



A NEWSLETTER FOR THE PROVINCE OF ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE



Frs. John Nazzaro and Jim Marra, SDBs
Credit: Fr. John Nazzaro, SDB

Reflections on 9/11

By Fr. John Nazzaro, SDB, Director, Orange, NJ

Even though 24 years have passed since 9/11, the days that followed that dreaded day still linger in my mind, heart, and soul. As time passes, we sometimes forget the loss of innocent lives and the courageous first responders, who sacrificed so much with pride, dignity, and patriotism.

It is special to me because I shared being a chaplain at Ground Zero with my classmate, my best friend, and my brother, Fr. Jim Marra.

Fr. Jim called me the day after 9/11 and told me that the cardinal of New York, Cardinal Egan, needed priests

to volunteer at Ground Zero around the clock. Fr. Jim and I signed up for three 12-hour shifts from 3:00 p.m. till 3:00 a.m. It was mandatory that two priests accompany each another as a source of support for what the ministry entailed. At this time, Fr. Jim was pastor at Corpus Christi Church in Port Chester, and I was director at Salesian High in New Rochelle.

Traveling to N.Y. was difficult, and Mr. Louis Ruiz was able to drive us to Manhattan, where we were escorted to a hotel that housed the home base for FEMA. There we were debriefed about what we would encounter. We were taken by van through Battery Park,

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which was filled with people waving flags with patriotic signs and signs of gratitude for first responders. Once on site, we passed two priests who were leaving the site. One of them cried, and the other looked as though he were in shock.

We were fitted with oxygen masks and proceeded to the temporary morgue, which was a tent right in the middle of Ground Zero. The heat radiating at our feet was enough to melt your shoes, and the smell of sulfur was enough to gag you if you didn't have a mask on.

Our task was to bless the remains which were found and help the coroner ID the body part(s) and notify the Javits Center, which was used as a morgue since more remains were coming.

We blessed remains during those long hours, which seemed like an eternity. We consoled first



September 11 tribute
Credit: Canva Pro

responders who had lost brothers and sisters in law enforcement and the fire department. We consoled each other, seeing, as Fr. Jim put it, “pure evil.” This was Fr. Jim’s hometown, and he was a proud New Yorker.

I share this with everyone after all these years because it was difficult to talk about previously. But one thing I do remember is that my classmate, my best friend in the whole world, and my brother, Fr. Jim, shared this experience with me. It has been a bond through life and death since Fr. Jim passed away nine years ago. To our young men in formation and young Salesians, I pray you will have such a friendship of trust, concern, and bond of love that can come only from Jesus and His Mother. I miss Jimmy terribly.

After a year, Fr. Jim and I received a letter from the government thanking us for our service. I was asked to write a chapter of our experiences in a book which became a best seller, but refused the offer. Memories for me were for those who are not with us but are in my heart; they are at peace. Lord, may they rest in your peace.

Province News



View from Kuwohi Observation Tower in Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Credit: Amy Stockinger

Hope for Creation

**By Amy Stockinger, Formation
and Resource Coordinator,
Province Office of Youth and
Young Adult Ministry**

The theme for this year’s Season of Creation is “Peace with Creation.”

I was struck by the following sentence in the theme’s description: “To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and quiet, but to act, pray, change, and reconcile with Creation and the Creator in unity, metanoia (repentance), and solidarity.” (seasonofcreation.org) This reminds me that I cannot live my life in a passive hope, waiting for something to change. All of my hopes need to be grounded in God, personal conversion, and action. All of us are called to work as instruments of God in achieving our many different hopes.

In this jubilee year, we have been challenged to reflect on what hope means for each of us personally and as a Church. Now we are called to reflect more deeply on hope, particularly what is our hope for Creation and how are we willing to allow God to use our lives to bring about this change.

Some suggestions of where to start:

- Organize prayer moments that increase awareness among the young and other members of the community;
- Support politicians and policies that promote environmental care that affects the poor;



- Partake in service experiences that benefit the community and environment; and
- Create action steps that have a positive personal impact on the environment, e.g. reduction of consumerism and waste.



Cardinal Dolan embraces parishioners in Port Chester.
Credit: Fr. Eddie Chinch, SDB

Cardinal Dolan Visits Port Chester

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

(Port Chester, NY – September 24)

– On Saturday, September 20, the Salesian community was honored to welcome Cardinal Timothy Dolan to St. John Bosco Parish, where he celebrated Mass with the community. The parish's school children, altar servers, and parishioners participated in the Mass.



Cardinal Dolan expressed his deep affection for St. John Bosco and the Salesians. He was accompanied by his personal secretary, Fr. Ryan Muldoon, a Don Bosco Prep alumnus, who also expressed gratitude for the Salesian education he received at the Prep.

It was a great day to spend as a Salesian Family.



John Rapisardi '75
Credit: www.omm.com

New Rochelle: Salesian High Alumnus Honored

By Fr. Jim Heuser, SDB,
President, Salesian High School

(New Rochelle, NY – September 23)

Salesian High School, a school that prepares young men for life, warmly congratulates John Rapisardi, Class of 1975, and former 20-year trustee of Salesian, on being awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by Catholic Renewal.

At the Saint Francis Reception held at the New York Athletic Club in Manhattan on Wednesday, September 17, John was honored by 600 of his peers in the corporate restructuring industry for his integrity, humility, and charity, manifested throughout his exceptional career. While engaged in both national and international legal cases, he has always kept his eye singularly focused on serving those Jesus called "the least of these," the poor, the hungry, and the migrant.

John helped Catholic Renewal raise \$2.1 million this year to support the

emergency food programs of Catholic Charities of New York. Don Bosco stated that a Salesian education aims to prepare "honorable citizens and good Christians." The Salesian High School community is proud of John for being both, and for truly making a difference.



Port Chester: Parish Celebrates Multicultural Day

By Fr. Franco Pinto, SDB,
Interim Pastor,
St. John Bosco Parish

(Port Chester, NY – September 23)

– The Port Chester community had its traditional multicultural day on Sunday, September 21. It's a yearly event that brings all the cultures present within St. John Bosco Parish together under one roof. Besides food, there were cultural dances and performances that increased life to the event. The collaboration in setting up and taking down were beautiful signs of unity as much as the event itself. God bless all the parishioners of St. Bosco Parish.

Upcoming Events 

**East Boston:
Attend the "Swing
FORE Kids"
Golf Tournament
Next Monday**

The Salesian Boys & Girls Club's 7th Annual "Swing FORE Kids" Golf Tournament will take place on Monday, September 29, at the Winthrop Golf Club in Winthrop, MA.

For more information, sponsorship opportunities, or online registration to play and/or be a sponsor or donor at the event, [click here](#) or [visit the Club's Facebook page](#).

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. 16: Archbishop Shaw Open House (Marrero, LA)

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

Oct. 29-31: Annual Meeting for Coordinators of Youth Ministry (Newton, NJ)

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.



1 **Bro. Anthony Wolfe**, 81
Suffern, NY, 1994

3 **Fr. Angelo Bongiorno**, 93
East Boston, MA, 2006

7 **Fr. Dominic Massa**, 76
Philadelphia, PA, 1959

8 **Fr. John Divizia**, 97
Bronx, NY, 2003

10 **Fr. Peter Cattori**, 40
Reading, PA, 1918

13 **Fr. Dominic Cecere**, 42
Elizabeth, NJ, 1948

13 **Fr. Tomasz Grzegorzewski**, 64
Port Chester, NY, 2022

15 **Fr. Cornelius Monaghan**, 36
New York City, 1927

15 **Fr. Joseph Tyminski**, 89
St. Petersburg, FL, 2009

16 **Fr. John Baptist Baron**, 41
New York City, 1934

16 **Fr. John Faita**, 80
Montreal, QC, 1993

18 **Bro. Joseph Traina**, 71
New York City, 1991

19 **Fr. Ralph Simeone**, 60
Newton, NJ, 1981

20 **Fr. Joseph Caselli**, 88
Stony Point, NY, 1996

20 **Fr. Chester Szemborski**, 92
Suffern, NY, 2015

21 **Fr. Anthony Sokol**, 80
Suffern, NY, 1992

23 **Fr. John Murphy**, 87
Bronx, NY, 2001

24 **Fr. August Bosio**, 82
Moncalieri, Italy, 2000

24 **Fr. John Masiello**, 91
Tampa, FL, 2020

25 **Bro. John Vulpinari**, 86
Newton, NJ, 1953

25 **Bro. Jerome Cincotta**, 89
Tampa, FL, 2013

26 **Fr. Michael Foglino**, 79
Piosasco, Italy, 1938

27 **Fr. John Pietrzak**, 65
Elizabeth, NJ, 1950

29 **Bro. Michael Frazette**, 79
New Rochelle, NY, 1995

31 **Fr. Dominic Battistello**, 89
Tampa, FL, 1991

31 **Fr. Denis Kelleher**, 84
Bronx, NY, 2006



Multicultural Day at St. John Bosco Parish, Port Chester, NY
Credit: Fr. Franco Pinto, SDB





Birthdays
Salesian Holiness

Birthdays

September 28: Fr. Sasika Lokuhettige
September 29: Bro. Thomas Sweeney

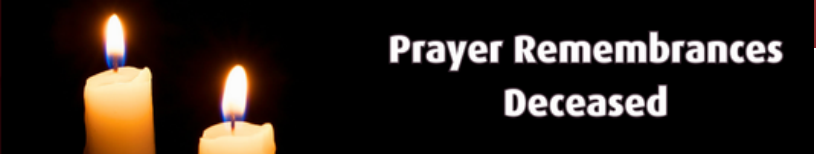


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Want to know more about how
you can make an impact?
Explore all the options to give and donate!

Salesian Holiness

October 5: Bl. Albert Marvelli



Prayer Remembrances
Deceased

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
Todd Lee, father of Daniel Lee, former Salesian novice
Gilles Léonard, father of Fr. Alain Léonard, SDB
Ken Lindenfelser, brother-in-law of Fr. Dennis Hartigan, SDB
Nicholas Magrogan, Salesian Cooperator and past pupil
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. Wacław Swierzbiolek, SDB
Du Tran, sister of Fr. Dominic Tran, SDB
Fr. Enzo Trigatti, SDB
Bro. Henry Van der Velden, SDB



*“Dear brothers and sisters, let us ask the Lord that we
may learn to communicate with honesty and prudence.”*

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