



# THE BOSCO-LINK

A monthly publication of the Youth Ministry Team @ Bosco

No.113

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JUNE 2011 in Bosco

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**Charity begins at home, and generally dies from lack of outdoor exercise.**

**From the Rector's keyboard:**

1<sup>st</sup> July 2011

Dear Friends of Bosco,

While this newsletter is mainly about what is going on here at Bosco Youth Centre for the interest of those who were past-pupils...it also goes to a variety of people who are benefactors of the programmes we run – donors, past volunteers, staff and team members . I also want to touch now on the broader spectrum of the educational work from the Bosco Centre.

Every Sunday the volunteers and Bro Clarence gather a group of youngsters...more than a hundred at Sicelo, a large settlement on the border of Meyerton. There is a well equipped community centre with a hall and playing fields. Here the youngsters are introduced through entertainment, sports, and fun to some of the really important things of life. Like, fair-play, honesty, behaviour management, stories from the Bible, stories from the experience of peers; learning by experience and the experience of others.

Not far from Bosco...about 30kms is Finetown and Mid-Ennerdale. Along James St, not far from the railway line is the Don Bosco Educational Centre. Developing here is a new school for 200 and more children at present located in cramped conditions in a church hall. It is now nearing completion...ceilings are being put in, soon doors and windows. These children, for a number of reasons, cannot get into the local schools. Also on the same site developing slowly is the Declan Collins Skills Centre, offering at the moment building skills...brick laying, carpentry, plumbing and computer training. Welding and other skills will be added as the year progresses. Bosco (Daleside / Randvaal) has had a long history of association with the Finetown / Mid-Ennerdale area going back to Fr Roy Fosker when I was first at Bosco in the '70s.

Peace and Blessings

Fr Robert

Fr Robert Gore SDB

## COMMUNITY NEWS

1. Fr Vincent Ford who was the History teacher at Bosco for many years, also Rector during my time as Principal died on Ascension Thursday. There were many messages of condolence from past pupils and others who knew him as their parish priest.

*(Fr Ford presents Peter Lang (start 1982) with his appointment as a prefect. In the background Costa, Modena and Tait)*



Sent: 04 June 2011 03:39 PM

Thank you for letting me know about Father Ford, he has been on my mind for days. After my late Dad he was the greatest human being I knew. I got my love for history from him. He played a large role in my years at Bosco and he had huge influence in my early life. I will never forget him. Please let me know when and where the funeral will be. Regards. – **Steven Cheetham**

Sent: Saturday, June 04, 2011 7:25 AM

Fr Ford was a great man and for me he was the definition of what a priest should be! He was a dedicated teacher and truly learned although, in my case, he could never understand why I did not enjoy History - I recall one test where we had to match 50 events to 50 dates - I got 3 out of 50 - Fr Ford said "Mr Calicchio, you're an idiot!" **Yip, go to your Lord Fr Ford!**



*L – R: Steven Cheetham; Allan Korsman; Fr Eugene Hennessy; and Freddie Cheetham*

#### THE FUNERAL

After an inspiring vigil mass preached by Fr Canice Dooley on Thursday evening, and another on Friday morning, preached by Fr Michael Connell and attended by a large crowd of parishioners and friends of the Salesians (as well as some past-pupils, including from my era at Bosco) and concelebrated by Archbishop emeritus Lawrence Henry and 35 priests, Fr Vincent was buried alongside Fr Anthony

Garman and Br John O’Kane in Maitland cemetery. The seventh confrere to leave us for the heavenly Jerusalem in less than three years. May they all rest in peace and intercede especially for new vocations to the Salesian Family. *Fr Francois Dufour SDB*

#### PAST PUPIL NEWS

1. There are many of the priests and brothers I remember well from my time at St John Bosco College, 1962 – 1967:- Fr Gerry Libera was certainly at Bosco while I was there but I can't recall in what capacity. The Prefect of Studies when I first went there was Fr Fosker. Bro James was the art teacher, very skilled with his hands, especially with iron work. Much of the gates, burglar bars and the like were made by him.

Fr Wiseman was the English teacher – a wonderful, gentle man, with some eccentricities: he was inclined to use his glasses to make a point and would end up sticking them in his eye eventually! He would also lean back in his chair and sometimes, to our delight, come close to overbalancing. He certainly inspired in me a love of English literature.

Fr Melly was the Rector for a long while and would stand in as a teacher from time to time; not a good time to get your work wrong. Bro Felix seemed to be everywhere, including cricket coach; although small, he was always very upright (in both senses of the word)

Fr Grace I remember so well: a wonderful musician, he played the organ with a marvellous touch and tried to teach music to boys who only wanted to be outside with a cricket bat or football. I wish



I had paid more attention, singing in the choir would now be a little easier.

Fr Stubbings I remember with some pain; he became Prefect of Studies and he was a strict disciplinarian. Woe betide boys who fell into disfavour, canings from him were not play-play.

*Michael Hennessy.*

2. Felice Sforza visited on the 27<sup>th</sup> June a lovely sunny day. Met up with Fr Ivo Pisacane and myself, exchanging the news and views. A

matriculant at Bosco in 1983. He recalls running all the way to Daleside on Saturday afternoons with Donachie to make a phone call to his parents...and then at times to find the phone broken! Then to run all the way back before tea and study. He keeps in contact with Darrel Hutchinson and Mark White and others.

3. Past pupils and parishioners are very generous with their donations...in kind, in time (technical & professional skills) and also with financial help for our projects in Gauteng. We are most grateful for this assistance ...we are receiving 100 loaves of bread a day; finances to run a thriving recreation / oratory on Sundays in Sicelo; promise of paint for new classrooms which have been built with a donation from a generous donor, fund-raising ...to name a few, and there is always so much more to be accomplished with the meagre resources at our disposal. So from time to time we make our needs known. At the moment I am looking for a hokkie (good price or donation) for our security guard at the Don Bosco Educational Projects, near Finetown.

Children's Logic: My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo and I said, "No, how are we alike?" "You're both old," he replied.

"Give me a sentence about a public servant," said a teacher. The small boy wrote: "The fireman came down the ladder pregnant." The teacher took the lad aside to correct him. "Don't you know what pregnant means?" she asked. "Sure," said the young boy confidently. "It means carrying a child."

### **Some of the Groups through during JUNE 2011 :**

**LoveMatters:** Bosco Team -Theology of the Body (10); **Pretoria Parishes** – St Anthony; St Gaspar; St Mark; St Clare, St Joseph, Holy Cross, St Zeno, Holy Rosary, St Andrews, Maria Mater Ecclesia – 127.

**Day Retreats/Picnics:** Diocesan Priests (20); Brescia House Gr 5 (73); Holy Family College Grs 4 & 5 (36); Good Shepherd (36); Assemblies of God Movement (300);

**Weekend Programmes:** Methodist Church (30); St Davids Gr 11 (40); St Catherines (35); Holy Angels (12); Dept of Social Services (162); Youth of Destiny (90); Dept of Community Safety (220).

### **COMMENTS FROM SOME OF THE LOVEMATTERS PARTICIPANTS**

#### **In what way will this experience make a difference in your life?**

- \* I know that I will stay a virgin until marriage and I will make the right choices
- \* It has changed me in such a way that now I know I will wait till marriage to have sex
- \* It changed me the way I looked at things, life and people
- \* Wow a big difference! I have learnt so much information that I can use in the future
- \* It will change the way I think before I make my choices

#### **What was the most striking thing you learnt this week?**

- \* All about the diseases and I made friends
- \* How many teenagers have STDs
- \* I learnt a lot about STDs and Aids. I was also taken aback by the drugs and definitely learnt about abortion more
- \* That we learnt about things we didn't do / know and that we have to make choices in life
- \* In everything you do you have a choice to do the correct thing
- \* Abortion and how my virginity is precious , also on STDs / STIs
- \* About friends & relationships & love and how everyone is special in their own ways

### **SOME STRANGE, FUNNY AND THOUGHT PROVOKING STUFF RECEIVED**

**A** paraprosdokian is a figure of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected in a way that causes the reader or listener to reframe or reinterpret the first part. It is frequently used for humorous or dramatic effect, sometimes producing an anticlimax. For this reason, it is extremely popular among comedians and satirists.

Ø **Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.**

Ø **The last thing I want to do is hurt you, but it's still on the list.**

Ø **If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.**

- Ø War does not determine who is right - only who is left.
- Ø Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
- Ø To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; To steal from many is research.
- Ø I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.
- Ø I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not sure.

### Paddy was in New York .

He was patiently waiting and watching the traffic cop on a busy street crossing. The cop stopped the flow of traffic and shouted, 'Okay, pedestrians.' Then he'd allow the traffic to pass. He'd done this several times, and Paddy still stood on the sidewalk. After the cop had shouted, 'Pedestrians!' for the tenth time, Paddy went over to him and said, 'Is it not about time ye let the Catholics across?'



30 second Speech by Bryan Dyson – Former CEO of Coca Cola

Imagine life as a game in which you are juggling some five balls in the air. They are **Work, Family, Health, Friends and Spirit** and you're keeping all of these in the air.

You will soon understand that **work** is a rubber ball. If you drop it, it will bounce back. But the other four Balls - **Family, Health, Friends and Spirit** - are made of glass. If you drop one of these; they will be irrevocably scuffed, marked, nicked, damaged or even shattered. They will never be the same. You must understand that and strive for it."

*Work efficiently during office hours and leave on time. Give the required time to your family, friends & have proper rest*

*Value has a value only if its value is valued*

#### WHEN YOU REARRANGE THE LETTERS:

Who finds time to do these juggles??...I learnt from a pupil that "GORE" = "OGRE" ;-)

GEORGE BUSH = HE BUGS GORE	THE MORSE CODE = HERE COME DOTS	SLOT MACHINES= CASH LOST IN ME
ANIMOSITY= IS NO AMITY	SNOOZE ALARMS= ALAS! NO MORE Z 'S	A DECIMAL POINT= IM A DOT IN PLACE
THE EARTHQUAKES= THAT QUEER SHAKE	ELEVEN PLUS TWO= TWELVE PLUS ONE	MOTHER-IN-LAW= WOMAN HITLER

#### DEFINE:.....

**BOSS:** Someone who is early when you are late and late when you are early

**DOCTOR:** A person who kills your ills by pills, and kills you by his bills.....

**MISER:** A person who lives poor so that he can die RICH!

**ECSTASY:** A feeling when you feel you are going to feel a feeling you have never felt before

**CLASSIC:** A book which people praise, but never read

By a 15 Yr. Old School Kid In Arizona, USA

*Since the Pledge of Allegiance and  
The Lord's Prayer are not allowed in most  
Public schools in the USA anymore  
Because the word 'God' is mentioned.....  
A kid in Arizona wrote the attached*

**NEW School prayer:**

Now I sit me down in school  
Where praying is against the rule  
For this great nation under God  
Finds mention of Him very odd.

If scripture now the class recites,  
It violates the Bill of Rights.  
And anytime my head I bow  
Becomes a Federal matter now.

Our hair can be purple, orange or green,  
That's no offence; it's a freedom scene..  
The law is specific, the law is precise.  
Prayers spoken aloud are a serious vice.

For praying in a public hall  
Might offend someone with no faith at all..  
In silence alone we must meditate,  
God's name is prohibited by the state.

We're allowed to cuss and dress like freaks,  
And pierce our noses, tongues and cheeks...  
They've outlawed guns, but FIRST the Bible.  
To quote the Good Book makes me liable.  
We can elect a pregnant Senior Queen,  
And the 'unwed daddy,' our Senior King.  
It's 'inappropriate' to teach right from wrong,  
We're taught that such 'judgments' do not belong..

We can get our condoms and birth controls,  
Study witchcraft, vampires and totem poles...  
But the Ten Commandments are not allowed,  
No word of **God** must reach this crowd.

It's scary here I must confess,  
When chaos reigns the school's a mess.  
So, Lord, this silent plea I make:  
Should I be shot; My soul please take!  
Amen

**VERY INTERESTING STUFF**

In the 1400's a law was set forth in England that  
a man was allowed to beat his wife with a stick  
no thicker than his thumb. Hence we have "the  
rule of thumb"

Many years ago in Scotland , a new game was  
invented. It was ruled "Gentlemen Only...Ladies  
Forbidden"...and thus the word GOLF entered  
into the English language.

Every day more money is printed for Monopoly  
than the U.S . Treasury.

Men can read smaller print than women can;  
women can hear better.

Coca-Cola was originally green.

It is impossible to lick your elbow.

The State with the highest percentage of people  
who walk to work: Alaska

The percentage of Africa that is wilderness: 28%  
(now get this...)

The percentage of North America that is  
wilderness: 38%

The cost of raising a medium-size dog to the age  
of eleven: \$ 16,400.00 (ZAR 109,880.00)

Intelligent people have more zinc and copper  
in their hair.

The first novel ever written on a typewriter:  
Tom Sawyer.

The San Francisco Cable cars are the only  
mobile National Monuments.

**TIPS FOR HANDLING TELEMARKETERS No. 1**

**Three Little Words That Work!!**

The three little words are: '**Hold On, Please...**'

Saying this, while putting down your phone and walking off (instead of hanging-up immediately) would make each telemarketing call so much more time-consuming that boiler room sales would grind to a halt. Then when you eventually hear the phone company's 'beep-beep-beep' tone, you know it's time to hang up, which has efficiently completed its task.

These three little words will help eliminate telephone soliciting..

□