



SALESIAN

Canada &
Eastern USA

news



*The Eucharist, the Sacrament of Presence
Photo by Jan Pietruszka from Getty Images*

The Eucharist: the Source and Summit of All Things

By Fr. Provincial
Dominic Tran, SDB

From Monday, July 10, to Saturday, July 15, the SDB provincial council, with both Fr. Tim Zak and me, had the annual week of prayer and planning. The week also facilitated some aspects of the transition between the two administrations of the province. This included virtual meetings with some of the delegates and people in various provincial ministries.

The main working document was the province's Strategic Plan for 2022-2026. This plan was the result of the work of our 2022 Provincial Chapter, synthesized by Fr. Tim Zak and his provincial council.

In reviewing the strategic plan, we also reviewed the documents from which the plan was developed:

- The 2019 canonical visitation conducted by Fr. Timothy Ploch, then the regional councilor for InterAmerica;
- The instructions given to the province by the Rector Major, Fr. Ángel Fernández Artime, following that visitation; and
- the Rector Major's Action Program for the Salesian Congregation after General Chapter 28.

We also discussed how we could implement the directions that the Rector Major gave to the InterAmerica Region from the team visit in March 2023 in Lima, Peru.

Moreover, we also reflected on the direction Pope Francis is calling the Church to follow.

At the Pope's invitation to prepare for the Jubilee Year 2025, we spent some time studying the four constitutions of

HIGHLIGHTS:

The Eucharist: the Source and Summit of All Things - 1

SYM Corner - 2

Province News - 2

Birthdays and Prayer

Intentions - 6

the Second Vatican Council, focusing on the liturgy, the Eucharist, Scriptures, consecrated life, and the call to mission. The focus of our discussion was particularly on the Eucharist in view of the call for Eucharistic revival. Half of the members of the provincial council attended the retreat led by Cardinal Óscar Rodríguez, SDB, in June. His reflections on the Eucharist and his knowledge of the Holy Father's direction for the Church were very helpful.

At the end of the week, there seemed a clear point of convergence, that is the Eucharist. Of course, the Eucharist is always the point of convergence for us Christians. Yet, now, we are called to revive our faith, hope, and love in the Eucharist.

The Eucharist is the "**Sacrament of Presence**" of God in whom "**we live and move and have our being**" (Acts 17:28). As Salesians, our identity, spirituality, and ministerial style are powered and inspired by God's presence. By being with us, journeying with us, and listening to us, Jesus renews, sanctifies, then commissions us to be His presence. Jesus' presence makes us the sacrament of God's presence to one another and to the people God entrusts to us.

Having lived and while being embraced by the Eucharistic love of God, continuing Don Bosco's mission, we strive to bring all people to Christ in the Eucharist. Let's start with the young people and all people in our ministries. Let's continue this vast movement of people who will draw numerous young people to the Eucharist.

SYM Corner

Come Work with Us in the Provincial Office!

Apply today to be an office support manager in the province office of youth and young adult ministry.

This manager will report directly to the province delegate of youth ministry and the director of vocation ministry.

He/she will directly assist the province delegate of youth ministry and director of vocation ministry in administrative tasks and functions for all youth ministry sectors.

Read the full job description for all the details!

Like to apply or know anyone who would be a great fit? Contact Fr. Lou Molinelli, SDB, at frloumsdb@salesianym.com.

Province News



Fr. Tom Dunne, SDB, and Sr. Denise Sickinger, FMA
Photo by Ms. Victoria Weekley

Explore the Salesian Family Festival Q&A Sheet

(New Rochelle, NY – July 20) – The Salesian Family Festival is less than three months away! Since spaces are limited, Salesian Family members will receive priority during August.

To access the Q&A sheet, [explore the festival instructions](#). It includes information about the festival, including registration, the weekend in brief, and sponsorship.

Registering as a group? [Download this form](#), fill it out, and send it to Fr. Tom Dunne, SDB, at tdunnesdb@me.com or Sr. Denise Sickinger, FMA, at fmasfdelegate@gmail.com.

This is the last chance to register before the price increases by 20 percent on Wednesday, September 6!

Questions? Email Fr. Tom and Sr. Denise. Thank you!



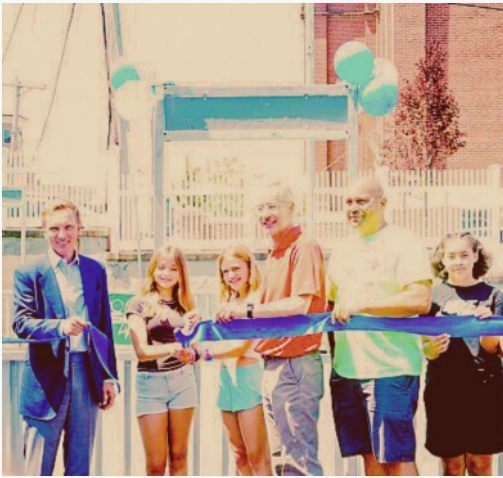
Young people at the ribbon-cutting ceremony
Photo by Br. Bob Metell, SDB

East Boston: New Playground Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

By Br. Bob Metell, SDB

(East Boston, MA – July 19) – On Saturday, July 8, the Salesian Boys and Girls Club's administration, staff, campers, and Salesian community of East Boston joined our partners Boston Scores for the ribbon-cutting ceremony of the new outdoor sports field.

The day began with some outdoor games and activities. After a few introductions of the sponsors and donors, a group of soccer and basketball players for Scores performed a soccer and basketball skills demonstration in the new sports area. After the ribbon was cut and the playground officially opened for fun and competitions, Scores members ran some soccer and



Preparing to cut the ribbon
Photo by Br. Bob Metell, SDB



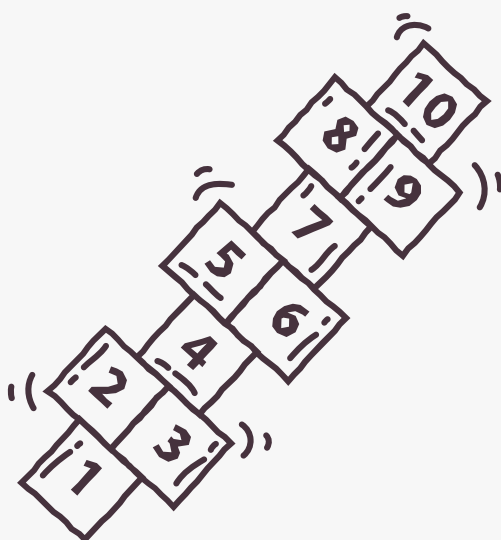
Br. John Castonguay, SDB, gives Holy Communion
Photo by Fr. Richard Authier, SDB



Mr. Sam Brown and our aircraft carrier
Photo by Fr. Richard Authier, SDB

basketball demonstrations. The event ended with a BBQ catered by Sammy's Deli, a significant contributor to the club and the East Boston community.

The outdoor playground area includes a hopscotch area and two boxball games. Currently for summer camp, a water slide occupies the area where the club's buses and van parking lot is located. The outdoor playground is just one part of a multipart renovation in the clubhouse, including a new exploration learning center, board room, and an elevator. A new multipurpose playing field is a block away from the main clubhouse.



Stay tuned for more updates on the other projects as they are completed.

Montréal: News from Happy Days Camp

By Fr. Richard Authier, SDB

(Montréal, QC – July 19) – Greetings from Montréal's Happy Days Summer Camp. Our camp is under the responsibility of the Don Bosco Youth Leadership Centre (DBYLC).

Our summer program operates started on Monday, July 3, and will end on Friday, August 11. Over 500 children and teens have registered, and we have an average daily presence of about 350 campers.

We are proud to have 50 coordinators and animators care for our young people. They were prepared by a two-month formation program. During these formation weeks, we covered topics such as learning games and songs, rehearsals of safety protocols, daily planning of activities, first aid training, Don Bosco and the Preventive System, a full-day Salesian spiritual retreat, and safe environment formation.

One of the important characteristics of our summer camp is "Faithspace," a

weekly catechism class where we try to go over the most important parts of the teachings of our faith. Plus we have Mass every Friday with our 350 children and teens. Again, we try to find creative ways to reach out to the hearts of the campers—with lively songs, little skits at homily time, and a strong presentation of Don Bosco, Mary and our Salesian saints. The respectful participation of the campers and leaders encourages us in our evangelization efforts.

This past Friday, we had a very special event. Building Manager Mr. Sam Brown put together a huge model of an aircraft carrier with small jet planes that had to land on the carrier. Kids of all ages tried to safely land their plane on the carrier!

As of Monday, we have reached the first third of our program, with four weeks to come. Please keep all our campers and leaders in your prayers. In turn we will pray for all the other summer programs in our Salesian province.



Fr. Branden Gordon, SDB (in yellow shirt) with Bosco Bicycle campers
Photo by Fr. Alain Léonard, SDB



Bosco Bicycle campers
Photo by Fr. Alain Léonard, SDB



Fr. Richard Putnam, and Laura Piranio
Photo by Fr. Dennis Donovan, SDB

Sherbrooke: Don Bosco Bicycle Camp

By Fr. Branden Gordon, SDB

(Sherbrooke, QC – July 18) – Here in Sherbrooke, we've completed the first two weeks of Don Bosco Bicycle Camp (Bosco Bicycle). This year's route—Le Trajet des Lacs—takes us south and west of the city toward the region's beautiful lakes: Massawippi, Magog, Memphremagog, and Brompton. Campers and monitors cycle about 50 km (or 30 mi) per day, which is no easy feat.

Throughout the day, campers receive spiritual formation. Each day begins and ends with a brief reflection on a Gospel theme, in the style of the Salesian Good Night. In the morning, campers are invited to reflect on the theme of the day in notebooks that are provided to them. There are also moments for prayer, which culminate in a Mass at a Benedictine monastery and a Penance service at a farm toward the end of the week.

Every stop in a town or at a church is an opportunity for students to discover the Catholic and Loyalist history of the

Eastern Townships. Each monitor is assigned a *pause culturelle*, during which they discuss the cultural significance of the place. Legends of lake-dwelling monsters, dragons, gargoyles, flying baboons—and even a witch who works as a mail carrier during the day—are woven into these talks for the entertainment of the campers.

The highlight of the first two weeks was a surprise visit by the ninth successor of St. John Bosco, Fr. Pascual Chávez Villanueva, who was accompanied by Frs. George Harkins and Tito Iannaccio. The presence of the Rector Major emeritus and our confrères at our camp Mass was a great blessing.



We're grateful for this and the many other graced moments of the first two weeks. We look forward to weeks three and four, entrusting them to the motherly intercession of Mary Help of Christians.

Stony Point: Shrine Prepares for Annual Rise Up! Festival

By Fr. Dennis Donovan, SDB

(Stony Point, NY – July 18) – Bring your lawn chairs and blankets on Saturday, August 12, for the annual Rise Up! Festival at the Marian Shrine (the Shrine). Shrine Ministry Coordinator Fr. Steve Shafran has been busy with various teams as they plan for this significant event that honors the Blessed Mother Mary in preparation for the solemnity of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven. Archbishop of New York Cardinal Timothy Dolan will preside at the liturgy.

The event begins at 2:00 pm ET. Activities include an open-air concert, games and lots of food, a wrestling exhibition, rides on a mechanical bull, and a three-ball chance at the dunk tank that will seat a few local celebrities! The day ends with an evening blaze of praise in front of the outdoor

altar and a spectacular display of fireworks produced by a commercial pyrotechnic firm. In the photo, Fr. Richard Putnam, SDB, and Laura Piranio planned the parking and security strategy for the event. Donna Valentino and Salesian Cooperators Walter and Cathy Famular are featured in the full-length photo, which is available on the online version of this article.



Friday Mass with campers at Happy Days Camp in Montréal
Photo by Fr. Richard Authier, SDB



Staff and campers of Bosco Bicycle in Sherbrooke
Photos by Fr. Alain Léonard, SDB



Salesian Family Festival FAQ sheet

Places are limited. We are giving priority to Salesian Family members during the month of August.

Last chance to register and make your tickets before PRICES INCREASE by 20% on September 6th!

Step 1 - Register:

[Salesian Family Festival October 2023 | Don Bosco Salesian Portal](#)

Spanish: [Fiesta de la Familia Salesiana de octubre de 2023 | Don Bosco Salesian Portal](#)

Step 2: Follow the link on the confirmation page to make an entrance ticket, book hotel rooms, and donate.

Each entrance ticket is the only pass you will need for the entire weekend.

The weekend, in brief:

EVENT/DAY	FOR WHOM	ENTRANCE "FEE"
ORATORY DAY at DBP FRIDAY 7:20AM - 3 PM	Local HS Students, Faculty, & Staff AND all LR attendees The Marian Shrine has generously offered to house the LR participants on Sunday night before the LR & Thursday night following it at no extra charge. Please contact Vicky Weekley.	NO \$ - no entrance ticket necessary Just a USABLE donation in VERY GOOD CONDITION : New/Used Book, Musical Instrument, Toy - or - Non-Perishable Food, Baby's/Mom's Needs One flat fee covers Fri PM-Mon PM:
FAMILY FESTIVAL FRIDAY 5PM - SUNDAY 4PM	All ages & vocations: families, Salesian Family members (including those in formation), young adults, adults of all ages	♦ Individual adults (18+): \$85 ♦ Couples (18+) and Tiny Families: \$125 ♦ Small Families: \$150 ♦ Large Families: \$175
SALESIAN FAMILY CONVOCATION SUNDAY PM - MONDAY PM	Salesian Family (incl. those in formation) and our collaborators	For groups, please see below
GROUP registrations (10+ persons): download this form & send to Sr. Denise/Fr. Tom		
Youth Group rate (up to age 17): \$75/youth - All minors MUST be accompanied by adults 18+		
<u>VERY IMPORTANT:</u> For anyone trying to buy entrance tickets from outside the USA, please contact Sr. Denise or Fr. Tom first!		

Please help us by:

- Encouraging all Salesian Family members and FMA and SDB alumni/ae to attend
- Inviting your family, friends, fellow parishioners, and fellow school parents to attend
- Becoming a sponsor/donor: [details Links to sponsor/donate: ENGLISH & SPANISH](#)
- Spreading the word via email/on your social media: [all you need is here](#)

COMPLETE DETAILS ABOUT THE FESTIVAL & ITS PRESENTERS, ETC.: [ENGLISH - SPANISH](#)

Questions? Please do not hesitate to reach out to Fr. Tom or Sr. Denise. Thank you!

See you in October at Don Bosco Prep!

Salesian Family Festival Q&A sheet, the links of which can be fully accessible via the link on page 2
Created by Sr. Denise Sickinger, FMA



A New Rochelle firefighter releases water for children at Camp Echo Bay to cool off during a hot summer day
Photo courtesy of Camp Echo Bay's Facebook

Birthdays
Salesian Holiness



Birthdays

July 22: Fr. John Puntino
July 22: Fr. Sean McEwen
July 24: Fr. James Horan
July 29: Fr. Kenneth Shaw
July 30: Fr. Louis Aineto
August 1: Br. Thomas Dion



Salesian Holiness

August 2: Bl. August Czartoryski

Prayers for Healing
Deceased



Prayers for Healing

Alejandro Acosta Lagaxio, *nephew of Fr. Raúl M. Acosta Zunini, SDB*
José María Acosta Zunini, *brother of Fr. Raúl M. Acosta Zunini, SDB*
Marsha Bickford, *mother of Fr. Craig Spence, SDB*
Vinny Camire, *nephew of Fr. Mark Hyde, SDB*
Vincent Carlino, *brother of Fr. Lenny Carlino, SDB*
Fr. Shiju James' *mother, nephews, and nieces*
Julie Kirkland, *Office Manager, St. John Bosco Parish, Harvey, LA*
Fr. Frank Kelly, *SDB*
Dan Morales, *former SDB*
Raquel Nash, *niece of Fr. John Nazzaro, SDB*
Robert Serio, *nephew of Fr. John Serio, SDB*
Ann Smith, *Salesian Family, New Rochelle, NY*
Julia St. Clair, *Province Communications Director, New Rochelle, NY*

Deceased

Bertha Bazile, *sister of Fr. Wilgintz Polynice, SDB*



Young people at Camp Mary Help hold the Swiss flag
Photo courtesy of Camp Mary Help's Instagram

"Let's leave something to Divine Providence!"

- Don Bosco



Published weekly by Province of St. Philip the Apostle
Salesians of Don Bosco, Canada and Eastern USA

Copyright ©2023 - Salesian Society, Inc.

All rights reserved.



Got news? Submit your stories to communications@salesians.org!