



THE BOSCO-LINK

A monthly publication of the Youth Ministry Team @ Bosco

No. 86

Box 1025, Walkerville, 1876. Tel. 9492360/1 Fax.9491022

November 2008 in Bosco

E.mail: boscopt@iafrica.com Website : www.boscocentre.co.za

**Politicians are the same all over.
They promise to build a bridge even where there is no river.**

N. Khrushchev 22/8/63

From the Rector's keyboard:

1st December 2008

Distinguished Friend,

Most of November has been a quiet month for us here at Bosco. Young people everywhere have been busy at the books and examinations. No time for anything else. This has been good for it has allowed a bit of peace to get over the trauma of the attack. Our Youth Ministry Team went away for a couple of nights to Bela-Bela.

Some of the smaller young people have not had to worry about examinations and have been on fun days to Bosco to celebrate the closing of the year.

The last week, however, saw a flurry of activity. Firstly, the Salesians held a four day conference for participants from Africa and Europe on *Human Rights for Children*. On Saturday the new Divine Mercy parish opened in Walkerville with Archbishop Buti blessing the ground. Also on Saturday we had a group of 1981 Past Pupils with othersand on Sunday even more Past Pupils from 1990...the year when they wrote matric. The weather was great and the company outstanding. The best gathering for years!

Now we are going full steam ahead for the end of the year. Advent is upon us as we prepare for the great celebration recalling the birth of Jesus, the Lord.

Here's wishing you all the best and to let you know you are in our prayers. Have a wonderful time with family and friends.

Blessings and peace

Fr Robert

Fr Robert Gore SDB

Some of the Groups through during September and October:

LoveMatters: No LoveMatters during November

Retreats: Mayfair Convent (68); Assumption Convent (26); St Catherine's (65); St Peter Claver (30); Holy Family Church (11). Masolenyana (150); St Alberts (28);

Own programmes: Free Baptist Church (20); Assembly of God College (25); St Andrews (20); CCDU Peer volunteers (25); Vall Altar Serviers; Nancefield Baptist (40); Michael Rua (28); Salesians of Don Bosco (35); Lerato Education Centre (200); Shotokan Karate Group (30); Bosco Past Pupils.

BOSCO CENTRE NEWS

1. As mentioned above we had a fairly good turnout of past pupils. There were gatherings both on Saturday and Sunday...last weekend of November. See if you recognise some of the names: Sean and Ian Furlong; Ray Welthagen; Bryan Burns; Sean Sullivan; Nicky Strydom; (nee McClure); Brett Maree; ustin Nettmann; Simon Fowell; Calvin Way; Marc Van In; Lenny Pereira; Cello Dos Santos; Grant Pitt; Vincent Sun Hing; Rightwell Laxa; Miguel Figueredo; Shane Rimmel; Luke Libera; Gerard Tait; Elias de Gouveia; Frank Luizinho; Russel Peters; John Ferraz; Kevin Lubbe; Terry Twala; Sifiso Mabaso; Dominic de Saldanha Mervin Scorgie; Gareth Anstee; Marco Cirigliano... some I recognised...some I didn't, some names came to me others escaped me at the moment...but everyone was able to renew friendships, share stories and memories, look at photos and enjoy the braais, the swimming, the lanes...that made some feel their age!

But no one could feel as old, and yet not look his age as Fr Pisacane who also mingled with his budding Einsteins of yesteryear!

2. Security: We are having to spend valuable reserves on erecting some security fences and gates...used once upon a time to keep energetic young people in...now to discourage the overflow of criminals migrating South who find they are tripping over each other in Jo'burg, to target Bosco.

3. Ferrero Packaging: Quite a few questions were asked about Ferrero...it is not a factory, but a packaging plant. The Salesians have sold them the ground, since they are partners (CSI) with us on an international scale. It is part of our planning for sustainability of our project here at Bosco. They have built on the degraded ground which was the gravel pit for the building of the R557. Hopefully, once it is complete it will blend nicely with the surroundings. This is looking at the building from the hill down towards the road.



Community News:

The Savio Parish is no longer. The Archdiocese of Johannesburg has established a parish in Walkerville, named the Divine Mercy Parish. The ground was blessed by Archbishop Buti on the 29th November. A tent church has been erected until such time as a proper church is built. A house on the property will serve as a chapel during the week. All the parish administration and activities have now moved out of the Bosco Youth Centre to Walkerville.

LIFE ISSUES

The Pope has said that unborn children who are ill should be welcomed with love. Benedict XVI told the Pontifical Council for Health Pastoral Care's conference in Rome: "Children must ... always be cared for with love, to help them face suffering and sickness, even before birth, in a way appropriate to their situation." All medical activity with children had to be for the child's authentic good, and all people were created in God's image and likeness. The pontiff also expressed grave concern at the four million newborn babies who died annually. [\[CNA on EWTN, 17 November\]](#)

Nuns at a hospice in Italy are defying a court order to stop giving food and fluid to a woman who has been comatose for 14 years. The Misericordine sisters say they are prepared to continue to care for Ms Eluana Englaro after an appeal court upheld her father's wish for her to be dehydrated and starved. Human Life International say the nuns could apply to be her guardian. The Movement for Life has asked President Giorgio Napolitano to intervene to keep the 37-year-old alive. The justice minister wants to change the law to prevent similar rulings. [\[LifeSiteNews, 17 November\]](#)

Girls of 13 in Britain are to be offered hormonal birth-control injections and implants, some of which can cause sterilisation for three years. Critics warn of increased promiscuity, sexually transmitted infections, and that the

substances are too strong for teenagers' bodies. The Family Planning Association said the methods were very effective. The government felt it necessary to announce that administration of such birth control would not be compulsory. Birth control injections reportedly have side effects in adults [[Daily Mail, 17 November](#)]

Patients' bone marrow cells can heal torn cartilage between the upper and lower leg. Bristol University, England, scientists used the tissue to make a sort of bandage which caused damaged meniscal cartilage to mend itself. [[Sunday Telegraph, 16 November](#)]

People should be allowed to make wrong decisions about abortion, according to the head of the British Pregnancy Advisory Service. Ms Ann Furedi writes: "the embryo is a human life of sorts" but the ethical issue is when such life starts to matter. Only the mother of the unborn child should be allowed to decide his or her fate. [[Independent, 17 November](#)]

A woman in Pennsylvania has been awarded \$1.8m by a jury for being dismissed from her job because she was pregnant. Ms Carole Smith, 36, spent time in a neonatal intensive care unit with her son who had collapsed lungs and pneumonia, and lost her job while still on maternity leave. She has since returned to work for Normandy Properties LLC, which must pay her \$600,000 in compensation and \$1.2 million in punitive damages. [[Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 20 November](#)]

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

What is Butt Dust?

These have to be original and genuine. No adult is this creative!!



JACK (age 3) was watching his Mum breast-feeding his new baby sister. After a while he asked: 'Mum why have you got two? Is one for hot and one for cold milk?'

BRITTANY (age 4) had an earache and wanted a pain killer. She tried in vain to take the lid off the bottle. Seeing her frustration, her Mum explained it was a child-proof cap and she'd have to open it for her. Eyes wide with wonder, the little girl asked: 'How does it know it's me?'

SUSAN (age 4) was drinking juice when she got the hiccups. 'Please don't give me this juice again,' she said, 'It makes my teeth cough.'

DJ (age 4) stepped onto the bathroom scale and asked: 'How much do I cost?'

JAMES (age 4) was listening to a Bible story. His dad read: 'The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city but his wife looked back and was turned to salt.' Concerned, James asked: 'What happened to the flea?'

MELANIE (age 5) asked her Granny how old she was. Granny replied she was so old she didn't remember any more. Melanie said, 'If you don't remember you must look in the back of your panties. Mine say five to six.'

The Sermon I think this Mum will never forget.... this particular Sunday sermon... 'Dear Lord,' the minister began, with arms extended toward heaven and a rapturous look on his upturned face. 'Without you, we are but dust...' He would have continued but at that moment my very obedient daughter who was listening leaned over to me and asked quite audibly in her shrill little four year old girl voice, 'Mum, what is butt dust?'

A sting in the tail / tale

Once upon a time in a village, a man appeared and announced to the villagers that he would buy monkeys for \$10 each. The villagers, seeing that there were many monkeys around, went out to the forest, and started catching them.

The man bought thousands at \$10 and as supply started to diminish, the villagers stopped their efforts. So the man further announced that he would now up the price, and buy at \$20. This renewed the efforts of the villagers and they started catching monkeys again.

Soon the supply diminished even further and people started going back to their farms. The offer increased to \$25 each and the supply of monkeys became so scarce that it was an effort to even see a monkey, let alone catch it!

The man now announced that he would buy monkeys at \$50! However, since he had to go to the city on some business, his assistant would now buy on his behalf.

In the man's absence, the assistant told the villagers. "Look at all these monkeys in the big cage that the man has collected. I will sell them to you at \$35 and when the man returns from the city, you can sell them back to him for \$50 each."

So villagers rounded up all their savings, and bought all the monkeys from the assistant. They then sat back and waited for the man to return from the city.

However, they never saw the man, nor his assistant, ever again, only monkeys everywhere!

And so my friends, you all now have a better understanding of how the stock market works.

The Woolworths Cat

**A blonde was weed-eating her yard and accidentally cut off the tail of her cat
which was hiding in the grass.**

She rushed her cat, along with the tail over to Woolworths

Why Woolworths?

HELLOOOOOOOOO!

Woolworths is the largest re-tailer in the world!!!

We should be careful to get out of an experience only the wisdom that is in it -- and stop there -- lest we be like the cat that sits down on a hot stove-lid. She will never sit down on a hot stove-lid again, and that is well; but also she will never sit down on a cold one any more.
Mark Twain, author and humorist (1835-1910)

**If everything was easy
and nothing made us sad**

**We'd take it all for granted
and feel no greater gain**

**If everything was easy
and nothing turned out bad**

**For strength comes when we suffer
and wisdom comes from pain.**

**If heartaches never happened
and tears would never flow**

**If everything was easy
I'd be no good to you**

**We'd stay such little people
and never really grow.**

**For how could I look at your hurt
and say I'd been there, too?**

**If everything was easy
and fell into our hands**

**I'd be a petty person
just an infant all my days**

**If everything was easy
and went just like we planned**

**And I'd never thank my Saviour
for the sunshine's golden rays**

**We extend to all our supporters and well wishers, past pupils and benefactors
distinguished friends everyone, a blessed Christmas and wonderful New Year.**