሰው ልጅ “እኔ” ሲል ጤነኛ “እኔ” እና ጤነኛ ያልሆነ “እኔ” እንዳለ ማወቅ ያስፈልገዋል። “እኛ” ሲልም፣ ጤነኛ “እኛ” እና ወደ ጥፋት የሚወስድ “እኛ” እንዳለ ማጤን ይገባዋል። ከአባልነት የመጠቀ አንድነት ሲኖር ነው ውበትን መቃኘት፣ አንድነትን ማጣጣም፣ ሰላምን ማስፈን፣ ብልጽግናን ማምጣት የሚቻለው።

ጊዜና ቦታ፣ ታሪክና ምድር ለንጹሐን ተበዳዮች ይጮካሉ። ቃላት ሲያጥራቸው የቅኔን እርዳታ ይጠይቃሉ። ሳይንስ ዝም ሲል፣ ፍልስፍና ቃላት ሲያጥረው፣ ነገረ መለኮት ሲንተባተብ፣ ፍቅርና ተስፋ ይናገራሉ። ፍቅር ከፍርሃት ያድናል። ተስፋ ለብዝሃነትም ለአንድነትም መድኃኒት ነች።

አንዲት አበባ ለብቻዋ፣ አንድ ዛፍ ለብቻው ገነትን አይሆኑም። የተለያዩ አበቦች፣ የተለያዩ ዛፎች በኅብረት ገነትን ያስገኛሉ። የሚያለመልማቸውን ውሃ በጋራ ይጠጣሉ። ፀሐይን አብረው ይሞቃሉ። በጨረቃና በከዋክብት ይደምቃሉ። ነገር ግን አበባ አበባ መሆኗን የምታውቅ አይመስልም፤ ውበቷን መረዳት የምትችል አይመስልም። ውበቷን ለማድነቅ ሰው ያስፈልጋታል። መዓዛዋን ለማሸተት ሰው ያሻታል። የሰው ልጅ ግን ራሱን ማወቅ ይችላል። የአበባንም ውበት ማድነቅ ይችላል። በርግጥም፣ ቆም ብሎ ያንን ውበት ማሰብ ይፈውሳል። ስለ ብዝሃነትና ስለ አንድነት ያስተምራል።

አባባ አበባን የመጉዳት ዘመቻ አታውጅም። ሰው ግን ሰውን ሲጉዳ የሰው ልጅን እየጎዳ መሆኑን ያውቀው ይሆን? ማንም ሰው በፍጡርነቴ ከፈጣሪ በመምጣቱ የሰው ሁሉ ዘመድ መሆኑን አለማስተዋሉ



ያሳዝናል። ዘመዱን ባዳ ማድረግ ይገርማል። ተራሮች ቢናገሩ፣ ዕዕዋት ቢጠየቁ፣ ለእንስሳት ድምፅ ቦታ ቢሰጥ የሰዎችን ዝምድና በዘመሩ!

ሰላም ያድናል። ጥያቄው ሰላምን መመኘት ብቻ ሊሆን አይገባም። ሰላም እንደሚያድን መረዳት፣ የሰላም መሣሪያ መሆንና የሰላም መሣሪያዎችን ማክበርና ማዳመጥ ያስፈልጋል። ሰላም ይጠቅማል እንጂ አይጎዳም፤ ያድናል እንጂ አያጠፋም። ሰላምን ከልብ ለሚያስቡ ሰዎች፣ ፍቅርን ለሚያውጁ መልእክተኞች ጆሮ መስጠት ሕይወትን ይሰጣል። ሰላምን ለማስፈን ሁሉም መተባበር ይገባዋል። ለመተባበርም ከፍትሕና ከምሕረት ጋር፣ ከእውነትና ከርኅራኄ ጋር መታረቅ ያስፈልጋል።

ሰላም ከሕፃንነት ይጀምራል። መኖር ማለት ለልጆች ሰላምንና ፍቅርን ማቅመስና መመስከር ነው። ብዝሃነትም ሆነ አንድነት ጸጋ ከሆኑ፣ ፍቅርና ተስፋ ከሁሉ የሚበልጡ የልጆች ስጦታዎች ናቸው። ከዚህ የሚበልጥ ሀብት የለምና። ሕይወትም ሌላ ትርጉም የላትምና። የምጣኔ ሀብት፣ ገንዘብና ኃይል ያለ ፍቅር ሙሉትን አያገኙም። ከሁሉ የሚበልጥ መዋዕለ ንዋይ ፍቅር ነው። መዋዕለ ንዋይ ሲፈስ ፍቅር በባጀት ቢገባ ትርፉ የትየለሌ በሆነ! አስተማማኝ ትርፍ! በስሜት የማይወሰን ፍቅር፣ ውሳኔንና ኃላፊነትን ያካተተ ፍቅር የኤኮኖሚ እሴት ነው። የሕፃንን ፊት ማየት ደስ ይላል። የሕፃን ፈገግታ ሁሉን

ይማርካል። የሕፃን ፈገግታ ፈገግታን ይወልዳል። አንድንም ብዙንም ያሸንፋል። የሰውን ፊት በፈጣሪ መነጽር ማየት ኃላፊነትን ያስታውሳል። ማሰብን ያስተምራል። አጠገብ እያለ ሩቅ የሚመስለውን መፍትሔ ያሳያል። ፍቅር ብዝሃነትን ያስውባል፤ ጥላቻ ብዝሃነትን ያበላሻል። ትሕትና ብዝሃነትን ያጸናል፤ ትዕቢት ግን ብዝሃነትን ወደ ስሕተት ዓለም ያወርደዋል። ማድነቅና ብዝሃነት ይፈላለጋሉ። ከራስ ወዳድነት ይልቅ ልግስና ጀግንነት ነው፤ ይቅርታ ይፈውሳልና ከበቀል ይልቅ ይቅርታ ይጀግናል።

እነሆ ወገኖች በሙሉ ዛፍ ቢተክሉ እንዴት ያምራል! አንድ ሳይሆን ብዙ ዛፎች፣ አንድ ዓይነት ሳይሆን ብዙ ዓይነት ዛፎች። አንድ ዛፍ ወይም አንድ ዓይነት ዛፍ አይበቃምና። በትንሽ መዛባት ሥነ ምግዳር ሊቃወስ እንደሚችል፣ በትንሽ በጎ ፈቃድ፣ ብዙ ሥራ መሥራት፣ ምድርን መታደግ ይቻላል። ከሰው ባሻገር፣ ሐይቁም፣ ዕዕዋቱና እንስሳቱ፣ ተራሮቹና ሽለቆዎቹ፣ ምድሪቱና ሰማዩም አብረው ብዝሃነትንና አንድነትን ይመሰክራሉ። ጀንበርም ከመጥለቁ በፊት መስማማቱን በልዩ ውበቷ ትገልጣለች። “ነገ ጠዋት እንገናኝ” እያለች ለተስፋ ማለዳ ቀጠሮ ትሰጣለች!

ብዝሃነት ያለ ኅብረት አታምርም። አንድነትም ያለብዝሃነት አትጸናም። ልዑል ፈጣሪ ሁለቱንም ይስጠን!



PEARLS

Flight OR Fight

This is indeed interesting!

- Put a frog in a vessel of water and start heating the water...
- As the temperature of the water rises, the frog is able to adjust its body temperature accordingly...
- The frog keeps on adjusting with increase in temperature...
- Just when the water is about to reach boiling point, the frog is not able to adjust anymore...
- At that point the frog decides to jump out...
- The frog tries to jump but is unable to do so, because it has lost all its strength in adjusting with the water temperature...
- Very soon the frog dies. Well, so what killed the frog?

Many of us would say the boiling water...But the truth is what killed the frog was its own inability to decide when it had to jump out...

We all need to adjust with people and situations, but we need to be sure when we need to adjust and when we need to confront or face or even consciously move out or move on...

There are times when we need to face the situation and take the appropriate action...Fight it & do it with all our honesty, sincerity and full force.

On the other side, if we are 110% sure that environment is beyond control or the objective is not providing adequate incentive...leave the ego, quit and move on to more productive cause in life. Not only this will avoid our unnecessary suffering, but this will make us a better and balanced leader of our life and the task in hand...

So, decide when to jump or adjust...





አባ ተስፋዬ ማቲያስ sdb

ያለብዙዎች መላው አይኖርም፡፡

በምሥራቅ አፍሪካ አሜሪካ አገራት ለሚደረግ ጉባዔ የተመረጠው መሪ ቃል ወቅታዊ ይመስላል፡፡ አንድ የመሆን ጥማት ከፖለቲካው እስከ ቤተ ክህነቱ የወል ጥያቄ ይመስላል፡፡ ሆኖም አንድ ነገር እላለሁ፡- አዳም ከገነት የተባረረው ወደ ምዕራብ ነው፡፡ ስለዚህ አምልኮአችን ሁሉ «ወደ ምስራቅ ተመልከቱ» ነው፡፡ በክርስትና ሰው ሲቀበር ጭንቅላቱ ወደ ምዕራብ ነው፤ (በመታገን ትንሣኤ ራዕይ ወደ ምሥራቅ እንዲቀና) ነው፡፡ ይህ ማለት ሰው ከመጀመሪያ የነበረውን ኅብረት መናፈቁ ነው፡፡

የአዳም እርቃን ትኩረቱ ከአምላኩ የተነሣ ጊዜ ነው፡፡ ከፈጣሪው ውጪ ለሆነ ድምፅ መልስ መስጠት ሲጀምር ነው ደግሞም የሳተ፡፡ ስደትም ቢሆን ግና ብቻውን አልተሰደደምና አሳቼ ያላት አለችለት፡፡ ይህም ማለት ሰው በተፈጥሮው ከአባቱ ከአዳም ጀምሮ «ሰደተኛ» ነው፡፡ በዚህ ስደት ኑሮው ለአምላኩ ተገቢውን ትኩረት ይኸውም መስማት ቸል ስላለበት ጊዜ ሁሉ ዋጋ ይከፍላል፡፡ ይሁን እንጂ የአምላክ ትሕትና ከሚሸሸው ፍጡሩ በትዕግሥት መመለሻውን መጠበቁ ነው፡፡

ሰው ስለተበተነ፣ ስለሰፋ፣ ስደት ከአዳም ጀምሮ ለሰዎች ስለተሰጠ፣ የተሰደደውም የአዳም የልጅ ልጅ ትዕቢቱ ቋንቋውን ስለቀላቀለበት ተቸጋግሮ ኖረ፡፡ አምላክ ምንም በሰው መካከል ታቦት ቢሆን፣ ሥጋ ለብሶም አማኑኤል ቢሆን፣ በቅዳሴም ቃል እና ቁርባን ቢሆን አሁንም ላለበተዋለ

ሩቅ ነው፡፡ ከአዳም የተወሰደ የልጅነት ጸጋ ልጅነት ነበር፡፡ ዕርቃን መሆንን ማየት እና ማፈር ከልጅነት የመውጣት ምልክቱ ነው፡፡ ኢየሱስ የአዳምን ልጅነት ሲመልስ፣ መንፈስ ቅዱስ በባቢሎን የተቀላቀለ ቋንቋን ሲያግባባ እድለኛ ሆነን እንደገና እንደተሠራን የምናይበት ነው፡፡

የሰው ዘር ብዙ እና ብዙ ዓይነት ነው፡፡ ይህንን ብዙነት «ብዝሃነት» አድንቆ እንደ ልዩ ስጦታ መቀበልን የሚከለክሉ የባቢሎን ባሕርያት አሉ፡፡ ስንዴው እና እንክርዳዱ አብረው ያድጋሉ፡፡ ሁላችን ስንዴዎች ስንሆን በውስጣችን ያለን እንክርዳድ መንቀል እጅግ መልካም ነው፡፡ በእኛ ውስጥ ያለውን እንክርዳድ ሌሎች ሲነቅሉት ያማል፤ ራሳችን ስንነቅለው ግን ቆንጆ ንስሐ ነው፡፡

ፈሪሳዊነት አንድ በአንድነት ማሳ ላይ የሚበቅል እንክርዳድ ነው፡፡ በባሕርይ ደረጃ ከአምላክ ጋር በመወዳደር የሚሠራ የራስ ሕንጻ ነው፡፡ ሌሎች ማድረግ ያለባቸውን ተገቢ የሆነውን ሕግና ደንብ በብዙ ማወቅ፣ መንገር፣ ማስተማር፣ ማይፈጽሙትን መውቀስ (ሁሉን ማድረግ ያለባቸው እነሱ ናቸው፣ እሱ ነው፣ እሱዋ ናት...፣ ሁለተኛ እና ሦስተኛ መደብ ላይ የመጠቀም አባዜ ሁሉ) መገለጫዎቹ ናቸው፡፡ ፈሪሳውያን ወግ አጥባቂዎች ናቸው፡፡ ብዙ «ስለሚያውቁ» የመዳን መንገድ በዚያ እንዲሆን ይታባባሉ፡፡ ከውጪ የተማሩ፣ ንጹሕ እና ሕያው ይመስላሉ፤ እውነቱ ግና ውስጣቸው የሞተ መሆኑ ነው፡፡ ፈሪሳውያን የኢየሱስ

ትልቆቹ የሰው ጠላቶቹ ነበሩ። ፈረዱበት። አምላክን ሕግን በማወቃቸው ልክ ብቻ እንጂ ባለ ብዙ የምሕረት መንገዶችን ሊያስቡ አልተቻላቸውምና ነው።

እግዚአብሔር ንጽሕናን ይወዳል፤ «እኔ አምላካችሁ እሆን ዘንድ ከግብፅ ምድር ያወጣኋችሁ እግዚአብሔር ነኝ፤ እንግዲህ እኔ ቅዱስ ነኝና እናንተ ቅዱሳን ሁኑ።» ዘሌ 11:45፤ «እናንተ የእግዚአብሔርን ዕቃ የምትሸከሙ ሆይ፡ አልፍ በሉ፤ አልፍ በሉ፤ ከዚያ ውጡ፤ ርኩስን ነገር አትንኩ፤ ከመካከልዎ ውጡ፤ ንጹሐን ሁኑ።» ኢሳ 52:11፤ እንዳለ ሁሉ ለኃጢአተኞች ደግሞ ቅርብ ነው። «ኃጢአተኞችን ወደ ንስሐ እንጂ ጻድቃንን ልጠራ አልመጣሁም...» ሉቃ 5:32። የእውቀታችን እና የንጽሕናችን ልክ በራሱ እውነት ከሆነ እጅግ መልካም ነገር ነው፤ መታባይ ከተከተለው ግና ግብዝ ይሆናል። በሌላ በኩል ደግሞ የሌሎችን አለማወቅ፤ አለመታመን፤ አለመቆም፤ እድፍ ወዘተ የመጠቆም አባዜ ካለው ይህም ጌታ የሌለው ፈሪሳዊነት ነው። ማንም ግን ለእውቀት፤ ለእውነት እና ለንጽሕና ከበቃ አምላኩ ረድቶታልና በትህትና ያንን ስጦታውን ሙሉ ያደርገዋል፡ ፡ «አንቺ ሴት፥ እነዚያ ከሳሾችሽ ወዴት አሉ? የፈረደብሽ የለምን? አላት። ጌታ ሆይ፥ አንድ ሰንኳ አለች። ኢየሱስም፡- እኔም አልፈርድብሽም፤ ሂጂ ከአሁንም ጀምሮ ደግመሽ ኃጢአት አትሥራ አላት።» ዮሐ 8:11።

በሌላ በኩል ደግሞ እኔ የተሻለኩ ነኝ ማለት ሁልጊዜ ንጽጽር ስለሆነ በሌላ ውስጥ ያለውን መልካም ከማየት የደከመም ስለሆነ በራሱ ደካማ ባሕርይ ነው። ብርቱ ባሕርይ ራስን ዝቅ የሚያደርግ እና ትሑት ባሕርይ ነው። ፡ ከእግዚአብሔር በላይ ትልቅ አምላክ የለም የምንለውን ያህል ከእግዚአብሔር በላይ ራሱን ትሑት ያደረገም የለም፡ ፡ ቅድስና፤ ንጽሕና ባሕርዩ የመሆኑን ያህል በተቃራኒ የሆነን የሰው ድካም ለማንጸት ደግሞ እርሱ «ኃጢአት ሆነ» የሚል የሐዋርያው ጳውሎስ ቃል ደግሞ ይበልጥ ያጠነክረዋል።

ወደድንም ጠላንም ብዝኃነት የየዕለቱ ውሏችን ነው። በብዙ መልኩም እንኖረዋለን። የመዝናኛ አማራጮች፤ የምግብ ዓይነቶች፤ ገበያ እና ሱቆች፤ መኪና እና ማሽኖች፤ ወዘተ. እያለ የሚቀጥል የልዩነቶች ዝርዝር ልክ

የለውም። የሕዝብ ቁጥር በጨመረ መጠን የሚበዙ ልዩነቶች ይኖሩናል። ወደ አንድ ከተማ ብንወጣ የምንሰማቸው «ባዕድ» ቋንቋዎች ብዛት አሁን አሁን እንዲያውም ከምን ጊዜውም ይበልጥ በርካቷል። በመንገድ ከመስማት ባለፈም በምግብ ቤት የሚያስተናግዱን፤ በንግድ ቤት የሚሸጡልን፤ በመጓጓዣ የሚያደርሱን፤ በትምህርት ተቋማት የሚያስተምሩን፤ በሐኪም ቤት የሚያከሙን፤ ወዘተ. ዓለማችን ሰፈር ሆናለች ወይም ማሳበረሰባዊ አወቃቀራችን ተቀይሯል ያስብሉናል። ልብ ለሚለው የብዝኃነት እንዲህ መብዛት ደስ የሚያሰኝ ነው። የማንነት፤ የአስተሳሰብና የአሠራር ልዩነት በጥበብ እና በእውነት የሚያሳድግ ስለሆነ አምንታዊ የሆነ ደስታን የሚሰጥ ነገር አለው። በዘር፤ በጎሳ፤ በቀለም፤ በሀብት፤ በጾታ፤ ወዘተ. መለያየት እና መጋጨት ደግሞ ሁልጊዜ የነበረ እና ያለ ቢሆንም፤ ማንም ሰው በተፈጥሮው ልዩነትን ለደስታ አዝመራ ማድረግ የተሻለ መሆኑን ያውቃል። በአራት ዘመን እግዚአብሔር የመረጠው ሕዝብ እስራኤል እንደሆነ ከማመን ቀጥሎ ሌላው ሁሉ ጠፊ ነው የሚል እምነትም ይበዛ ነበር። ይሁን እንጂ «መዳን ከአይሁድ ነውና» ዮሐ 4:22 ለሚሉ እንኳ አፍራሽ የሆኑ በእነሱም ታሪክ ነቢያት የናስ እና የነሃዌ ሕዝብ፤ የንጉስ ዳዊት ቅድመ አያት ሞአባዊት ሩት እና ቤተልሔም፤ ከብዙ ብርቅዬ ጭማሪዎች ናቸው።

ሐዋርያው ቅዱስ ጳውሎስ ለሮሜ ክርስቲያኖች «አይሁዳዊ ወይም የግሪክ ሰው የለም፤ ባሪያ ወይም ጨዋ ሰው የለም፤ ወንድም ሴትም የለም፤ ሁላችሁ በክርስቶስ ኢየሱስ አንድ ሰው ናችሁና።» ሮሜ 3:28 ብሎ ሲጽፍ በሰዓቱ እነዚህ ልዩነቶች ትልቁ ችግሮቻቸው እንደነበሩ ለማየት እንችላለን። እናም በእርግጥ በክርስትና መጀመሪያ ዘመንም ቢሆን ሰዎች በብዙ ምክንያቶች ልዩነቶችን ቆጥረው ጎራ ይዘዋል። ሆኖም ግን የክርስትና መለያው በጌታ ጸጋ አንድ መሆን ነው። አንድ ለመሆን ግና በሌላው ያለው ወንድምነት/እህትነት እንደ እግዚአብሔር ስጦታ መቀበል ይገባል። ይህም ማለት ሌላውን ከእነ ማንነቱ (ብርቱ እና ደካማ) «ክርስቶስ ለእግዚአብሔር ክብር እንደ ተቀበላችሁ እንዲሁ እርስ በርሳችሁ ተቀባበሉ።» ሮሜ 15:7፤ ማለት ነው።



Salesian World **GLOBAL NEWS**

A new Church dedicated to Don Bosco inaugurated in Vietnam



Xuan Hiep: On Wednesday January 31st 2018, at 9:30, the Archbishop of Archdiocese of Saigon, Msgr. Peter Bui Van Doc, blessed and consecrated the new Church dedicated to Don Bosco at Xuan Hiep parish, Saigon diocese, VietNam. Three years ago, VietNam province decided to build a new church dedicated to Don Bosco on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of his birth. So, erected at the façade of the new church was a 3-meter high statue of Don Bosco which was blessed by Fr. Joseph Nguyen Van Quang, the Provincial, this past January 28. This statue was put on a big one-meter high rock. Also present at the big event were the Bishop of Thai Binh diocese, Msgr. Peter Nguyen Van De, Fr. Joseph Nguyen Van Quang, SDB, the Provincial of the Salesians, several Provincials and Superiors General of several Congregations, Sister Vu Thi Kim Lien, the Provincial of FMA, various FMA sisters, a number of religious, benefactors and guests. The total number was about 3,000. **ANS**

Panama - Salesian Youth Movement on its way to WYD in Panama 2019



Panama City: The XXXIV World Youth Day will be held in Panama from 22 to 27 January 2019. A few months from the celebration of the Synod of Bishops on "Youth, faith and vocational discernment", Pope Francis will meet young people from all over the world in Panama, the land of the Channel, a land between two oceans and a bridge between two continents. Groups of the Salesian Youth Movement (SYM) from all over the world have begun to prepare for this important ecclesial event. The 2016 World Youth Day in Krakow concluded a cycle of three World Youth Days dedicated to the theme of the Beatitudes. A few months later, Pope Francis announced the themes for the following three WY Days: "Great things the Almighty has done for me" (2017), "Do not be afraid, Mary, because you have found Grace with God" (2018) and "Behold the servant of the Lord; may it be to me according to your word" (2019). A three-year period in continuity with the previous one, in the sign of Mary, the one whom all generations shall call Blessed. Already in his meeting with the volunteers at the end

of the WYD in Krakow, Pope Francis had indicated the Mother of Jesus as a model. Also on that occasion, the Holy Father had invited young people to remember the past, to have courage in the present and to have and be hope for the future. **ANS**

India – Don Bosco on front page of “The Times of India”



Mumbai: The Don Bosco High school of Matunga, Mumbai, which recently celebrated its 75^o anniversary of educational service to young people, was the protagonist of an important communication operation to promote info on Don Bosco and the validity of his educative system throughout India. Several students of the institute, accompanied by their Principal, participated in the program “The Times of India Newspaper in Education” (TIMES NIE) produced first-hand a special issue of... “The Times of India Student Edition”, entirely dedicated to the presentation of the Salesian education. The TIMES NIE is a program established in 1985 that included over 90 thousand students of 2000 schools in India. Thanks to this program, the supplementary issue for young students The Times of India Student Edition is published, associated to The Times of India, which with its 800 thousand daily copies is the most widely

read in English Newspaper in India. The student edition of this past 26 March is the work of the team of Don Bosco High School, Fr Fernandes, the Principal, and three teachers, as well as six students. In the various pages, besides pages dedicated to the traditional items of interest to the young readers, there are reports on the various activities of the Don Bosco High School, and more generally, Salesian education: the testimony of past pupils, presentation of the Preventive System, experiences of the system in the world...

Mozambique - “Canção Nova” comes to the country to lead “Radio Don Bosco”



Moatize: Canção Nova, 25th group of the Salesian Family, has landed in Mozambique with a specific mission: to manage “Radio Don Bosco” (RDB), a Salesian radio broadcasting station based in Moatize, in the province of Tete . The two missionaries from Canção Nova, Fr Ademir Lucas and the seminarian Lucas Paulino da Silva, arrived in Maputo on the morning of Saturday 10 March. They were received at the airport by Fr Marco Biaggi, Superior of the Mozambican Vice Province (MOZ). In the same day, they were introduced to the coordinators of MOZ Social Communication and, after various activities, went to Tete where they will work and live, ie the parish house of the parish “St John Bosco”, near

the RDB studios. Canção Nova is a Brazilian Catholic community founded in 1978, and follows the lines of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Based in the city of Cachoeira Paulista, it has developed an important radio and television system, which extends to other countries such as Portugal, Italy, Israel, France and Paraguay. The community was founded by Fr Jonas Abib, having as co-founders, Luzia Santiago and her husband Wellington Jardim. Fr Abib was a member of the Salesian Congregation for several years and then had to leave it to later found the new movement, which on 3 November 2008 obtained pontifical recognition, receiving the approval of the Statutes before the Holy See. On 21 January 2009, finally, the “Canção Nova” Community was officially included among the groups of the Salesian Family.

Germany - A new short movie series about Don Bosco



Hildesheim: If you type “Don Bosco” on Google, the search engine delivers nearly 28 million results, of which about 480,000 are videos on YouTube. The amount of information available on the founder of the Salesian Congregation is immense. Now, specially designed to summarize and clearly encapsulate the most essential

information about Don Bosco, a new series of short animated videos is being produced. “But there is more,” explains Fr. Alfons Friedrich SDB, Managing Director of the Salesian Publishing House “Don Bosco Medien S.A”, Munich. “With videos we want to both inform and entertain people at the same time. Nowadays people don't really want to read texts that are too long, or boring. Instead of reading, they prefer watching videos; if they're short, all the better.” The Salesian publishing house is developing the project in collaboration with a television production company in Hildesheim, Germany. “The idea of producing these videos isn't new, of course, but we believe this is the most appropriate time for them, the time also to explain complex problems or the lives of the saints, as in the case of Don Bosco, for example, which otherwise would be difficult to transmit and make appealing for a general audience.” With these videos on St. John Bosco, the Salesians and the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians wish to offer new German-language digital productions for Germany and Austria, especially to those who have never heard of Don Bosco. In fact, the project does not target a specific group of people – regardless of age - but to a larger audience. The first short film produced is on the life of Don Bosco and has a duration of 3:54 minutes. Other short films being produced include: the life of Maria Mazzarello, the pedagogy and spirituality of Don Bosco, and other topics.



AMECEA

All that you need to know

Abuna Tesfaselassie Medhin, the Bishop of Adigrat gives an explanation about the origin and the composition of AMECEA, with an explanation of the AMECEA Logo.

AMECEA is one of the 10 Regional associations established in 1961, during Vatican II, and in pastoral existence for over fifty seven years. The authority over all AMECEA's activities rests with the Plenary Assembly of all the Bishops (nearly 200) of the AMECEA countries. Between the Plenary Assemblies, the Executive Board, composed of a delegate Bishop from the respective countries' Bishops Conferences, takes the necessary decisions, according to the AMECEA priorities. The day-to-day decisions are implemented by the Secretary General on behalf of the Chairman of the Plenary Assembly. The Secretary General is also responsible for coordination of the four AMECEA Departments i.e. Administration and Finance Department, Communications Department, Pastoral Department and Justice, Peace and Caritas Department.

The vision of AMECEA Bishops is "A Holy Spirit filled family of God, committed to Holistic Evangelization and Integral Development" in Eastern Africa, while AMECEA has a mission "to inspire and empower God's family in AMECEA to a credible and prophetic witness to Christ, by promoting unity, justice, peace, and solidarity".

This time the theme which has been adopted and being prayed upon, study being done on, for the 19th AMECEA Plenary to be held in Addis Abeba – Ethiopia from 13-23 July 2018 (6-16 Hamle 2010 EC) is:

"VIBRANT DIVERSITY, EQUAL DIGNITY, PEACEFUL UNITY IN GOD" in AMECEA Region - "በእግዚአብሔር የተመሠረተ ሕይወት ብዝሃነት፡ ሰብአዊ ክብርና ሰላማዊ አንድነት በአመሰያ አገራት".

This theme is very timely and relevant to the social, political, economic and pastoral challenges highly present and challenging lives of hundreds of millions of people accros the AMECEA member countries. The AMECEA Bishops Conferences felt that ethnic conflicts and violences, governance problems, political and religious extremism, etc. are causing immense sufferings including migration on the populations in the East African region as well as in other parts of the continent, thus important to take this theme for the plans of discussing and planning appropriate pastoral responses relative to the respective Conference' country contexts.

The Plenary preparation has been very demanding for our Ethiopian Bishops Conference

with not many Catholics in number and with a lot of challenging responsibilities that the preparation requires, however, confident on its Clergy, Religious, Faithful, and other good willing Ethiopian brothers and sisters as well as the government of Ethiopia, has taken the challenge positively for the PASTORAL, CULTURAL, ECONOMIC and other benefits which this big event will bring to our local Church and country.

For hosting the 19th AMECEA Plenary, the Bishops' Conference of Ethiopia has set up Preparatory Main Committee and 11 Sub-Committees which are working very hard, and the Logo for this coming plenary is already for nearly 3 years in every church locations and display with the theme and related rich and meaningful symbols and signs with artistic particulars reflecting the various challenges which the AMECEA Region and Africa as a whole is experiencing.

An explanation on the LOGO

CROSS

Cross extends its arms over the whole continent of Africa.
 The sign of Redemption: the price of unity.
 The sign of our faith.

A sign of the terrible need for both First Evangelization and New Evangelization. So many on this continent do not know the love of the Father revealed in Christ.. How is this possible in a digital age? The Association is a part of the whole and as such is responsible for the Evangelization of the whole of Africa, as a part of the Universal Church. The source of Peace and Unity is Christ and Christ alone, and thus the Missionary aspect of our identity as Church needs to be constantly held before our eyes, as members of each other. It is also a sign of our need to recognize our failures in Evangelization and to go forward with new hope.

WOUNDED HEART OF CHRIST

The source of love for every man, woman and child.
 The wounded Heart of Christ who uses each wound to go further in love...This is what Mercy is and what Mercy does. Thus our personal need for Mercy from Christ is also an invitation from Christ to use the wounds inflicted on us by others to love the other more. The wound in his Heart becomes the place of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. A Pentecost





of Love for All!

THE COLOURFUL CLOTH

Made up of the colours of the flags of the member nations of the association, but no one flag is visible, since as Catholic Christians we meet as Church and not primarily as members of this or that nation or culture. For Christ is beyond culture. Diversity of nation in One Church. The different colours, are a preeminent sign of the beauty and grandeur of unity which is not necessarily a psychological harmony. It is also a sign of the Resurrection of Jesus, for the colours of the flags are painted on the funeral sheet of Jesus seen in the empty tomb. The "M" is a sign of the maternal presence of Mary, Our Lady of Africa. Mary is Mother of our divine life... the one who helps me to see and love my brother and sister with the love that Christ has for them, in Charity and thus beyond the boundaries of religion, ethnicity, language and nation.

SIGNS OF THE PASSION:

THE CROWN OF THORNS

Sign of grasping for power through economic violence of individuals, communities and countries.

THE NAILS

GREEN NAIL

Drug /Substance abuse

RED NAIL

Gender violence

ORANGE NAIL

Ethnic Violence

THE SPEAR: War and all its consequences:

Death, injury, illness, psychological trauma for both adults and children, displacement of peoples, break of families, sexual violence especially to women and children, loss of education and childhood.

During the AMECEA Pleanaries are invited all Cardinals (who are all Patrons), Archbishops, Bishops, Prefects or Apostolic Administrators, National Secretary Generals, National Pastoral Coordinators, Rectors of Higher Institutions, Representatives of Priests, Religious, the Laity representatives, Major Religious Superiors of the Congregations serving in the Region, AMECEA Secretariat Department Heads etc. relevant officials of the hosting country are also invited for the opening event. The Opening and Closing Masses are very important and significant events of the Plenary.

The Holy Father's Message, the Holy See Offices, like the Secretary of State, the 2 Dicasteries (the Congregation for Evangelization of Peoples and the Oriental Congregation), the Partner Bishops' Conferences like the US, CEI, who actively work in Solidarity with the Catholic Church in the Region, International Catholic Pastoral and development Partner Organizations, are also duly invited to participate according to their availability and competence by sending delegates or conveying their Solidarity messages, usually during the first Sessions.

All participate during the Study days where Study reports, discussions, proposals are done. Then for the Business Sessions Cardinals, Archbishops, Bishops, Apostolic Administrators, and AMECEA Secretary General continue the proposals, decisions, and appointments of AMECEA Office holders according to the Procedures in the Statutes.

The Bishops remain grateful for all the efforts and dedicated contributions at various and all levels: prayers, coordinating roles, creative engagements, material contributions which are in progress. As the Plenary event is already on our door step, only less than three months away, we are all encouraged to intensify our spiritual and material preparations that God through the guidance of the His Holy Spirit will bless the Plenary with His inspiration, wisdom and Glory of His Kingdom.

God Bless AMECEA and its mission as a Faith-Family of God in the Region.

+ Abune Tesfaselassie Medhin, Eparch of Adigrat,
CBCE Permanent Secretary

SUCCESS
STORIES

DID
YOU
KNOW
?



Incredibly Inspiring Story of **CRISTIANO RONALDO**

Cristiano Ronaldo is a person who does not need any introduction. Everybody knows who is Cr7 but few know his truly inspiring story and how he started his incredible journey and became one of the most famous and richest footballer in the history of football.

He grew up in one of the poorest area of Funchal, the capital of a very small island Madeira. He was from a very humble origin; Ronaldo's dad was a gardener and his mum was a cook. At the age of 9 he started playing football but his team mates made fun of him because his dad cleaned the locker rooms to earn something extra. But that didn't break the spirit of Ronaldo, he just trained harder and harder.

At the age of 11, he moved to Lisbon alone to join the football team SCP Sporting Portugal. At age 14, his father became an Alcoholic and his brother also struggled with addiction. It was very hard for him to move on but it only made him stronger, sadly after few years his father died of alcoholism and Ronaldo was only 20 years old.

Today Ronaldo drinks no alcohol and fully supports his

CR7

brother, he is also helping many others to live a wealthy life mainly children. When he was asked to donate a shirt to raise funds for a vital operation of 11 months old named Erik, he offered to pay for his treatment and gained a fan for life.

In 2005 Ronaldo visited Martunis, an Indonesian Tsunami survivor and raised funds and paid for the education of the young survivor. And guess what, after 11 years Martunis was signed by the Ronaldo's old club Sporting Lisbon. Ronaldo Raised 1.5 Million Euro by donating his golden Shoe to help rebuilding schools in Gaza.

Ever wondered why Ronaldo has no tattoos? Because he is a regular Blood donor. When Ronaldo was interviewed by a Japanese boy who interviewed him in Portuguese, the press laughed at the boys accent, Ronaldo responded "Why the simile? Why? he speaks good Portuguese, very good they should be happy because he tries very hard. It's good". He has proved that apart from being a wealthy person he has feelings for everyone and he cares for the betterment of world, he is certainly one of the greatest footballers of all time.







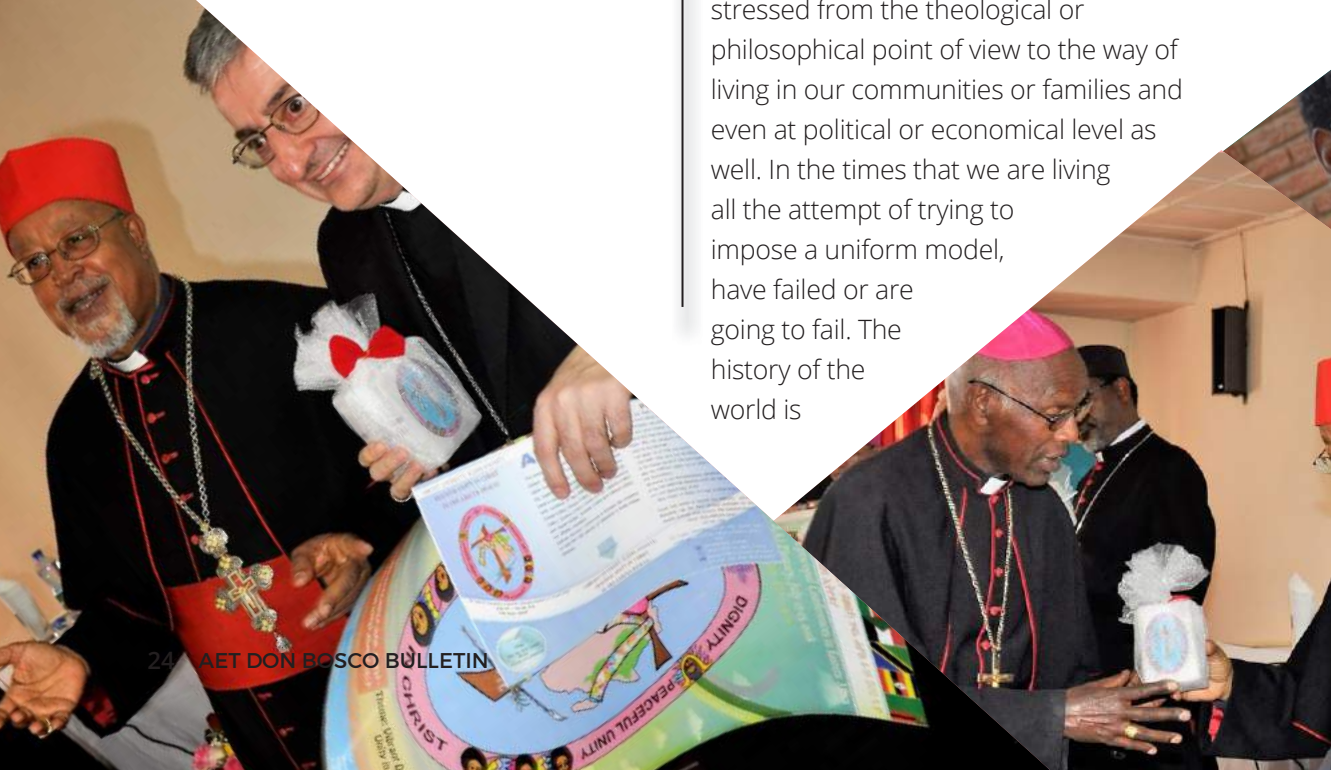
VIBRANT DIVERSITY EQUAL DIGNITY PEACEFUL UNITY IN GOD

Dear readers of the Salesian Bulletin, in few months we are going to have a very deep experience as a 'God's family', as the Exhortation Ecclesia in Africa defines the Church in the continent. Our pilgrim Church in Ethiopia is going to hold the AMECEA meeting in the month of July. It will be an enormous gift of God for us and an important opportunity to continue growing in our fidelity to the Risen Lord and his kingdom.

The theme of the meeting is "Vibrant Diversity, Equal Dignity, and Peaceful Unity in God". I would like to share with you a simple reflection about it.

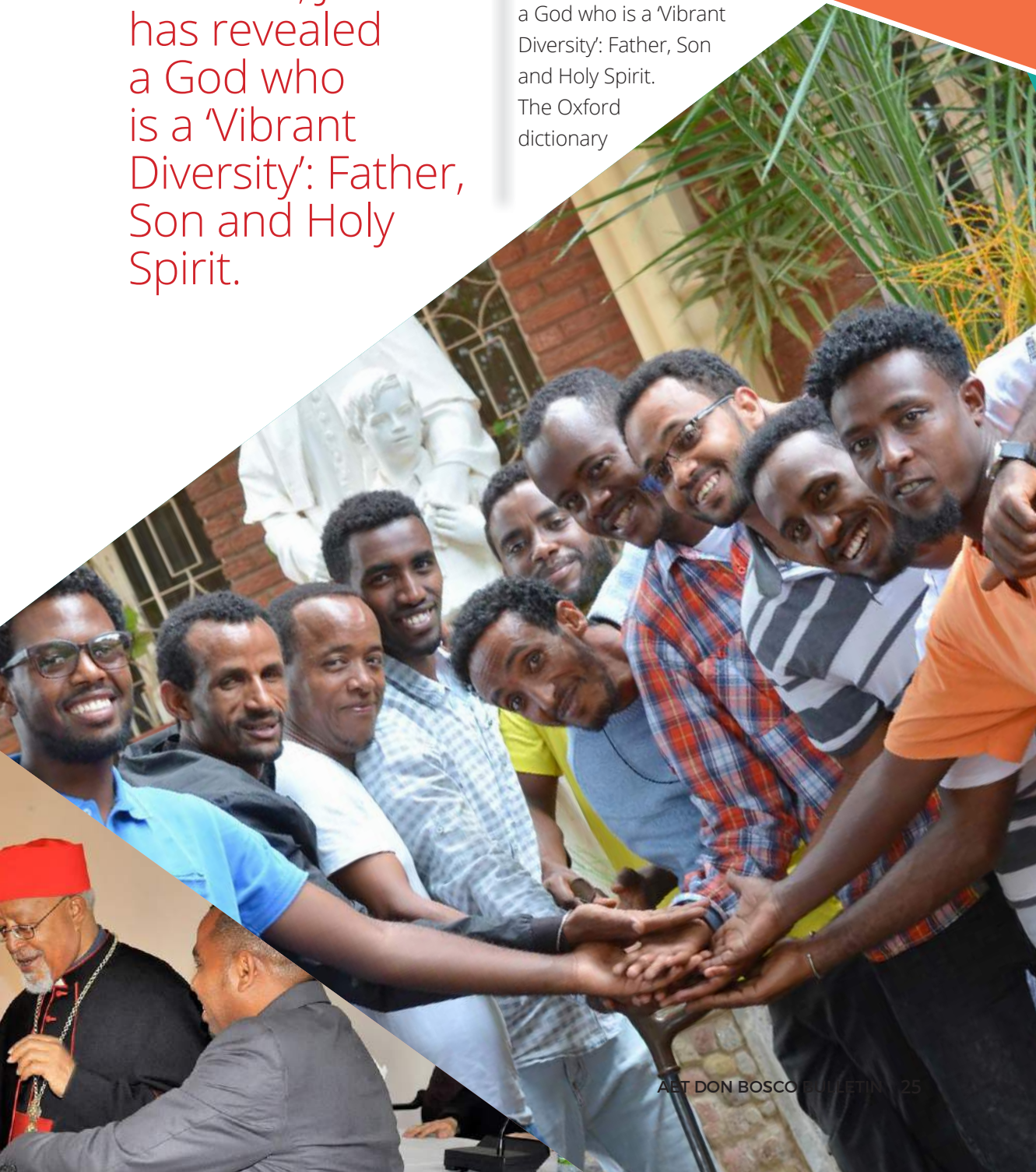
VIBRANT DIVERSITY

We are leaving behind, and I will say it is a sign of the times, the years where uniformity was searched as an essential goal to be achieved. This aspect was stressed from the theological or philosophical point of view to the way of living in our communities or families and even at political or economical level as well. In the times that we are living all the attempt of trying to impose a uniform model, have failed or are going to fail. The history of the world is



Beginning from
our faith, Jesus
has revealed
a God who
is a 'Vibrant
Diversity': Father,
Son and Holy
Spirit.

plenty of examples about this. Today and I repeat, it is a sign of the times, we are called to rediscover the beauty of diversity, and diversity in all its aspects is not a threat but an opportunity. Beginning from our faith, Jesus has revealed a God who is a 'Vibrant Diversity': Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
The Oxford dictionary



defines the word vibrant as something full of life and energy and who can deny that the Trinity is a reality full of life and energy. And if the creation with all its variety is a manifestation of the love and goodness of God and if the humanity, as a whole and as individuals as well, was created at the image and likeness of God, the logical consequence is that diversity is not only good but it is something that God values and wants. As a result, we are invited to appreciate and to cultivate the gift of diversity in all its aspects.

One of the most interesting experiences that I have had as a missionary in this country was precisely this, the discovery and the enjoyment of the beauty of diversity expressed in so many different cultures and their manifestations such as languages, art, music, dance, clothes and so on. What richness I have found in it. I think that as a Church in Africa and particularly in this country, we have a challenge of living and being witness of the great reality of being a 'vibrant diversity'. We are called in this particular time of our history to make, each one of our parishes, each one of our religious communities, each one of our places of apostolate, a sign of a community which is able to live, to work and to love each other.

EQUAL DIGNITY

Some weeks ago, when I was assisting in the Youth Center, a young boy approached me. He was eager and happy to practice his English with the 'ferenshi'. During the

conversation, he told me that he was very proud of belonging to a particular ethnic group. Then I commented him that I was also proud from the place from which I came from. This is not a problem, to be born in a concrete country or to be part of a concrete ethnic group is something that we did not choose, we received it as a gift from God, the real problem starts when we think that our ethnic group or country is better or superior than others, and here is the beginning of the end.

The beauty of a 'vibrant diversity' is based on our 'equal dignity'. In front of God, our Creator and Redeemer, each one of us has the same dignity and value. We are all of us, sons and daughters of the Father, sisters and brothers of the Son Jesus Christ, men and women co-responsible in the building of a better world under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. After a long journey, in which Christianity has had a great contribution, the principle of equal dignity has been proclaimed on December 10, 1948. The first article of the Declaration of the Human Rights says: "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act toward one another in a spirit of brotherhood".

This year we are celebrating 70 years of this historical event of our history but unfortunately we are still very far in making it real. It would be a good exercise to ask about this right to the people in Syria, Yemen or Venezuela, to have asked about it to the thousand of migrant who have

passed away in the Mediterranean Sea or to the ones who are still putting in risk their lives, to have asked to the victims of political or religious terrorism, to ask about it to millions of 'Lazarus' who are still begging the scraps which fall from the tables of 'the rich'. As followers of Jesus in this land of Africa, we are called, today more than ever, to be agents, to be prophets of 'equal dignity' among us. Each woman and man, each child and adult has the right to live according to the inviolable dignity of being a son or daughter of God. As a Church we must be courageous to speak out, to denounce anything which goes against this dignity and to work hard to make it possible.

PEACEFUL UNITY IN GOD

If 'vibrant diversity' is something wanted by God, if our 'equal dignity' is coming from being created at the image and likeness of God, the logical consequence is that 'peaceful unity' is not only coming from God but it is only possible in God. Peace and unity in diversity are not the result of pure human effort, although our contribution is not only necessary but indispensable, they are gifts of God. Every day when we celebrate the Eucharist, we ask for the gifts of peace and unity.

I am sure that if we make a survey asking what you want for you, for your family or for your country, the immense majority will say peace. Therefore, the real question is why are we not able to build a peaceful world, continent or country? Because it is

enough to switch the TV for five minutes to see how much conflicts and violence are going on now in our world. Perhaps the answer is because we have forgotten God and we want to build a better world without His presence, and this is impossible. Only Jesus can bring Peace to our nations, only with Him we can build a better and more just world and in this way to be witnesses of reconciliation, justice and peace as the Exhortation Africae Munus invites us.

I hope that the AMECEA meeting will not be one meeting more, a beautiful event which passes like so many others, but a real turning point for the life of the Church in our countries. Let us ask the Risen Lord to re-kindle our hearts so that we can be prophets and joyful witnesses of a 'vibrant diversity, equal dignity and peaceful unity in God'.



Abba Ignacio Laventure SDB



THE MESSAGE OF THE RECTOR MAJOR

DON ÁNGEL FERNÁNDEZ ARTIME SDB



STABAT MATER. OUR MOTHER IS THERE. ALWAYS.

"It is she who has done everything!"
Don Bosco used to say.

Our holy Mother continues to radiate
her motherly tenderness,
just as she did today in Beirut. I've seen
it!

From Beirut to Valdocco, our Blessed
Lady is always present!

Greetings to all our readers!

Today I'm writing to you from Beirut,
Lebanon, on the day after April 1, when
we celebrated the Pasch of the Lord,
Easter Sunday – a very significant day
for the Salesian Family in more than
one way.

I don't want to miss this opportunity to
make reference, before all else, to Don
Bosco and his relationship with Easter.
It was precisely on the day of the Lord's
Resurrection in 1846 that Don Bosco
obtained the little Pinardi shed (today
our Pinardi Chapel in Valdocco), due to
the intervention of Divine Providence,
after he had suffered a veritable
Gethsemane – not knowing where he
would be able to gather his 200+ boys
on the following Sunday.



From that Easter Sunday until today, we have experienced innumerable interventions of Divine Providence and of the Virgin Mary.

It was also an Easter Sunday, a very rainy one, when Don Bosco was proclaimed a saint on April 1, 1934. This year also, April 1 is the day on which our Lord gave us the gift of celebrating Easter around the world and in all our presences, no matter how different the situations among them. Sometimes we celebrate in a beautiful church, and other times under a tree, as in the refugee camps of Palabek in Uganda or Juba in South Sudan, where Salesian communities share life with the least and the rejected. Let us thank the Lord for these signs of life and of the Resurrection because in their poverty and pain they still feel that they are special to the Lord. It is we humans who are responsible for creating the unjust situations which exist – not God.

And Mary is always present also – whether on the Friday of the Lord's Passion or on the morning of the Resurrection. This is the point I wish to refer to: the attraction that OUR MOTHER awakens in the entire Christian world.

This afternoon in Beirut found me visiting the shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon together with other Salesian

confreres. The shrine is in a beautiful place in the mountains where a huge statue of the Virgin Mary holds her arms open wide to embrace the city of Beirut. We went to a small chapel to pray. There was a big variety of people there, praying. Many were young. This touched me profoundly. My gaze fell on a young mother and her 14-year-old son. The mom was praying with her eyes closed, in deep concentration and devotion. The son stood at his mother's side. It seemed to me that he was already a little tired of standing there in silence, but he just kept looking at his mom – and I at them because the scene moved me. So much faith. Without a doubt, so many feelings flowed from the heart of that young mother to our other Mother, to Jesus' Mother, the Mother of us all.

I contemplated that scene, as well as many others like it, in my heart – in which the same thing always happens. The Blessed Virgin arouses great tenderness, affection, and love in her children throughout the entire world.

In May this year we'll celebrate 150 years since the consecration of the Basilica of Mary Help of Christians in Turin, built by Don Bosco in response to the wish of the Virgin Mary. It's a sacred place, the one that gave concrete form to our Mother's words: "Hic domus mea – inde gloria mea." ("This is my house;

hence goes forth my glory.”)

And her glory does, indeed, continue to go forth today throughout the entire Salesian world, in 134 nations. The Salesian world is dotted with churches, chapels, Marian shrines, and basilicas where our Mother still calls to her children of all cultures and colors to come to her, to encounter her, so that she may hold them in her Mother’s heart and lead them always to her beloved Son.

I’m convinced that that scene in Beirut, of the mother with her son at her side, is replicated thousands of times throughout the world every day. While our Mother watches over us, keeping us under her protection and care, we have nothing to fear.

Looking with a Salesian gaze, we recognize and we continue to say today, just as Don Bosco did in his day, that “It’s she who has done everything” – and allow me to add that she will continue to do so!

Blessed feast of Mary Help of Christians! On May 23 at Valdocco we will solemnly inaugurate this 150th anniversary celebration. It will be a priceless opportunity for us to unite ourselves to all the shrines, chapels, churches, and basilicas around the world where she, our holy Mother, continues to radiate her motherly tenderness, just as she did today in Beirut. I’ve seen it!



IS GOD CALLING YOU?

FRANCISCANS OF ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS

Adore the Lord



Serve as Mary did



Live the Gospel



The Congregation of the Franciscan Sisters of St. Mary of the Angels (FSMA) was founded in 1871 by Sr. Mary of the Cross (Caroline Rurange) for the care of the orphan children. Later it spread in France, England, Switzerland, Guadalupe, India, USA, Ethiopia and Brazil. The sisters devote themselves to the service of the poor and the needy, to education, care of the sick, convalescent and aged priests, catechetics and pastoral work. Eucharistic adoration is the source and center of their spiritual and missionary life throughout the world. In Ethiopia they have fraternities in Addis Abeba, Dire Dawa, Asebe Tefari, Shashemane and Awasa.

If you feel being called by the Lord and wish to offer your life Him in the service of His people as a FSMA Sister, contact without hesitation for further details:



FSMA Sisters
Nativity Girls' School
P.O Box: 21794 Addis Abeba, Ethiopia
Tel: 572656, 0911047992
Email: tsegaasebe@gmail.com



Agreement between Salesians and Vatican Communications



Vatican City: The Vatican Secretariat for Communication and the Salesians of Don Bosco have signed an agreement of collaboration, as part of the communications reform called for by Pope Francis. This will allow the Salesian Community to share the charism of Don Bosco within the framework of the different services provided by the Secretariat for Communication. CNA

23 Catholic Missionaries were killed in 2017



Twenty-three Catholic Missionaries were killed in the world in 2017: 13 priests, one Religious, one nun, and eight laymen reported the Vatican Agency Fides. According to data published by Fides, from 2000 to 2016, 424 Catholics on mission were killed in the world, of which

five were Bishops. Zenit

Deacon awarded British Empire Medal for rescuing trafficking victims

United Kingdom: A Catholic deacon in the United Kingdom has been awarded the British Empire Medal for his work serving seafarers and rescuing trafficking victims over the last eight years. Deacon Roger Stone is stationed in Southampton, UK where he has been a Port Chaplain serving crew members for the seven years. CNA

Pope's Lamborghini auctioned for nearly \$1 million



Vatican City: A custom Lamborghini Huracan that had been donated to Pope Francis last year was auctioned for nearly \$1 million on Saturday, with proceeds going to charity. The car was auctioned at Sotheby's in London, and went to an unidentified buyer for \$950,000, Fox News reports. The sports car had been donated to Pope Francis by the Italian automaker last year. It was presented to Francis in front of his residence at the Vatican's Saint Martha Guesthouse Nov. 15. He blessed and autographed it in the presence of top executives from the

auto company. All proceeds will go to three papal-selected charitable causes: the restoration of villages on the Nineveh Plain in Iraq, assisting victims of human trafficking, and missionary work in Africa. ZENIT

Indo-Nepal friendship tour marks 25 years of Don Bosco Nepal



Kadmandu: A college community radio in Darjeeling hills plans to set out on a historic “Indo-Nepal Friendship Tour” with a team of Radio Journalists visiting 7 institutions in Nepal managed by alumni of Salesian College Sonada (SCS) to mark its 80th year celebrations as well as 25th year of Don Bosco Society in Nepal. The road show also marks first anniversary of Radio Salesian – first college radio in Bengal and entire northeast India.

Film shows Salesians’ work to rescue girls from prostitution in Sierra Leone



Freetown, Sierra Leone: In Sierra Leone, Salesian missionaries are working to extract girls working as prostitutes from their lifestyle, providing them with shelter and helping them to be reunited with

family members or placed in adoptive homes. In 2016, Salesian missionaries working in Freetown realized there was a large number of girls who were selling their bodies to get food. “The youngest was 9 years old, and the oldest 17. Then the idea came up of creating a shelter as an alternative environment for them to help them get out of prostitution. They sell their bodies to earn \$1.80 to \$2.50 a day to pay for school because a lot of them go to school just like any other child,” Fr. Jorge Mario Crisafulli explained. The Salesian priest is the director of their Don Bosco Fambul Center for the Protection of Minors. He recently visited several European cities to present “Love,” a short Spanish language documentary which shows the suffering of girls forced to prostitute themselves and who are rescued from the streets. The priest has spent 23 years in Africa, and has been in Sierra Leone for three years.

Facebook CEO apologizes for blocking Catholic content



Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg faced questions from lawmakers about his company’s censorship of Catholic content during his two-day congressional hearing

following the revelation the millions of Facebook users' personal data had been compromised. Zuckerberg apologized and said that the company "made a mistake" in blocking the Catholic Theology degree advertisement by Franciscan University of Steubenville. CNA

Religious leaders attend a conclave



Indore: More than 1500 religious leaders in India concluded a two-day conclave resolving to reach out to the masses with true teachings of their faiths to check increasing religion-based hatred and violence. Representatives of various sects of the Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Sikh, Jain and Buddhist religions and sexual minorities attended the event on 11-12 April in Indore. It was jointly organized by three organizations working for religious harmony. "We see a rise in sectarian violence in the country and have yet to find a solution. Those spreading violence are not religious people. They do not understand the tenets of their religion" said Adil Sayeed, one of the organizers.

President of France calls on Catholics to engage politically

Paris, France, French President Emmanuel Macron stressed the importance of a Catholic voice in the

country's political debates, particularly on bioethical issues, in an address to the



French bishops April 9. "What I want to call you tonight is to engage politically in our national debate and in our European debate because your faith is part of the commitment that this debate needs," Macron told French bishops in a rare public meeting between Church and government leaders in France. While France was once referred to as the "eldest daughter of the Church," the country's legal secularism has required strict neutrality of the state in religious matters since 1905. In his speech Monday, however, Macron spoke of the important philosophical need for the Church's voice. "What strikes our country ... is not only the economic crisis, it is relativism; it is even nihilism," said Macron. "Our contemporaries need, whether they believe or do not believe, to hear from another perspective on man than the material perspective," he continued.

Laugh- tonic



A teacher asked her students to use the word “beans” in a sentence. “My father grows beans,” said one girl. “My mother cooks beans,” said a boy. A third student spoke up, “We are all human beans.”

In a Catholic school cafeteria, a nun places a note in front of a pile of apples, “Only take one. God is watching.” Further down the line is a pile of cookies. A little boy makes his own note, “Take all you want. God is watching the apples.”

Teacher: “What is the chemical formula for water?”

Student: “HIJKLMNO.”

Teacher: “What are you talking about?”

Student: “Yesterday you said it’s H to O!”

Teacher: “Anyone who thinks he’s stupid may stand up!”

Nobody stands up

Teacher: “I’m sure there are some stupid students over here!!”

Little Johnny stands up

Teacher: “Ohh, Johnny you think you’re stupid?”

Little Johnny: “No... i just feel bad that you’re standing alone...”

A father who is very much concerned about his son’s bad grades in math decides to register him at a catholic school. After his first term there, the son brings home his report card: He’s getting high marks in math. The father is, of course, pleased, but wants to know: “Why are your math grades suddenly so good?” “You know”, the son explains, “when I walked into the classroom the first day, and I saw that guy on the wall nailed to a plus sign, I knew one thing: This place means business!”

A student comes late to school. His teacher asked him “Why were you late to school?” Student: “My mom and dad were fighting.” Teacher: “What does your parents fighting have to do with you being late for school?” Student: “One of my shoes was in my mom’s hand and the other one was in dad’s hand.....”

SALESIAN WORLD

LOCAL NEWS

13 Months Solar Power; new venture for Salesians in Ethiopia



Mekanissa: In an effort to walk in the path of Self-sustainability and become a self-supporting province, the AET province of Ethiopia in the East African region is becoming a stunning model as it has launched a Solar campaign in the province almost two years ago. The Solar campaign which took the shape of the “13 Months of Solar Power in Ethiopia Project” has been totally funded by the ADA (Austrian Development Agency). The project includes the installation of solar panels in many of the salesian centers, ‘Training of the Trainers’ program carried out in many TVET colleges of the province, Solar awareness campaign in the academic schools through leaflets and pamphlets, Symposiums and discussions held at national level on the topic of renewable energy, in addition to the solar departments opened in the four technical schools run by the Salesians in Ethiopia, namely Adwa, Mekanissa, Dilla and Gambella. As part of the program, from 22nd January to 02nd February was

held a two weeks training program for all the federal TVET teachers of Ethiopia. The training was entirely coordinated by Br. Christof Baum SDB, Mr. Alemseged from PDO and two electric teachers from Don Bosco Adwa TVET College. The training program saw the active participation of 26 representatives who had come from the various regions of Ethiopia.

AET rejoices at the Perpetual Profession of Cl. Amanuel in Kenya



Nairobi: 26th February was a day of jubilation for AET as one of its sons made his perpetual commitment to the Lord by professing vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience. The function took place in the presence of many provincials and superiors of Africa and Madagascar region who had gathered for the Team Visit and Curatorium at Nairobi. As a preparation for the great event there was a day of recollection preached by Fr. Silvio Roggia at the Resurrection Garden in Nairobi. The religious ceremony of

the Profession began at 6 pm with the Eucharistic Celebration presided over by Rev. Fr. Estifanos Gebremeskel, the provincial of Ethiopia. At the end of the Eucharist Cl. Amanuel also expressed his gratitude for the fine way the event was organized by the community of Utume.

Salesian Cooperators meet in the Salesianum



Addis Abeba: On 04th March 2018, the Salesian Cooperators met together in the Salesianum at Gotera for their monthly meeting. The meeting began with the prayer led by the President of the Salesian Cooperators Mr. Tesemma. After the brief prayer, the input of the day was given by Fr. Chrys Saldhana who gave an impressive input on planning mentality. He spoke extensively on 'what is a plan?', 'why a plan?', and 'how to draw up a plan?'. Taking up some practical situations, Fr. Chrys gave insights into setting up a goal, and how to arrive at lines of actions through a process of situation analysis, drawing up objectives, finding causes and roots of the problem. The input was highly appreciated by every participant. After the presentation of Fr. Chrys there was a special session by Abba Isidoro for the aspirants to Salesian cooperators. In the end there was also the presentation of the draft of the annual action plan of

the Salesian cooperators.

Listening and Moving: Meeting with young people in Mekelle and Zway



Zway: "Listening and Moving", was the title of the one day encounter organized for young people in the north (Makelle) and south (Zway) by the Youth Ministry Department of AET. Abba Isidoro Apostoli the provincial vicar and Abba Lijo Vadakken the Youth Ministry delegate were the responsible behind the organization of such a meet. The meeting focused on meeting with young people from various walks of life of different religious backgrounds to discuss the various questions proposed in the pre-synodal final document. The meeting witnessed an active participation of the young people both in the north and in the south. The young people were invited to speak on various topics like formation of personal identity, relationship with others, relationship with technology, preoccupations of the future, relationship with Jesus and with the Church, vocational sense of life etc. Apart for an initial resistance in regard to sharing of personal issues, the young people later showed a remarkable openness in discussing various issues. The afternoon session was meant for answering the questionnaire that was

made for the occasion. The results of the meetings will be gathered together and sent to the Pope through Abuna Roberto Bergamaschi who will be the official representative of Bishops to the Synod in the Vatican.

Technology at the service of the Mission



Rome: A seminar was held in Rome from Monday 16 April, for the leaders and operators of the Salesian Missionary Offices, the Planning and Development Offices, the foundations and other Salesian Organizations involved in communication activities, funds and promotion of development. The theme of the seminar was digital marketing, with “Technology at the service of the mission” as the chosen motto. At the seminar, held until Saturday, April 21, at the “Fraterna Domus” of Sacrofano, near Rome, 65 people participated, representing NGOs and structures of the Salesian Family of all five continents. In the first working session the basics of digital interaction and the basics to develop a digital marketing program were examined: from the analysis of the ease of navigation of the institutional website, to the reading of the statistics on their web visitors, to digital campaigns dedicated to specific projects etc. Brother Cesare Bullo, the

PDO director, Abba Lijo Vadakken the delegate for Social Communications and Mr. Surafel the staff of PDO are attending the 4 days meeting in Rome.

“Quality Education, our priority”, the Provincial reminds the young clerics.



Debrezeit: From 1 to 3 of May was held a meeting of the Practical trainees as part of their initial formation. The meeting began in the provincial house with a session from the volunteer of Amici del Sidamo Ms. Laura who invited the clerics to reflect upon their call to be generous and offer free service to the young people who are in need. She also gave them an idea of the work that was being carried out in Nigat which is a center opened for the women on the street. The second part of the meeting was held in Debrezeit under the guidance of Abba Isidoro who animated the group in different moments of prayer and sharing. There was also an intervention from the Provincial Abba Estifanos who spoke to the clerics about the Quality Education campaign that will be carried out by the AET province in the coming years. The Second day was dedicated for a walking picnic to Zukala, a nearby mountain which was a moment

of sharing and fraternity for all the clerics. The third and final day was animated by Abba Lijo, the Youth Ministry Delegate of the province who also gave the clerics an idea of the Quality Education Campaign of the province through the video that has been produced by the province in this regard. Later there was a moment of discussion and sharing among the clerics on the same topic of quality education.

**“Don’t forget your Salesian Roots”,
Abba Samuel reminds the Past Pupils**



Adigrat: Feeling once again part of the Salesian Family, it was a home-coming feeling for all the Past-pupils who had gathered on 4 May for a friendly get-together at Don Bosco Gola’, Adigrat. The meeting was organized by Abba Sebhat Hadgu, the Rector of the Post-novitiate house at the request of Abba Samuel Abraha who holds the role of animating the Past-Pupils’ Association in the province of AET. During the meeting the participants were exhorted to never forget their Salesian roots but be always proud to keep their Salesian identity as Salesian Past-pupils. During the discussion that followed many of the Past Pupils expressed their gratitude for having received the Salesian formation and were happy in their life to be always known as alumni of Don Bosco.

**“His Passport was Love of God”
remembrance of Abba Elio at Zway**



Zway: 13th May was a red letter day in the history of Zway Don Bosco, as it commemorated the 25th anniversary of the death of Abba Elio, the great Italian missionary who had worked and died in Zway 25 years ago. People from all walks of life, belonging to different religions and denominations were already at the Don Bosco compound starting from the previous day to prepare the place and surroundings for this great occasion. During the Holy Eucharist which was presided over by Abuna Abraham Desta, his excellency exhorted the faithful to remember the beautiful legacy left behind by Abba Elio. “His passport was Love of God, which made him to leave his own beloved nation and become part of Ethiopia”, the Bishop reminded the people. After the Solemn Eucharistic Celebration there was a football match between the Salesians and friends of Abba Elio, which was followed by moments of fraternity, cultural programs and lunch for all the people of the locality and the invited guests.

Vocational pastoral ministry

*as call to growth in the capacity of
accompanying the youth*

Reading attentively the Preparatory Document for the coming Synod of Bishops on 'Young People, Faith and Vocational Discernment' we can discover a clear invitation

- to give quality to our youth ministry

- and to widen the vocational ministry

creating a symphonic unity in view of a reciprocal benefit. In theory and in practice youth ministry and vocational ministry go often separately, and very few youth ministry thinkers and operators believe that the vocational dimension is the font and apex of all youth ministry. Do we really believe that the youth personal accompaniment in a vocational sense is an ecclesial duty towards all youth and their proper right?

Referring to the Message of Pope Francis

to the participants to the International Congress on "Vocational ministry and consecrated life. Horizons and hopes" held last December in Rome, this article would like to present some passages, as Pope's convictions, on the theme of vocational ministry.

First declared conviction is this one: speaking of vocational ministry means to affirm that every pastoral activity of the Church is oriented - by its own nature - to vocational discernment and that the vocational service must be considered as the soul of all evangelization and all pastoral work of the Church.

Second conviction affirms: vocational ministry has its more adequate humus in the youth ministry; youth ministry and vocational ministry must go hand in hand. Vocational ministry lays, springs and develops in the youth ministry. On its side, the youth ministry that wants to be dynamic, completed, efficacious and truly



formative, must be open to the vocational dimension. It means that the vocational dimension of the youth ministry is not something that must be proposed at the end of the process or to a particular group sensitive to a specific vocational call, but it must be proposed constantly along all the process of evangelization and education to faith of adolescents and youth.

The third conviction concerns the primacy given to prayer, because – considering that vocation is always God’s gift – the vocational call and the answer to such vocation can be heard only through prayer.

From these convictions rise some challenges that we are called to face as operators of vocational youth ministry and specifically:

- the one of the trust, that does

not fear to offer a courageous proposal, evangelically demanding and at the same time deeply human;

- the one of the clearness of mind, that helps us not to lose the compass of life, to keep our sight on things that really matter, in a present time dominated by uncertainty and confusion;

- the one of the conviction, that the following of Jesus Christ is a worthy affair and the total self-giving of oneself for the Gospel is a beautiful adventure that deserves to be lived.

Finally Pope Francis delineates some aspects that must characterize our vocational youth ministry; it must be:

- + diversified, since the Lord calls everyone by name, with his/her own story and to everyone He offers and asks a personal journey;

+ narrative, since the ministry of 'contagion', the ministry of 'come and see', is the real evangelical vocational ministry;

+ ecclesial, that means inserted in a solid ecclesiological vision and in a sound theology of vocation, where all vocations are proposed and appreciated;

+ evangelical, since it should start from the Jesus of the Gospel, as centre of every Church ministry, in order to form true disciples of Jesus;

+ accompanied, because in the youth ministry it is necessary to accompany the young, walk with them, listen to them, provoke them when they are 'on the sofa', so that they may be taken to the encounter with Jesus, to listen to and answer to His call, freely and responsibly;

+ consistent, according to the logic of the seed, that must be sowed and patiently wait its growth so that one day it may produce fruit;

+ youthful, that means dynamic, involving, joyous, full of hope, audacious, trust-giving.

I hope these simple notes, as referred to Pope Francis, may increase our interest and readiness in offering a beautiful service of vocational accompaniment to the young entrusted to our care.

Abba Aristide Mercandalli SDB



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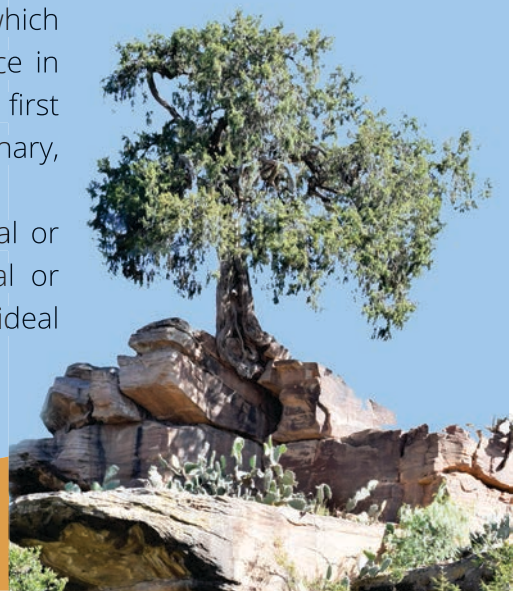
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