

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE PROVINCE OF ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE



(from left to right) Candidates Genaro Cantú and Luis Marquez, Provincial Fr. Dominic Tran, and Candidate Rowan Pham Credit: Fr. Dominic Tran. SDB

Welcoming Candidates and World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation

By Provincial Fr. Dominic Tran, SDB, and Bro. Christo Philistin, SDB

(New Rochelle, NY - August 27) -The Orange community has

welcomed three new candidates for the academic year of 2025-2026. They are Genaro Cantú, Luis Marquez, and Rowan Pham

Genero Cantú was a Salesian Lay Missioner, who served in Colima, Mexico. Luis Marquez is from St. John Bosco-St. James Parish in Chicago, IL. Rowan Pham graduated from Archbishop Shaw High School in Marrero, LA, this past school year. Last week also marked the first week that the five post-novices (Bros. Carlos Cerda, Lorenzo D'Alessandro, Jieo Tecson, Nicholas Jandernoa, and Christo Philistin) and new candidates came to live in the Orange community.

After two days of orientation, on Friday, August 22, they were divided into two groups and went to New York City to visit several sites. Please pray for the post-novices and the candidates as they all embark on the next step in their vocation journeys.

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Additionally, this year's World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation will be held on Monday, September 1. It begins the Season of Creation, which lasts through Saturday, October 4, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Read Pope Leo XIV's message for this year.

Everyone is welcome to submit articles in celebration of this year's Season of Creation. They can be either personal reflections or ecological happenings in parishes, schools, communities, and works. Please send them with photos to communications@salesians.org, in accordance with the submission guidelines.

SYM Corner



Two SGR participants with Dcn. Tom Junis (second from left) and Fr. Steve DeMaio (right), SDBs Credit: Vicky Weekley, Province Associate Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry

SGR Stony Point: Small but Mighty

By Fr. Steve DeMaio, SDB

(New Rochelle, NY - August 27) -

From Saturday, August 9, through Saturday, August 16, the province office of youth and young adult ministry animated a Salesian Gospel Roads (SGR) at the National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians (the Shrine) in Stony Point, NY. The program began with the Rise Up! Festival and ended with the first profession of the five novices.

We were a small but mighty group of 9 young people and 8 adults from three different local works. Three young people came from Our Lady of the Valley in Orange, NJ; another three journeyed from Salesian High School in New Rochelle, NY; and the last three came from Mary Help of Christians Academy (Mary Help) in North Haledon, NJ.

It was a beautiful week of prayer, service, and community. We worked mainly at the Shrine, but also helped at St. Gregory's Parish in Garnerville.

We also went into New York City with the Midnight Run to help with their outreach to the unhoused population.

One reflection from a student from Mary Help sums up the spirit of the week. She realized during one of the days of service at the Shrine that she was "giving back to the place that brought her back to the faith." She had attended the Valdocco Retreat the previous year and was grateful to serve at the Shrine, which many young people from her works considered to be a second home. I was filled with a lot of hope to see how the young people worked hard without complaining and were open to learning about Catholic social teaching. I'd like to thank the Salesian Family, especially Fr. Manny Gallo and the Shrine community, as well as the Salesian Cooperators from Stony Point, Port Chester, and Goshen, for their support throughout this week.

This summer, as a province, we sponsored three Salesian Gospel Roads, and we hope for a few more in the year to come. If you have any questions, or if you want to bring SGR to your local community, please contact the office of youth and young adult ministry.

OLGC Surrey Welcomes Back Gospel Roads

By Geezelle Chaves, Salesian Youth Ministry, Surrey, BC

(Surrey, BC – August 27) – After six years, Our Lady of Good Counsel (OLGC) Parish in Surrey held Salesian Gospel Roads (Gospel Roads). Gospel Roads is a week-long retreat where youths and young adults are inspired by St. John Bosco's love of the poor. At OLGC, participants spent the week volunteering at different worksites, such as soup kitchens, farms, and charities, and heard talks on aspects of Catholic social teaching.

This was my first experience of Gospel Roads, since I had been too young to join in previous years. I had heard all about what it was like, and the missionary spirit that seemed to radiate from friends who had experienced it inspired me to see what it was like for myself.

However, in the weeks leading up to Gospel Roads, I began to get cold feet. I was nervous about the length of the retreat, about getting out of my comfort zone and being put into unfamiliar, perhaps even dangerous situations. Above all, I had felt like my faith was wavering, and I feared what God wanted to reveal to me during the week. However, on the first night, as we sat in the church in reflection, I asked God why He had brought me here. He brought me back to the prayer I pray before Communion, but had overlooked:



Surrey Salesian Gospel Roads leaders and participants Credit: Yohmes Bantog

"Help me to spread Your love to others." From that point on, I opened my heart to whatever way He wanted to lead me.

I learned quickly what spreading Christ's love truly looked like. I met Him through the smiles of the people who received food from us at the soup kitchens, in the families that visited the food bank, and in the sweat as I painted a farm's fence in the blazing heat. Through the different worksites, God revealed to me that spreading His love wasn't a hard task. In fact, it was as simple as telling a joke at the dinner table or letting someone take a nap on your shoulder. He directed me towards the little things I often overlooked, and reminded me that His love truly is abundant, and I didn't need to look far for it.

As we shared our highlights and takeaways on the last day, a friend said something that wrapped the experience up perfectly: Gospel Roads was a place where "strangers became friends, and friends became family."

St. John Bosco was truly present with us that week, smiling with us and working alongside us, allowing all of us to experience Christ in our own ways. Although Gospel Roads itself has come to a close, the Salesian spirit still burns in our hearts. Inspired by the memories and friendships we made along the way, we carry within us the mission of spreading Christ's love wherever we go.

Province News



East Boston: Last Day of Summer Camp

By Bro. Bob Metell, SDB

(East Boston, MA – August 27) – The Salesian Boys and Girls Club's (the Club) summer camp ended on Friday, August 22. The Club bade farewell to its campers and a beloved staff member.

The last day's festivities began with the annual shaving cream fight. It is hard to say who was the most victorious in this playground brawl because many campers wore shaving cream, including yours truly, whether they wanted to or not. All had a good time.



Elizabeth Yepes takes a selfie with Bro. Bob Metell, SDB. Credit: Elizabeth Yepes

The annual "whipped cream pie eating contest" came next, where the campers get to feed or cover their favorite staff person with a cream pie. The day included a bounce house and bounce slide and ended with the annual end-of-year BBQ catered by Carlo's Deli, a neighborhood deli located a block away from the Club.

It also marked the last day of work for Elizabeth Yepes at the Club. She began working at the Club five years ago and was the Club's receptionist and membership secretary. She and Arianna Troville are the two staff members who greet the Club members as they enter the Club. They also greet parents and call the Club members to the front desk when it is time for them to leave (For safety reasons, only club members may go past the front desk). Elizabeth is no stranger to Club. She started coming to the Club when she was a young girl. I have known Elizabeth since she was a child.



I hope everyone has a healthy and safe remainder of the summer.



Fr. George Hanna embraces two of Mary Help of Christians' parishioners. Credit: Fr Mark Hyde SDR



By Fr. Mark Hyde, SDB, Pastor, Mary Help of Christians Parish

(Harvey, LA - August 27) -

Mary Help of Christians' monthly "Extraordinary People - Special Needs Night" was held at the Salesian Youth Center last week

The evening began with a salad with all the fixings and a spaghetti and meatball dinner. After dinner, there was time for games and socializing.

A highlight of the evening was the visit of Fr. Steve Ryan and Eugene. This dynamic duo gave the Good Night talk and ended by praying a Hail Mary with the group.



The evening concluded with a celebration of everyone who had an August birthday, accompanied by cake and ice cream.

During the evening announcements, it was noted that the handicapped ramp has been completed and is ready for use. The monthly Special Needs Sunday Mass was later held on Sunday, August 24, in the Cafetorium Church.



Port Chester: Time with Youth and Family

By Fr. Eddie Chincha, SDB, CYM, St. John Bosco Parish

(Port Chester, NY - August 27) -

Summer in St. John Bosco Parish in Port Chester has been a very busy one. We continued to feed over 200 people every day through the Don Bosco Community Center, celebrated 15 weekend Masses and 4 daily Masses, and offered retreats, summer camp, and other youth activities.

The parish's youth group took a trip to Lake Compounce in Bristol, CT, for a summer outing. Our middle and high school kids are growing in devotion to our Lady by praying the Rosary on Friday nights after some games. Above all, we supported the larger Salesian Family by going to the perpetual profession of our Salesian sisters in Haledon, NJ, and the



Port Chester Salesian Family at the FMA perbetual professions Credit: Fr Eddie Chincha SDB

first profession of our Salesian brothers in Stony Point, NY.

It is a blessing to have so many people, especially young ones, who want to be part of the Salesian movement!

Upcoming Events



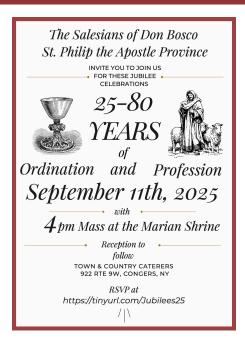
Stony Point: RSVP for Jubilees

By Bro. Travis Gunther, SDB, Delegate for Formation

(New Rochelle, NY - August 26) -The Salesians of Don Bosco, Province of St. Philip the Apostle, will hold this year's jubilees on Thursday, September 11.

The SDB jubilee celebration will begin with Mass at the National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians in Stony Point, NY, at 4:00 p.m. ET. After the Mass, a reception will follow at Town & Country Caterers in Congers, NY.

Please RSVP by Friday, August 29.



Part of this year's jubilee invitation Credit: Bro. Travis Gunther, SDB

Sept. 11:

Province Jubilees (Stony Point, NY)

Sept. 21: Special Needs

Mass (Harvey, LA)

Sept. 29: "Swing FORE Kids" Golf Tournament

(East Boston, MA)

Oct. 3-6: SLR Young Team (Stony Point, NY)

Oct. 6-9:

Salesian Leadership Retreat (Stony Point, NY)

Oct. 19: Special Needs Mass (Harvey, LA)

Nov. 20-22:

National Catholic Youth Conference (Indianapolis, IN)

Nov. 23: Special Needs

Mass (Harvey, LA)

Various: National Shrine Jubilee 2025 Events

(Stony Point, NY)

Need a date added?
Let us know by emailing us at communications@salesians.org.



September 2025 Necrology Credit: Julia St. Clair, Province Communications Director

- 2 **Bro. Daniel McConnell**, 24 Haverstraw, NY, 1964
 - 3 **Fr. James Curran**, 91 St. Petersburg, FL, 2012
- 3 **Fr. Eugene DeMartini**, 79 Rodella d'Alba, Italy, 1982
- 7 **Fr. Peter Mayerhofer**, 84 New Orleans, LA, 1964
 - 7 **Fr. Arthur Slomka**, 85 Warsaw, Poland, 1991
 - 7 **Bro. Julius Bollati**, 88 Boston, MA, 1996
- 9 **Fr. Bernard Gilliece**, 86 Edmonton, AB, 2018
- 11 **Fr. Eugene Palumbo**, 91 Wayne, NJ, 2013
- 13 **Fr. Romeo Trottier**, 83 Sherbrooke, QC, 2020
- 14 **Fr. Joseph Bajorek**, 95 Ridgewood, NJ, 2011
- 16 **Fr. Angelo Joseph Louis**, 85 Bronx, NY, 2001

- 17 **Fr. William Grant**, 82 Montevideo, Uruguay, 1963
 - 19 **Fr. Italo Rufo**, 82 Rome, 2012
- 20 **Fr. Gerard Pellegrino**, 70 Valhalla, NY, 2006
- 22 **Fr. Anthony D'Angelo**, 98 Tampa, FL, 2021
 - 25 **Fr. Joseph Perozzi**, 64 New Rochelle, NY, 1983
- 25 **Fr. Celestine Moskal**, 86 Stony Point, NY, 1985
 - 27 **Bp. William Piani**, 81 Cuernavaca, Mexico, 1956
 - 27 **Bro. John Chiabai**, 77 Haverstraw, NY, 1964
- 28 **Fr. Victor Andrisani**, 54 Paterson, NJ, 1964
 - 30 **Fr. John Ferrazza**, 63 New York City, 1921
- 30 **Fr. Attilio Giovannini**, 71 Turin, Italy, 1981

30 **Bro. Benjamin Natoli**, 73 Suffern, NY, 1998





Birthdays

August 30: Bro. Carlos Cerda **September 11:** Fr. John Langan





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Prayer Remembrances

All our senior confreres in Stony Point and Tampa Bro. Joe Ackroyd, SDB Alejandro Acosta Lagaxio,

nephew of Fr. Raúl M. Acosta Zunini, SDB

José María Acosta Zunini,

brother of Fr. Raúl M. Acosta Zunini, SDB **Jacob Anitra**, grandnephew of Bro. Tom Sweeney, SDB

Fr. Jan Bernas, SDB

Fr. William Bucciferro, SDB

Brody Dollinger, grandnephew of Fr. David Sajdak, SDB **Miriam Feliciano**, mother of Fr. Abraham Feliciano, SDB

Fr. Dennis Hartigan, SDB Fr. Frank Kelly, SDB

Lyse and Gilles Leonard, parents of Fr. Alain Leonard, SDB Ken Lindenfelser, brother-in-law of Fr. Dennis Hartigan, SDB Nicholas Magrogan, Salesian Cooperator and Past Pupil Lincoln McNamara, nephew of Adam Dupre, former SDB

Fr. Louis Molinelli, SDB

Fr. Frank Moloney, SDB (Australia Province) **John Myler**, former SDB

Theresa Notare, mother of Andrea Zimmerman, Province Delegate for the Salesian Family **Salvina Pace**, mother of Fr. Mike Pace, SDB

Fr. Georges Parent, SDB

Norma Reyes, aunt of Fr. Abraham Feliciano, SDB Janine Serio Durso, sister of Fr. John Serio, SDB Robert Serio, nephew of Fr. John Serio, SDB

Fr. Enzo Trigatti, SDB Bro. Henry Van der Velden, SDB

Deceased

Patrick Whelan, former SDB



"In every art one must be an apprentice before one can be a master."

- St. Francis de Sales

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