



# THE BOSCO-LINK

A monthly publication of the Youth Ministry Team @ Bosco

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## AN IRISH FRIENDSHIP WISH

May there always be work for your hands to do;  
May your purse always hold a coin or two

May the sun always shine on your windowpane  
May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain;

May the hand of a friend always be near you;  
May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.

“By the time a man realizes that maybe his father was right, he usually has a son who thinks he's wrong.” Charles Wadsworth

### **Some of the Groups through during August :**

**LoveMatters:** No LoveMatters groups came through during August. Shame!

**Retreats:** Dominican Convent Gr 11 (30); Brescia House Gr7 (74); Holy Family Gr 7 (20); Sacred Heart Gr 9 (81); St Catherine's (40); St Theresa (25); Michael Rua (100); Carltonville Homebase Care (60); Holy Family Gr 10 (80); Transfiguration Church (100); San Salvador (15); St Paul's (14); St Albert's (30); Our Lady fo Lereto (13); St John the Baptist (8); Holy Family Gr 8 (80).

**Own programmes:** PATCO

### **From the Rector's keyboard:**

Dear Gentle Reader,

August has been a quieter month for our Youth Ministry Team. Quite a number of day retreats for school groups and weekend confirmation retreats for young people from the parishes. The gaps in between gave us some breathing space. We are already planning for next year and sending out messages looking for youthful enthusiastic post-matric Catholics who want to volunteer for the Bosco Youth Ministry team 2008.

The team this year is well qualified academically, firm in their faith and wholehearted in their commitment and enjoyment of the experience of working in an environment that attempts to make Jesus and the values of the Gospel relevant. The objective being that these volunteers gain people and apostolic skills which they can then use in their parishes and youth groups, etc.

So if there is someone out there who would like to join the Youth Ministry Team for a year and the right qualifications and dispositions are in place, then drop us a line. Applications for 2008 close at the end of September.

Thanks for keeping us in your prayers...we have a busy month ahead of us!

*Fr Robert*

Fr Robert Gore

RIP Fr Hyacinth Ennis OFM informed me of the death of **Mark Mackinlay** last week in Pretoria. Mark was a pupil here when he came to Bosco College in 1974 in standard 4. During his matric year 1980, he was a House Captain and Vice Headprefect. He passed away, after suffering for a while with cancer, at 44 years of age. Fr Hyacinth let us know that he spoke glowingly of his years at Bosco; he added that he became a catholic during the last months of his life and was very much at peace. We remember him and his family in our prayers. May he rest in peace.

#### Past Pupil Notes:

Ivo Varanini popped in for quick visit on the 20th. He was at school here from std 7, 1971 until Matric in 1974. Sifiso Mabaso also visited again on the 12<sup>th</sup> August. He was here from 1986 until 1991. Ivan Leong visited from his home in Canada, bringing his two children to see where he went to school from 1971 until 1977.



*Ivan with his two kids.*

#### News Snippets from the Community

- \* On August 16<sup>th</sup> Bro Sean McEwen (Director of LoveMatters) renewed his vows as a Salesian for three years. In three years time he will make his perpetual profession, and by that time be well into his studies for the priesthood, DV. He arrived as a missionary from the USA to join the Southern African Salesian province last year.
- \* Mr Grant Tungay joined us a volunteer early in the year. He left us at the end of the month to discern his vocation with the Jesuits. He is indeed in our prayers as he examines more closely the promptings of the Holy Spirit.
- \* Mr Alex Iselin joined as a volunteer last year in September. After his year of service here he left again for his home in Switzerland. We wish all the best with his next adventure.
- \* Bro Walter Thyрниang has made a good recovery here at Bosco. He returned to his own Salesian Province of Zambia after getting the all clear from the doctor to fly. He left on the 31<sup>st</sup> August.
- \* We had a big fire flare up on one of the neighbouring farms and fanned by the wind found its way into our property, causing us some troubled hours as we fought the furious flames away from the buildings and the obstacle course. Local farmers came to help in the fray. Finally it fizzled out.
- \* Mr Rudlyn Barnes from Cape Town spends a few days with us here at Bosco.
- \* Fr Martin McCormack visits again on his return to Ireland after a short stay with the Salesian Community in Manzini.
- \* Bro Teame joined us for his Summer holidays from Jerusalem for a couple of months to learn English and join in with the youth ministry. He left on the 18<sup>th</sup> August for his home in Ethiopia before returning to Jerusalem to continue his studies for the Salesian priesthood.
- \* We had a two man & one woman Spanish film crew with us for four days doing some work for a funding agency in Spain...hope they put us into their financial picture for next year!!

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As Fr Francois used to remark...now follows what many prefer to read...

## **Some strange, funny and thought provoking stuff received at BYC:**

### **MURPHY'S HAT.**

Murphy showed up at Mass one Sunday and the priest almost fell down when he saw him. Murphy had never been seen in church in his life!

After mass, the priest caught Murphy and said, "Murphy, I am so glad you decided to come to mass, what made you come???"

Murphy said, "I got to be honest with you Father. A while back, I misplaced my hat and I really, really loved that hat. That McGlynn had a hat just like me hat, and I knew McGlynn came church every Sunday. I also knew that McGlynn had to take off his hat during Mass and I figured he would leave it in the back of church. So, I was going to leave after communion and steal McGlynn's hat."

The priest said, "Well, Murphy, I notice that you didn't steal McGlynn's hat What changed your mind?"

Murphy said, "Well, after I heard your sermon on the 10 commandments, I decided that I didn't need to steal McGlynn's hat."

The priest gave Murphy a big smile and said "After I talked about 'ThouShall Not Steal' you decided you would rather do without your hat than burn in hell,.... Right?"

Murphy shook his head and said, "No, Father, after you talked about 'Thou Shall Not Commit Adultery' I remembered where I left my hat."

### **Did God create evil?**

The university professor challenged his students with this question:

"Did God create everything that exists?"

A student bravely replied "Yes, he did!"

"God created everything?" the professor asked.

"Yes sir," the student replied.

The professor answered, "If God created everything, then God created evil since evil exists, and according to the principal that our works define who we are, then God is evil."

The professor was quite pleased with himself and boasted to the students that he had proven once more that the Christian faith was a myth.

Another student raised his hand and said, "Can I ask you a question professor?" "Of course," replied the professor.

The student stood up and asked, "Professor, does cold exist?"

The professor replied "Of course it exists. Have you never been cold?"

The students snickered at the young man's question.

The young man replied, "In fact sir, cold does not exist. According to the laws of physics, what we consider cold is in reality the absence of heat. Everybody or object is susceptible to study when it has or transmits energy, and heat is what makes a body, or matter, have or transmit energy. Absolute zero (- 460 degrees F) is the total absence of heat. Cold does not exist. We have created this word to describe how we feel if we have no heat."

The student continued. "Professor, does darkness exist?"

The professor responded, "Of course it does."

The student replied, "Once again you are wrong sir. Darkness does not exist either.

Darkness is in reality the absence of light. Light, we can study, but not darkness. In fact we can use Newton's prism to break white light into many colours and study the various wave lengths of each colour. You cannot measure darkness. A simple ray of light can break into a world of darkness and illuminate it. How can you know how dark a certain space is? You measure the amount of light present. Isn't this correct? Darkness is a term used by man to describe what happens when there is no light present."

Finally the young man asked the professor. "Sir, does evil exist?"

Now uncertain, the professor responded, "Of course, as I have already said. We see it every day. It is in the daily example of man's inhumanity to man. It is in the multitude of crime and violence everywhere in the world. These manifestations are nothing else but evil."

To this the student replied, "Evil does not exist sir, or at least it does not exist unto itself. Evil is simply the absence of God. It is just like darkness and cold, a word that man has created to describe the absence of God."

"God did not create evil. Evil is the result of what happens when man does not have God's love present in his heart. It's like the cold that comes when there is no heat or the darkness that comes when there is no light."

The professor sat down.

The young man's name --- Albert Einstein

An Irish woman has died of deep vein thrombosis after taking an oral contraceptive pill. Julie Hennessy of Dublin was found dead in her home on 22 March. Pathologist Peter Szontagh-Kishazi said that the cause of death was certainly the Mercilon oral contraceptive pill that Miss Hennessy had just taken. He said: "Clotting is a well-known risk of using the contraceptive pill. There is no other medication that has such a big risk." A spokesman for Organon Laboratories, which makes the drug, said yesterday that doctors must consider the risks as well as the benefits of prescribing such drugs. A member of Miss Hennessy's family said: "The Pill was the major cause of our daughter's death and we want to put it on record that other young women should be aware of these dangers. I wouldn't like this to happen to another family." [\[Irish Independent, 15 August\]](#)

Reports in a recent Saturday Star...a girl was given oral contraceptives to treat her acne...and has gone blind. Oral contraceptives have other side effects that are only now being spoken about.

Abortionists in Massachusetts are reportedly responding to the Supreme Court's partial birth abortion ban by injecting unborn babies with lethal drugs to prevent them being delivered live if an abortion is incomplete. The *Boston Globe* says three major hospitals affiliated to Harvard University have made such injections "standard operating procedure for abortions beginning at around 20 weeks' gestation." Phil Magnan, president of Biblical Family Advocates, said: "What should always give us pause is the fact that at one end of the hospital they are fighting to save a small 20 week [premature] baby from dying, offering them excellent life-saving procedures; and yet at the other end of the hospital they are giving children lethal doses of drugs to kill them in an attempt to shield themselves from botched abortions. Their actions are screaming medical hypocrisy." [\[Boston Globe on CNA on EWTN, 13 August\]](#)

An elderly woman had just returned to her home from an evening of church services when she was startled by an intruder.

She caught the man in the act of robbing her home of its valuables and yelled, "STOP! Acts 2:38!" (Repent and be baptized, in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven.)

The burglar stopped in his tracks. The woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done. As the officer cuffed the man to take him in, he asked the burglar, "Why did you just stand there? All the old lady did was yell a Scripture verse at you."

"Scripture?" replied the burglar. "She said she had an Ax and Two 38's!"

### **Touching words from the mouth of babes.**

**A group of professional people posed this question to a group of 4 to 8 year-olds,**

***"What does love mean?"***

"When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love."  
Rebecca- age 8

"When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth." Billy - age 4

"Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each

other." Karl - age 5

"Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs." Chrissy - age 6

"Love is what makes you smile when you're tired." Terri - age 4

"Love is when my mommy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK." Danny - age 7

"Love is when you kiss all the time. Then when you get tired of kissing, you still want to be together and you talk more. My Mommy and Daddy are like that. They look gross when they kiss"  
Emily - age 8

"Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen."  
Bobby - age 7 (*Wow!*)

"If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate," Nikka - age 6  
(*we need a few million more Nikka's on this planet*)

"Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it everyday." Noelle - age 7

"Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well." Tommy - age 6

"During my piano recital, I was on a stage and I was scared. I looked at all the people watching me and saw my daddy waving and smiling. He was the only one doing that. I wasn't scared anymore."  
Cindy - age 8

"My mommy loves me more than anybody. You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night."  
Clare - age 6

"Love is when Mommy gives Daddy the best piece of chicken." Elaine-age 5

"Love is when Mommy sees Daddy smelly and sweaty and still says he is handsomer than Robert Redford."  
Chris - age 7

"Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day." Mary Ann - age 4

"I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones." Lauren - age 4

"When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you." Karen - age 7  
(*what an image*)

"Love is when Mommy sees Daddy on the toilet and she doesn't think it's gross." Mark - age 6

"You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget." Jessica - age 8

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**If ever I reach heaven I expect to find three wonders there: first, to meet some I had not thought to see there; second, to miss some I had expected to see there; and third-- the greatest wonder of all--to find myself there. ... John Newton (1725-1807)**

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