Canada and Eastern USA

# Salesian Family Snippets

News of the Salesian Family Near and Far

## I'M A SALESIAN AND I'M A BORORO

Today was a great day of life shared with indigenous people.

#### LOVE IN THE DREAM

The world needed heavenly assistance, especially for the young and the poor.

Volume VI, Issue 4 | April 2024

#### Volume VI, Issue 4 | April 2024



**In This Issue** 





#### LETTER OF THE RECTOR MAJOR

I'm a Salesian and I'm a Bororo	03
STRENNA 2024	
<b>Love in the Dream</b> "Help on the Way" and Don Bosco's Dream	05

#### IN, WITH, AND FOR THE CHURCH

<b>Remembering a Pioneer of Change</b> Centenary Year of Mother Caterina Daghero, FMA	07
<b>Cycling to Heaven</b> New Book on St. Artemides Zatti	08
150th Anniversary of the Founding of the Association of Salesian Cooperators	09

Foundations of a Lay Association

#### IN THE SALESIAN FAMILY KNOW

#### **Salesian Family Gatherings**

II

First Virtual Formation on the History of the Salesian Cooperators Don Bosco Prep Students Visit St. Dominic Savio Center How a Catholic School in Iowa Celebrates the Feast Day NAC Catechetical Directory for Catechesis Conference

#### OUR FAMILY ALBUM

Requiescat in Pace

14

#### IMPORTANT DATES

April 21: World Day of Prayer for Vocations April 26: World Day of Gratitude for FMA Mother General Sr. Chiara Cazzuola, FMA April 27: Servant of God Sr. Antoinette Bohm, FMA



Visit https://salesians.org/ to download and view this current issue and https://donboscosalesianportal.org/sf-snippets-archives/ to download and view previous ones, including this issue at a later date.

The cover photo shows a young Boi-Bororo girl receive a blessing as she kisses a cross given to her by Cardinal Ángel. Additionally, the cover photo is courtesy of Agenzia Info Salesiana (ANS) Photos featured on the "In This Issue" page courtesy of Canva Pro



Cardinal Ángel with the Boi-Bororo people during his visit to Meruri, Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil. Courtesy of Agenzia Info Salesiana (ANS)

#### I'm a Salesian and I'm a Bororo

Diary of a Happy and Blessed Missionary Day THE MESSAGE OF THE RECTOR MAJOR CARDINAL ÁNGEL FERNÁNDEZ ARTIME, SDB

Dear friends of the *Salesian Bulletin*, I'm writing to you from Meruri in the state of Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil. I write this greeting almost as if it were a journalistic report, because it has been only twenty-four hours since I arrived in the middle of this Brazilian state. But my Salesian confreres arrived 122 years ago, and since then we've always been present in this mission in the midst of forests and fields, accompanying the life of this indigenous people.

In 1976, a Salesian and an Indian were robbed of their lives with two gunshots by *facendeiros* (great landowners). They are the Servant of God Rodolfo Lunkenbein, a Salesian, and the Indian Simão Bororo, killed because the landowners believed that the Salesians of the mission were standing in the way of their appropriating more land that belongs to the Boi-Bororo people.

Yesterday, we had the joy of experiencing many simple moments. We were welcomed by the indigenous community upon our arrival and greeted each other—without haste because here everything is unhurried. We celebrated Sunday Mass, shared rice and *feijoada* (bean stew), and chatted from time to time. For the afternoon, they'd prepared a meeting for me with the leaders of the various communities. A few women chiefs were present; in several villages, a woman has the ultimate authority. We chatted. They shared their thoughts with me and presented me with some of their needs.

During one of these moments, a young Salesian, a Boi-Bororo, took the floor. He's the first Bororo to become a Salesian after 122 years of our being together in this land. This also speaks to us of the need to give things time. Things are not as we think and want them to be in today's efficient and pragmatic world.

This is how this young Salesian spoke before his village, his people, and their leaders or authorities: "I'm a Salesian but I'm also Bororo; I'm Bororo but I'm also a Salesian. The most important thing for me is that I was born in this very place, that I met the missionaries, that I heard about the two martyrs, Fr. Rodolfo and Simão, and that I saw my town and my people grow—thanks to the fact that **my people walked together with the Salesian mission and the mission walked together with my people**. This is still the most important thing for us: to walk the road together."

I thought for a moment of how proud and happy Don Bosco would be to listen to one of his Salesian sons and member of this people (like other Salesians who come from the Xavante or the Yanomani peoples). At the same time, I assured them during my talk that we want to continue to walk alongside them and we want them to do everything possible to continue to care for and save their culture—and their language—with our full help. I told them that I'm convinced that our presence has helped them, but I'm also convinced of how good it is for *us* to be with *them*.

In the early days of our journey as a congregation, Don Bosco sent his first missionaries to Argentina. We are a congregation recognized for our charism of education and evangelization of young people, but we are also a very missionary congregation and family. From the beginning up to today, there have been more than 11,000 *SDB* Salesian missionaries and several thousand sisters, Daughters of Mary Help of Christians. Today, our presence among this indigenous people, which has 1,940 members and continues to grow little by little, makes perfect sense after 122 years together because they're on the margins of the world—a world that sometimes doesn't understand that it must respect who they are.

I also spoke with the matriarch, the eldest of them all, who came to greet me and tell me about her people. After a beautiful torrential rainstorm, we sat down at the site of the martyrdom, to recite the Rosary with great serenity on a beautiful Sunday evening (for it was already dark). There were many of us there, representing the reality of this mission: grandmothers, grandfathers, adults, young mothers, babies, small children, consecrated religious, and lay people—a great richness in the midst of the simplicity of this little part of the world that lacks power but that's also chosen and loved by the Lord, as He tells us in His Gospel.

I know that we'll remain here, God willing, for many years to come, because one can be a Bororo and a son of Don Bosco, and a son of Don Bosco and a Bororo who loves and cares for his village and his people.

In the simplicity of this meeting, today was a great day of life shared with indigenous people—a great missionary day.



Cardinal Ángel poses with a Boi-Bororo woman and holds her baby. Courtesy of Agenzia Info Salesiana (ANS)

66

Don Bosco's life is full of significant encounters, of words whispered in the ear, of glances that pierced the heart and soul.

THE RECTOR MAJOR CARDINAL ÁNGEL FERNÁNDEZ ARTIME, SDB



Cardinal Ángel elevates the Host at Holy Mass. Courtesy of Agenzia Info Salesiana (ANS)





Posing in front of Don Bosco's house, the site of his Dream at Nine Years Old, with General Councilor for Social Communication Fr. Gildásio Mendes dos Santos, SDB, (center) and some of our fellow 2023 International Salesian Bulletin Conference attendees in April 2023. Photo by Mrs. Rosina DiFelice, Salesian Cooperator

#### Love in the Dream "Help on the Way" and Don Bosco's Dream

#### BY MS. JULIA ST. CLAIR, SUE PROVINCE COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

One of my favorite bands of all time is the Grateful Dead. Most of you might wonder, "What does the Grateful Dead have to do with Don Bosco and his dream of nine years old?" One of my favorite Grateful Dead songs is entitled "Help on the Way." Before it transitions into "Slipknot," the vocals within the song conclude with this line: "making it, too; without love in the dream, it'll never come true."

Think about those last nine words: "Without love in the dream, it'll never come true." This is true of all our dreams, and it is especially true of Don Bosco's dream. There is so much love conveyed in Don Bosco's dream of nine years old—love of and for God, Jesus, Mary, the Church, and the young and the poor. We can also see God's, Jesus', and Mary's love for Don Bosco and us—as they entrusted him out of everyone in the world with such a mission. Let's let that sink in—out of anyone on this planet, from kings and emperors to presidents, prime ministers, senators, and soldiers, the Lord chose a young boy for this mission. Was he a young boy born into royalty, perhaps from one of the great European superpowers like Russia or Spain? No. Was this boy at least born into a prominent, noble family, or at least "new money" with immersive wealth? No; on the contrary, he was a poor boy from Piedmont with a heart of gold under the care and guidance of his widowed mother.

Indeed, it was his mother, Mamma Margaret, who nurtured his relationship with Our Lady as she raised him and taught him to pray. Moreover, this young boy's compassion, empathy, and trademark loving-kindness would take him through the ranks of formation, priesthood, and the formation of his own order: the Salesians of Don Bosco. God chose this young boy for his mission because this young boy's love for the young and the poor inspired everyone he encountered, from the boys at the Oratory to benefactors to even Bl. Pope Pius IX himself. If Don Bosco did not have any love in his dream of nine years old, he would've dismissed it and never thought back on it again. Instead, Don Bosco used his dream as the driving force that perpetually propelled his life's work.

Moreover, the title of the song, "Help on the Way," can apply to the purpose, meaning, and message of Don Bosco's dream of nine years old. The world needed heavenly assistance, especially for the young and the poor. Although the Industrial Revolution brought forth positive economic evolution, it exploited and demoralized workers. It also heavily relied on child labor, and these children often worked long hours (sometimes up to twenty hours) under horrific conditions (especially in the factories). Most of them were poor, and many of them had no families or homes. To the average poor, young person, their only "hope" seemed to be a life of crime in order to survive. This would lead them to having criminal records and becoming what we today call "products of the system." Historically, children rarely had it easy, and the mid-1800s only increased their woes, especially the ones who worked and had to support themselves and sometimes their families, too. God needed to send someone to help them. Indeed, as our beloved secretary, Jo-Ann Donahue, here in New Rochelle remarks, "There's got to be a better way." So, God sent "Help on the Way," and gave directions to a young boy one night in his sleep. To drive the point home fully, the Lord chose to have young Don Bosco notice that the physical marks he experienced in his dream remained on his body once he woke up.

When we step back from our current reality and place ourselves in the shoes of a person who lived during Don Bosco's lifetime, we can see that what he achieved has been extraordinarily miraculous. Don Bosco changed the path of the average poor, young person through his Oratory. He provided a haven and sanctuary to keep the young boys of Turin safe, provided them with physical and spiritual nourishment, and trained and mentored them in trades that would carry them throughout their lives. It didn't happen overnight—and it all began with Don Bosco's Dream of Nine Years Old. Children who could've grown to have become labeled as thieves and murderers instead blossomed into great tradesmen, such as printers, tailors, and shoemakers. Some of them even realized their vocations to live as priests and Brothers. Yet all this would've been impossible if it had not been for Don Bosco's dream and the love he carried within it.

Furthermore, the "love in the dream" helps it come true and connects us all. Ever full of love, dedication, and passion for the young, Don Bosco remarked before his death that he "wished [he] could've done more." The love in his dream—all his dreams, especially the Dream of Nine Years Old—carried Don Bosco throughout his lifetime and beyond. Indeed, the "love in the dream" came true, and it continues to do so through all of us within our great Salesian Family.



Save the date for this year's Mary Help of Christians Festival at the Marian Shrine Designed by Sr. Denise Sickinger, FMA

She laid her hand on my head and said, 'In good time, you will understand everything.'

> DON BOSCO ON HIS DREAM AT NINE YEARS OLD





Mother Caterina Daghero, FMA Courtesy of www.salesiansisters.org/

## Remembering a Pioneer of Change

**Centenary Year of Mother Caterina Daghero, FMA** 

#### BY THE MOTHERS OF THE FMA GENERAL COUNCIL

February 26, 2024, marked the centenary of the death of Mother Caterina Daghero who, at only 25 years of age, replaced Mother Mazzarello in the leadership of the Institute. It was a task that she carried maternally and wisely, with authority and missionary zeal for 43 years. Hers is a figure to be rediscovered and fundamental to understanding the dynamics of consolidation and development of our Institute in a period marked by countless transformations in the world, Church, and Salesian Family.

During this centenary year, some publications and initiatives will allow us to study deeply this woman who was called "the dearest of Mothers." Sr. Catherine knew and was accompanied by Don Bosco both in her first formative experiences in contact with the reality of youth in Turin, different from that of Nizza, and at the beginning of her task as Superior General.

Surely, the most difficult and painful moment for her was the separation of our Institute from the Salesian Congregation, requested by the Holy See after the issuing of *Normae secundum quas* (1901). Yet, that pruning revealed the solidity of the Institute and its charismatic potential. Mother Catherine and all the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians could count on the discreet and wise fatherhood of Fr. Michele Rua, as a guarantee of fidelity to the same original spirit. She said with determination, "We belong to Don Bosco; we must think, do, pray, live, as he taught us." Also, "Where our work is not yet present, we must go. We must bring the spirit and Our Lady of Don Bosco."

During her government, the Institute obtained recognition of Pontifical Right and initiated the cause of the beatification of Mother Mazzarello. With the valuable collaboration of the General Councilors and with bold faith, she continued to send the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians to the most distant mission places, so much so that, at her death, the Institute was present in thirty-four nations on five continents. She made over 400 journeys, America included, with the desire to "see for herself" and be with her daughters with motherliness and understanding, having clear the goal of the mission to be reached with open-mindedness and courageous determination.

In the wake of Don Bosco who, in his "dream at nine years," had received the mandate, "Not with blows, but with meekness and charity... with obedience and knowledge..." Mother Daghero promoted not only catechetical and social works, but also the Normal Schools for the formation of qualified educators and teachers (religious and lay) according to the Preventive System of Don Bosco. In 1900, the process of equalization of the Normal School of Nizza begun in 1896 was accomplished. Many competent missionary educators and municipal teachers were formed in that school.

She also encouraged the opening of numerous festive oratories and the animation of the parish catechesis, exhorting, "Do not pay attention to toil, to sacrifices for the good of the oratorians... open, open the doors wide in the oratory... you will be formed by studying and teaching catechism." She courageously accepted that the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians would direct boarding schools for workers, hostels for university students and employees, and other educational and promotional works that responded to the needs of a world in transformation due to the Industrial Revolution, with the involvement of many girls in work outside the home. She was open to collaboration with lay associations and various administrations, to encourage assistance and preventive formation. Her charity and loyalty to the da mihi animas cetera tolle were the driving force behind her intense governing activity.

With this centenary, we begin a three-year period of preparation for the 150th anniversary of our first missionary expedition (1877), which followed that of the Salesians (1875). The celebrations will begin in 2025.



Mother Caterina Daghero, FMA Courtesy of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (FMAs)

Want to learn more about Mother Daghero? Read Mother Caterina Daghero: Woman of Wisdom and Vision by Sr. Giuseppina Mainetti, FMA, for free!



Cover of Artemides Zatti Salesian Brother: Cycling to Heaven Courtesy of Kristu Jyoti Publications

#### Cycling to Heaven

New Book on St. Artemides Zatti

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED ON WWW.ANS.ORG, 02/22/24

Kristu Jyoti Publications, Bengaluru (India) has published an English translation of Pierluigi Cameroni's book on Salesian Brother St. Artemides Zatti. His canonization by Pope Francis on October 9, 2022, is a source of immense joy and gratitude to God. A professed member of the Salesian Society of St. John Bosco, St. Artemides Zatti was born on October 12, 1880, in Boretto, Italy. He died on March 15, 1951 in Viedma, Argentina. Written by Fr. Pierluigi Cameroni, Postulator General, this latest publication will help us to know the human and spiritual story of this son of Don Bosco. It describes where Artemides lived and the gestures and language with which he embodied the message of Gospel compassion and Salesian joy. Reading this text will give us some guidelines to interpret the story of Artemides Zatti's holiness—a man with a heart sensitive to grace, ears attentive to the voice of God and his will, and eyes open to the needs and miseries of so many brothers and sisters.



Find further information about the book.



Salesian Cooperators of Hernando, FL, with Don Bosco Prep students during the boys' visit over winter break. Photo by Ms. Melody Candiloro, Salesian Cooperator

#### 150th Anniversary of the Founding of the Association of Salesian Cooperators

**Foundations of a Lay Association** 

On April 3, 1874, Pope Pius IX definitively approved the Constitutions of the Society of St. Francis de Sales. On the following April 13, the Congregation of Bishops and Regulars promulgated the decree of its approval. Thus, the founding of the Society of St. Francis de Sales was completed without the addition of the five articles related to "extern Salesians."

It did not take long for Don Bosco to go back and finish that part of his original goal that had yet to be achieved: to found an association for lay Salesians. In many ways, the foundation of this association was already being lived in the Oratory. The pillars of its identity had been recorded in the earlier draft edition of the regulations and constitutions Don Bosco had written in 1858 for the Society of St. Francis de Sales. This prior edition included five points on "extern Salesians."

In the years 1874-1876, Don Bosco laid out the basic understandings and workings of the Associates of the Congregation of St. Francis de Sales. These texts reveal a development of Don Bosco's thinking with regard to an association of lay Salesians. These understandings found their way into the Rule that Don Bosco wrote as the Constitutions of the Association of Salesian Cooperators.

These constitutions affirmed the lay vocation to holiness and mission by virtue of one's baptism. Lay Catholics in the

#### BY FR. TOM DUNNE, SDB

association would remain at home and live in the world as they sought perfection through a life of both pastoral charity and works of piety and religion. Don Bosco knew that a radical Christian movement that sought to transform lay Catholics, the Church, and society would require the formation of committed groups of true brothers and sisters who would give support to the members, especially the weakest of them (as a cord made up of many individual strands twisted together). This aspect of the Don Bosco's Association of Lay Salesians continued Don Bosco's earlier formation at the Convitto where "friendship groups" promoted the spiritual growth of the members and where Catholic groups were called to be aggressive in countering the effect of the secret societies (such as the Free Masons) with regard to the secularization of society.

Pope Pius IX approved the Association of the Salesian Cooperators on May 9, 1876. That approval was accompanied by the approval of the Constitutions that Don Bosco had prepared for the association: *Salesian Cooperators: A Practical Way of Contributing to Public Morality and to the Good of Society*. This Rule was a booklet of sixteen pages that contained eight paragraphs, a word of advice, and a formula for the Promise. (The text of this first Rule for the association is found in the appendix of *A Prophecy's Journey*.) The Rule follows quite closely the understandings that guided Don Bosco in developing the Association from the theology and pastoral ministry of the Convitto Ecclesiastico in Turin.

In the first paragraph, Don Bosco situates the Association of Salesian Cooperators as a Catholic movement for uniting Catholics to confront the forces of anticlerical liberalism. The second paragraph draws out the intimate connection between the Salesian Congregation and the Association. Like the Salesian Congregation, the primary purpose of the Salesian Cooperator Association is to work for the good of young people, on whom society's happy or evil future depends.

In the third paragraph, Don Bosco gives the purpose of the Salesian Cooperators as the spiritual good of the members through embracing a way of life that is, as far as possible, similar to that of religious life in community. The Holy Father considered the Salesian Cooperators to be a type of Third Order with the exception that Salesian Cooperators are called to share in the pastoral charity of the congregation, not only in the exercises of piety as is proper to a Third Order community.

The fourth paragraph relates the practical means, apostolic characteristics, and mission of the Salesian Cooperators. The practical means specified in this Rule are the same as those found in the Constitutions of the Salesian Congregation with which the Salesian Cooperators are expected to associate. The Salesian Cooperators were called to foster and promote novenas, tridua, spiritual exercises, and catechism. They were to follow through with fostering vocations to priestly and religious life.

The fifth paragraph deals with governance within the Association. It affirms the SDB Rector Major as the superior of the Salesian Cooperators. In the sixth paragraph, the Rule defines the relationship between the Association and the members of the Society of St. Francis de Sales. "These (SDBs) ought to consider the Salesian Cooperators as so many brothers [and sisters] in Jesus Christ and direct themselves to them every time their work can help in things which are for the greater glory of God and the benefit of the soul" (p. 30).

## SAVE THE DATE



Salesian Cooperator Elective Congress Friday, July 19-Sunday, July 21, 2024 Sacred Heart Retreat Center Newton, NJ

Mandatory for all councilors of the local centers, including the FMA and SDB Delegates

The seventh paragraph presents the commitment to regular communication between the members through reports that were shared with the members at least once a month. The last paragraph listed the practices of piety and lifestyle that helped Salesian Cooperator to live in a way that was similar to those who live in a religious community. Don Bosco recommended that the Salesian Cooperator have "modesty in dress, frugality in eating, simplicity in decorating one's home, reserve in discourse, and the exact fulfillment of the duties proper to one's state in life." He recommended the annual practice of the spiritual exercises, frequenting the Sacraments, and the recitation of the rosary to nourish the flame of their vocations.

Don Bosco's Rule of 1876 proposes an ideal of courageous and radical life which runs side by side to that of consecrated religious life. To the Salesian Cooperators, Don Bosco proposes a way of "Christian perfection" that moves through the "exercise of charity to one's neighbor and especially to youth at-risk."

Taken from Second Installment: Matching the Vision to a Structure Second Chapter of A Prophecy's Journey (pp. 26-32)



Participants of the first virtual formation session Courtesy of Mr. Nick Magrogan

#### First Virtual Formation on the History of the Salesian Cooperators

## BY MR. NICK MAGROGAN, SALESIAN COOPERATOR (SC), COORDINATOR OF THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL, EASTERN USA

In 2026, the Association of Salesian Cooperators will celebrate the 150th Anniversary of its foundation by St. John Bosco. In preparation for this important milestone, the World Council has begun a three-year journey of preparation focused on the themes of Remember, Renew, and Re-Launch.

### Register for the next session on Tuesday, April 9!

As we wrap up this first year, which is centered on Remembering, the Provincial Council of the Saint Philip the Apostle (Eastern USA) province has undertaken a virtual formation program based on the History of the Association. On Tuesday, March 12, the first of these gatherings took place. Led by Sr. Denise Sickinger, FMA; Fr. Tom Dunne, SDB; and Mrs. Denise Dunn, SC, the session focused on the origins of the Association, learning about the initial involvement of the lay community of Turin at Don Bosco's first oratory and the vision and foresight of our saintly founder to eventually create the Lay Association of the Faithful, including the crafting of a rule of life that is the basis of today's Project of Apostolic Life. Nearly thirty participants joined this first session, including a few from Canada and the Western United States. The virtual gathering included some much-needed time for catching up before joining in prayer, reflection, and discussion. We were reminded of the influence of many in St. John Bosco's life, including Mamma Margaret, Fr. Cafasso, and the lay tradespeople of Turin. We were also encouraged to remember some of the influential Salesians in our own lives. We remembered Don Bosco's ability to identify and respond to the needs of those around him, and we were encouraged to step up to answer our communities' needs. Additionally, we were reminded of St. John Bosco's unwavering commitment to God and bringing people, especially the young, closer to Him, and encouraged to do the same that day.

Our next session will take place on Tuesday, April 9, and we hope you'll register and join us! This month's presentation and materials will be made available on the Portal once the refresh is complete.



Don Bosco Prep students and Salesian Cooperators of Hernando, FL Photo by Ms. Melody Candiloro, Salesian Cooperator

#### Don Bosco Prep Students Visit St. Dominic Savio Center

#### BY MS. MELODY CANDILORO, SALESIAN COOPERATOR

On Monday, February 19, students from Don Bosco Prep in Ramsey, NJ, visited the St. Dominic Savio Center at Don Bosco's Children's Home in Hernando, FL. We were blessed with muchneeded help from Br. Travis Gunter, SDB; Melissa Frank, SC; and fifteen strong, hard-working young men, who raked up a truckload of leaves and also planted seeds on the grounds. This is their second annual year visit to our center, which fulfills their mission of charity work. Don Bosco's Children's Home kids, Salesian Cooperators, and aspirants were also present.

We all enjoyed a luncheon prepared by the center's coordinator, Pat Sobel, and her husband, Charles. Everyone then went to Liberty Park in Inverness, FL, where we had fun and enjoyed a game of volleyball. Finally, we ate lots of ice cream at Culver's.

It was a breath of fresh air to spend time with such pleasant, mannerly, industrious young men. We are so grateful for their visit, and we look forward to see them again next year.



Mosaic portrait of St. John Bosco Created by Mrs. Lisa Ewing, Salesian Cooperator

#### How a Catholic School in Iowa Celebrates the Feast Day

#### BY MRS. LISA EWING, SALESIAN COOPERATOR

Not all of us can live in or near a Salesian community. As a rather isolated Salesian Cooperator, I have challenged myself every year to find ways to make the feast day memorable for my school. This year may have taken the cake!

Our day began with all-school Mass, and we used the St. John Bosco memorial readings. As the feast day also fell during Catholic Schools Week on the day we honor those who serve our country, the student body wore red, white, and blue. During Mass, Fr. Jason Crossen's homily was about the service John Bosco did for the youth, which tied in living a life of service like those who protect us, and how each of us is called to find ways to serve others. He concluded by challenging the students to look to St. John Bosco as an example.

What is served for lunch on St. John Bosco's feast day? Bosco sticks, of course! Our kitchen celebrates with this meal each year. I don't even have to remind them anymore!



Students show off the finished product and celebrate St. John Bosco. Photo by Mrs. Lisa Ewing, Salesian Cooperator

The special project this year involved our first, second, and third grade classes. I obtained several different coloring pages of St. John Bosco, as well as the Br. Francis video that highlighted him. The students watched the video, one class even looked up a couple more, and they colored the page of their choice. I stopped in the classrooms so they could ask questions. Many of them centered around Grigio (some live in my neighborhood and have seen my big hound of that name). I concentrated on the Dream for those who are almost nine years old. They were amazed that God could talk to them, or reveal their vocation, despite their young age. At the end of the day, I gathered the finished coloring sheets and assured the kids they would see "parts" of them again. At home, I drew an outline of St. John Bosco, which I enlarged on a copier to fit a larger canvas. Then, I began the painstaking process of hole-punching colors out of their colored pages and creating a mosaic portrait. When very little was completed, I showed the kids the progress and their "holey" pictures. The final result took about 12 hours of punching and applying.

On Tuesday, February 13, we gathered together to celebrate St. John Bosco and present our finished product to our principal, Katie Selden. The kids are very proud of what they were a part of—many of the first graders are sure they can identify which dots came from their pictures. The portrait is currently residing in a place of honor in our trophy case. We now have St. John Bosco in our school!



Various coloring pages Photo by Mrs. Lisa Ewing, Salesian Cooperator



NAC Catechetical Directory for Catechesis Conference participants Screenshot taken from YouTube

#### **NAC Catechetical Directory** for Catechesis Conference

Click here or on the image above to watch!





**Requiescat** in Pace



Sr. Patricia "Pat" Winterscheidt, FMA Courtesy of Sr. Maria Colombo, FMA

#### Sr. Patricia "Pat" Winterscheidt, FMA





Let Us Live the Dream **That Makes Us Dream** 



Maria Auxilium Christianorum, ora pro nobis!



Our email address is:

- St. John Bosco

"If we are one in heart,

contact@donboscosalesianportal.org

Copyright © 2024 Salesian Family of Canada and Eastern USA. All rights reserved.