



THE BOSCO-LINK

A monthly publication of the Youth Ministry Team @ Bosco

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One hundredth edition of The Bosco - Link Easter 2010

From the Rector's keyboard:

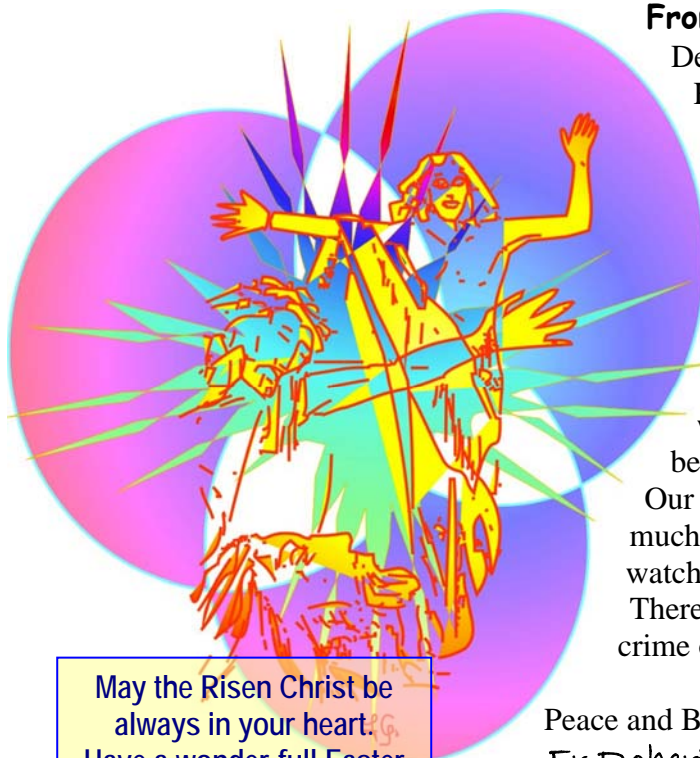
Dear Readers,

Happy Easter - the defining moment of the Christian Faith. If Jesus had not risen our faith would be in vain. So we celebrate that our life too is blessed with the promise of eternal life if we put this Good News into our living here and now.

This is the 100th edition of this Bosco Link.

Started by Fr Francois some years ago it has continued for all this time to keep you in touch with what is happening at BOSCO. Thanks for being there to share in our achievement.

Our sympathies to TLC Ministries who help us so much with our LoveMatters Programme. Their night watchman was murdered while on duty one evening. There seems to be an explosion of serious and petty crime out here in the country-side.



May the Risen Christ be always in your heart. Have a wonder-full Easter experience.

Peace and Blessings

Fr Robert

Fr Robert Gore SDB

COMMUNITY NEWS:



1. Bro Colum Maguire is visiting. He spent some years working at Bosco, his forte being art and cooking. He happened across a cash in transit heist which took place on a back road in Walkerville in November 2000 while on his way back to Bosco from the shops. He was shot in the foot which took some time to heal. Later in 2001 he returned to his home in Ireland. This is his first visit back to RSA since then.

2. Fr Ivo Pisacane celebrates his 82 birthday on the 12th April. As active as ever doing the odd jobs and even still giving his scientific magic shows to the oratory children who come on Sundays.

3. Mike and Ann Lang left Bosco for England, as is their custom, on the 30th March to visit for the summer months. (Remember the Langs at Bosco – Peter, Helen, Andrew, Francis and Timothy?) Fr Pisacane celebrated Mass for their 46th Wedding Anniversary in Savio Chapel with their friends on the 27th March. Afterwards, High Tea ala the British fashion in the thatched T-room.



4. Everybody has now been put onto the Yahoo Mailing list. So if you have been recently added you would have received an email to let you know. Up to now I have been using a few lists, including the Yahoo list to mail the Bosco Link. It has taken me a little time to learn how add more names to the main Yahoo list.

5. Fr John Coleman, (Malahle) has shaved his head, and found that with his dark glasses it gives him an American Gangster type look...of the older generation! It may do something to keep the criminals off our turf!



Some of the Groups through during March 10:

LoveMatters: Maryvale College (50); Holy Rosary (80); St Conrad's College (53); Brescia House (72).

Own Run Programmes: Assemblies of God College(34); Shotokan Karate Association (10); French School (20); Saida's Karate and Gym (30); Boepakitso Primary School (60)

Weekend Retreats/Events: Maria Regina Parish (22); Our Lady of Fatima Parish (7).

Fourways Martial Arts (150); Jabavau Methodist Young Adults (20); Philippians Church (60);

Carltonville Catholic Church (30); Our Lady of Peace Parish (40); Apostolic Faith Mission (50);

Day Retreats/Picnics: Dominican Convent (Gr8 103); Holy Family College (Gr 7, 25); St Peter Claver (27); Alberton Methodist Church (40);

BOSCO CENTRE NEWS

1. We have been under pressure with vandals and thieves who are removing copper from wherever. Our changing rooms and Lapa at the swimming pool have been hit a few more times now with senseless removal of the hot water geysers, theft of window catches, electric wiring. Valves were also stolen from our water line which meant that our tank was emptied leaving us scrambling to fix pipes so that our guests could flush toilets etc.

Locals are complaining that it is growing worse...as the suburbia tighten their security, the criminals are moving out to the soft country targets. The Glorious Cross has had its cable cut off and the distribution box destroyed. Even some of the rock cladding has been knocked off.



2. Our 50 indigenous trees have arrived care of *Trees and Food for Africa*. Thank you our Past Pupil donors who donated R100 for a tree. Still quite a few more trees are awaiting a kind sponsor. Our Back-Hoe donated by New Holland came in handy to dig holes

along the drive...at the same time taking out the dead trees. This operation is taking a bit of time as our maintenance team is also being kept busy cutting grass and fixing water pipes!



LIFE ISSUES

Anti-abortion March attracts thousands HLI report

'The hands of South Africa's lawmakers are dripping with blood.' said Archbishop Buti Tlhagale to more than 2,000 anti-abortionists who marched on Saturday 13 March with the Archbishop from the Cathedral of Christ the King to Constitution Hill where officials from the Department of Health accepted a petition addressed to the Minister of Health calling for an end to abortion.

South Africa is a young democracy – said the Archbishop - yet those at the helm have wasted no time in 'binning God'. They tolerate religion so long as it is practiced in private. South Africa's law makers deny that God is the source of all freedom. The Act simply frees a person from moral responsibility, from the dictates of their conscience. Since abortion is approved by Government legislation it cannot be wrong is the reasoning which sees morality reduced to a personal preference. The debate around moral regeneration is simply that

– debate. There is no search for elusive moral value, not much conscience. In the debate there are no absolutes, no non-negotiables. For Christians God is the author of life and we have to answer to Him on the issue of abortion.



We march today because the Church is duty bound to raise its voice; duty bound to value life, especially life in the womb. South Africa's lawmakers deny life and offer abortion on demand. 'Thou shalt not kill' is unambiguous. Life is of unassailable, inestimable value and abortion is a deplorable crime.

Doctors and nurses are pledged to serve life, not death. How long will it be before the South Africa's constitution protects life?

The Archbishop called on young people to respect their bodies, respect life and speak out. Silence means complicity. 'Love God, love your neighbour.' he urged the assembly. 'Protect and defend life – life from its inception!'

Abortion does not help maternal health, study claims

A study conducted in Chile, to be published later this year, claims that bans on abortion do not lead to an increase in maternal death. Chile legalised abortion in 1931 and banned it completely in 1989. Research has shown that maternal mortality was highest in 1961, in the midst of legalised abortion. Dr. Elard Koch, an epidemiologist on the faculty of medicine at the University of Chile, has said the study shows that access to legal abortion does not appear to be necessary to achieve low rates of maternal deaths. [[Americans United for Life, 4 March](http://is.gd/a2crN)] <http://is.gd/a2crN>

PAST PUPIL LINKS

1. Michael Lambert arrived for a quick visit. He was at school here during the early 1970's. As you see, after his professional soccer days, he now enjoys the beauty and power of his bike!

2. Richard Lipnicki, past pupil at Bosco 1959 to 1961, also dropped in to visit Fr Pisacane during the month. Unfortunately Fr Pisacane was busy at the time, and was sorry to have missed his pal from those far off days.



It is possible that a man could live twice as long if he didn't spend the first half of his life acquiring habits that shorten the other half.

Holy Week reflection: Peacemaker.

When Jesus of Nazareth calls peacemakers 'blessed' he does not specify *how* one goes about it. The testimony of his life and teaching, however, that making peace – restoring relations of truth, justice, love and freedom – *cannot* involve passively accepting situations of injustice. Different circumstances may require different strategies and tactics, which must be decided upon and implemented with great care, aware that things can go horribly wrong: one should not replace one injustice with a greater injustice. The call to be a peacemaker is an obligation on us all.

These Lenten reflections have been prepared by the Jesuit Institute of South Africa.

[SIGN ME UP](#)

CRIME - The rising crime rate would be slowed down considerably if we'd put as many cops on the streets as there are on television.

Once upon a time we thought the world was flat, then round. Now we know a lot of it is crooked.

The reason crime doesn't pay is that when it does it's called something more respectable.

Some strange, funny and thought provoking stuff received at BYC

*Talking to class on the subject of inflation and the cost of living the teacher stated,
"When I was a little girl my mother sent me to the general store with R10 and
I would come back with a bag of potatoes, two pints of milk, two loaves, cheese, tea
and half a dozen eggs. You cannot do that these days can you."*

To which one little pupil replied "No miss there's too many security cameras"

LOT 'S WIFE

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, 'My Mommy looked back once while she was driving,' he announced triumphantly, 'and she turned into a telephone pole!'

GOOD SAMARITAN

**A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class, 'If you saw a person lying On the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?'
A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, 'I think I'd throw up.'**

DID NOAH FISH?

A Sunday school teacher asked, 'Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?' 'No,' replied Johnny. 'How could he, with just two worms.'

TRACING TITLES

Part of rebuilding New Orleans caused residents often to be challenged with the task of tracing home titles back potentially hundreds of years.....with a community rich with history stretching back over two centuries, houses have been passed along through generations of family, Sometimes making it quite difficult to establish ownership.

A New Orleans lawyer sought an FHA loan for a client. He was told the loan would be granted if he could prove satisfactory title to a parcel of property being offered as collateral. The title to the property dated back to 1803, which took the lawyer three months to track down. After sending the information to the FHA, he received the following reply. (Actual reply from FHA):

"Upon review of your letter adjoining your client's loan application, we note that the request is supported by an Abstract of Title. While we compliment the able manner in which you have prepared and presented the application, we must point out that you have only cleared title to the proposed collateral property back to 1803. Before final approval can be accorded, it will be necessary to clear the title back to its origin."

Annoyed, the lawyer responded as follows: (Actual response):

"Your letter regarding title in Case No.189156 has been received. I note that you wish to have title extended further than the 206 years covered by the present application. I was unaware that any educated person in this country, particularly those working in the property area, would not know that Louisiana was purchased by the United States from France, in 1803 the year of origin identified in our application. For the edification of uninformed FHA bureaucrats, the title to the land prior to U.S. ownership was obtained from France, which had acquired it by Right of Conquest from Spain. The land came into the possession of Spain by Right of Discovery made in the year 1492 by a sea captain named Christopher Columbus, who had been granted the privilege of seeking a new route to India by the Spanish monarch, Queen Isabella. The good Queen Isabella, being a pious woman and almost as careful about titles as the FHA, took the precaution of securing the blessing of the Pope before she sold her jewels to finance Columbus's expedition...Now the Pope, as I'm sure you may know, is the emissary of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and God, it is commonly accepted, created this world. Therefore, I believe it is safe to presume that God also made that part of the world called Louisiana. God, therefore, would

be the owner of origin and His origins date back to before the beginning of time, the world as we know it, and the FHA.

I hope you find God's original claim to be satisfactory. Now, may we have our damn loan?"
The loan was immediately approved

JESUS IN MARMITE LID!

Family sees image of Jesus inside Marmite lid - and draws comfort from this sign of his presence. Image of Jesus found on tree - described as a miracle and a revelation. Slice of toast with image of Virgin Mary offered on eBay at \$3000 starting price. Woman finds "Allah" written in Arabic script in chopped tomato. Photograph of cross-shaped galaxy 23 million light years away.

What attracts people to such apparent revelations, of which the above is just a small sampling? Is it because the evidence for faith in God is perceived to be so thin that they need to clasp at straws? Is it because they believe that God is only active when unusual stuff happens? Is it because they see God's past revelations as insufficient, creating a continued need for new revelations?

It's OK to thank God for shapes and images that seem to point to him. It's less OK to rest one's faith on such things. If God is real, there should be better evidence than Marmite.

TGIF

Computer trouble!

I was having trouble with my computer. So I called Richard, the 11 year old next door whose bedroom looks like "Mission Control", and asked him to come over. Richard clicked a couple of buttons and solved the problem.

As he was walking away, I called after him, 'So, what was wrong?' He replied, 'It was an ID ten T error.'

I didn't want to appear stupid, but nonetheless inquired, 'An, ID ten T error? What's that? In case I need to fix it again.' Richard grinned. "Haven't you ever heard of an ID ten T error before?"
"No," I replied. "Write it down," he said, "and I think you'll figure it out."

So I wrote down: I D 1 0 T
I used to like the little jerk.

BAD DAY

A short guy is sitting at a bar just staring at his drink for half an hour when this big trouble-making biker steps next to him, grabs his drink, gulps it down in one swig and then turns to the guy with a menacing stare as if to say, 'What'cha gonna do about it?'

The poor little guy starts crying. "Come on man, I was just giving you a hard time," says the biker, "I didn't think you'd CRY. I can't stand to see a man crying."

"This is the worst day of my life," says the little guy between sobs.

"I can't do anything right. I overslept and was late to an important meeting, so my boss fired me. When I went to the parking lot I found my car was stolen and I don't have any insurance. I left my wallet in the cab I took home." He continues, crying even harder.

"Then I found my wife in bed with the gardener and my dog bit me. Finally, I came to this bar trying to work up the courage to put an end to my life, and then you show up and drink the damn poison."

The final test of a gentleman is his respect for those who can be of no possible service to him.

William Lyon Phelps.

