



THE BOSCO-Link

A monthly publication of the Youth Ministry Team @ Bosco

No. 91

Box 1025, Walkerville, 1876.

Tel. BYC – 011 9492361 House – 011 9492360

Fax - BYC.0866805420 House - 011 9491022

MAY 2009 in Bosco

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

If someone would have explained the consequences I would have made a different choice,
BUT... NO ONE TOLD ME



Pam Stenzel (in green) with exhausted Bosco Team Members after the event.

From the Rector's keyboard:

Dear Bosco Friend,

This is going to be a short letter, just to let you know that we haven't dropped off the face of the earth! With the arrival of Pam Stenzel and "Mad Dogs and Englishmen" on the 31st May for the big bonanza presentation at the Bosco Youth Centre all our energies were concentrated on ensuring a successful tour.

We had about 450 enthusiasts arrive at Bosco for a great show by Pam and team.

On Monday 1st June the party moved down to Manzini for a Tuesday turnout of about 4000 youth from all the local schools to hear what Pam had to say about avoiding the heart aches of sexual licence before marriage. Her talk, which is now captured on Video and will soon be available, is titled..."Sex has a price tag".

I stayed on in Manzini for a meeting while Pam and entourage winged their way to Cape Town.

In all it has been a very successful undertaking. So many youth going through the Bosco Youth Centre have seen Pam on DVD, but to see and hear her in the flesh was awesome.

(Picture right: Pam during her presentation at Bosco)

Blessings and Peace of the Risen Christ be with you!

Fr Robert

Fr Robert Gore SDB

Some of the Groups through during February:

LoveMatters: Assumpta Primary (43); Assumption Convent (60); Brand Cliff House (36); Lourdes Primary (108).

Own Run Programmes: Catholic Schools (70); Moravian Womens Association (130); Bishop Bavin (60); NMSC Aids Response (30); Our Lady of Lourdes (40); Benoni Action Sports (50); Jesus My Answer Ministries (40).

Weekend Retreats: Blessed Sacrament (30); St Alberts (43).



Community News:

1. Fr John Coleman is in England preaching two retreats to the Salesians, one in Farnborough the other in Bolton.
2. Our Salesian students have returned from Nairobi for their break from studies. Bros Marko and Tumelo have joined our community for the six weeks.
3. Srs Emmauela and Agrippina from Windhoek, Namibia spent a few weeks with us on our programmes to garner experience and ideas for their youth work back in Windhoek.
4. During the month we also held our annual retreat. Salesians from Gauteng, Lesotho and Swaziland gathered together at the Good Shepherd retreat centre at Hartebeespoort for five days of spiritual recharging. Fr Canice Dooley SDB preached the retreat. The weather was superb and the more physical comforts great, which all made for a worthwhile refreshment of body and soul!

BOSCO CENTRE NEWS

1. Bro Clarence and Ms Dipuo are attending a meeting of Christian Camping organisations in Cape Town. Bosco Youth Centre is an affiliate of the organisation.
2. Work has been done to improve the wash-places in Joseph House.
3. A long trench has been dug from the hall area to the front gate for the laying of a Telkom cable to the Ferrero facility on the other side of the road.
4. Fencing work is going to begin shortly on the Bosco property and at the front gate, to improve security as also to give a neater appearance to our entrance.

LIFE ISSUES

A Lebanese woman has been convicted in Dubai of the manslaughter of her unborn child following a traffic accident. The woman, who was nine months pregnant, was judged guilty of having caused the accident. The court said the rights of unborn babies needed to be protected. [\[BBC, 4 May\]](#)

A court has heard that a man in Yorkshire killed his lover after she told him she had aborted their unborn child. Andrew Wilson has admitted killing Katrina Preece on New Year's Day. Mr Wilson claims that Mrs Preece told him: "I got rid of it the other day." [\[Yorkshire Post, 4 June\]](#)

Drugs prescribed to treat psychological and sleep problems may increase the risk of suicide among old people. Researchers at Gothenburg university in Sweden found that elderly patients taking such drugs were four times more likely to commit suicide than elderly persons not taking them. The researchers said that "Clinicians need to be aware of this as these drugs are widely prescribed to the elderly." [\[Reuters via Yahoo!, 4 June\]](#)

There has been a significant rise in the incidence of sexually transmitted infections in Scotland. Government statistics reveal that the number of children diagnosed with chlamydia has risen by 27% over the past four years. There was also a rise in other sexual transmitted infections. [\[BBC, 3 June\]](#)

A boy born with cerebral palsy has gone on to become a champion golfer. Doctors had told the parents of Brandon Craggs, now 11 years old, that he would never walk properly or play sports. Brandon was born five weeks prematurely. [\[Daily Mail, 5 June\]](#)

Instead of the comments from a variety of participants who attended our LoveMatters programmes I attach a reflection from one of the participants (14 years of age), sent on to me by her Grandfather, who wrote: "I have attached a poem written by my granddaughter on abortion that was inspired through an education programme - LoveMatters - that she attended at BOSCO just recently. I am so very proud of her and would like to thank BOSCO for the insight and awareness that your programme must have passed onto the children attending".

My poem

He told you he 'loved you', he gave you that look,
You believed him; he succeeded so it was a serious chance you took.
It never actually hit you of the serious consequences it would cost,
So not only your mind, but virginity you lost.
Everything was so confusing, it happened so fast,
Now you wonder what made his love for you not present, but past.
It has been 1 month of your pregnancy, and into a corner you crawl,
"Where's the father? His not answering my call."
Now you have no choice but to tell your parents,
of this terrible 'news', something of which is very serious.
They yell, scream, tremble and moan!
"Where is the father who told you he loved you?"
"I don't know daddy, his left me alone!"
Well I sit all alone, my stomach gets bigger,
The only thought running through my head is to not pull the trigger.
I am terrified, my body looks out of proportion,
"I've got it, I'll just go out and have an abortion.."
You look for the advertisement and send them a letter,
But think about it. Is it worth it and will it make you feel better?
No, obviously you haven't thought of it, it's a situation you trying to avoid,
A god's gift you have created will soon be destroyed.
All the hassle, depression caused by 1 mistake,
Was from something you didn't think twice for, for your own sake.
Now a baby with a beating heart shall have no future,
Except that terrible nightmare he awaits of being broken to pieces by tools of torture.
Blood is spilt and his lost tear has dropped,
Yet all that matters to the doctor is to operate the next patient waiting in the loft.
You have sent a baby off to heaven,
No future it was given,
But the prevention of more depression, time and money of the irresponsible mother still living!
Lucky enough a programme was invented to help us make the right choices so that our lives won't shatter,
BOSCO, I thank you for your educational programme that helped me, LOVE MATTERS!!

Nastasija Blagojevic - Assumption Convent

Some strange, funny and thought provoking stuff received at BYC

Luke 6:37

Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you.

Meditation

I was shocked, confused, bewildered
As I entered Heaven's door,
Not by the beauty of it all,
Nor the lights or its decor.

But it was the folks in Heaven
Who made me sputter and gasp--
The thieves, the liars, the sinners,
The alcoholics and the trash.

There stood the kid from seventh grade
Who swiped my lunch money twice.
Next to him was my old neighbour
Who never said anything nice.

Herb, who I always thought
Was rotting away in hell,
Was sitting pretty on cloud nine,
Looking incredibly well.

I nudged Jesus, 'What's the deal?
I would love to hear Your take.
How'd all these sinners get up here?
God must've made a mistake.

'And why's everyone so quiet,
So sombre - give me a clue.'
'Hush, child,' He said, 'they're all in shock.
No one thought they'd be seeing you here

Flynn staggered home very late after another evening with his drinking buddy, Paddy. He took off his shoes to avoid waking his wife, Mary.

He tiptoed as quietly as he could toward the stairs leading to their upstairs bedroom, but misjudged the bottom step. As he caught himself by grabbing the banister, his body swung around and he landed heavily on his rump. A whiskey bottle in each back pocket broke and made the landing especially painful.

Managing not to yell, Flynn sprung up, pulled down his pants, and looked in the hall mirror to see that his butt cheeks were cut and bleeding. He managed to quietly find a full box of Band-Aids and began putting a Band-Aid as best he could on each place he saw blood.

He then hid the now almost empty Band-Aid box and shuffled and stumbled his way to bed.

In the morning, Flynn woke up with searing pain in both his head and butt and Mary staring at him from across the room.

She said, "You were drunk again last night weren't you?"

Flynn said, "Why you say such a mean thing?"

"Well," Mary said, "it could be the open front door, it could be the broken glass at the bottom of the stairs, it could be the drops of blood trailing through the house, it could be your bloodshot eyes, but mostly.....it's all those Band-Aids stuck on the hall mirror.

Father's Day is coming up 21st June.

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, 'I know what the Bible means!' His father smiled and replied, 'What do you mean, you 'know' What the Bible means?' The son replied, 'I do know!' 'Okay,' said his father. 'What does the Bible mean?' 'That's easy, Daddy...' the young boy replied excitedly, 'It stands for 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.'



May you trust God that you are exactly
Where you are meant to be.
I believe that friends are quiet angels
Who lift us to our feet when our wings
Have trouble remembering how to fly.

