



THE BOSCO-LINK

A monthly publication of the Youth Ministry Team @ Bosco

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Box 1025, Walkerville, 1876.

Tel. BYC – 011 9492361 House – 011 9492360

Fax. BYC.0866805420 House - 011 9491022

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E.mail: boscoypt@iafrica.com Website : www.boscocentre.co.za Facebook: [LoveMatters@Bosco](https://www.facebook.com/LoveMatters@Bosco)

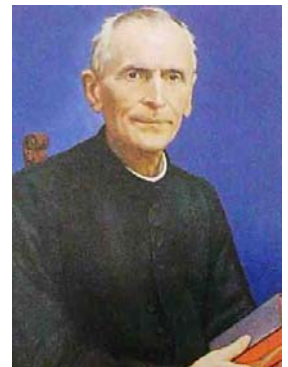
“Don’t be deluded by fictitious progress; only houses built on piety and Christian conduct will flourish”. Bl Michael Rua

From the Rector’s keyboard:

Dear Bosco-Link Readers,

There were a number of exciting happenings taking place...during October of course, but not restricted to that month only. The Salesians, internationally, are celebrating 150 years since their foundation this year. This culminates next month on the 18th November which will be the day 150 years ago that a small gathering of young people got around Don Bosco to launch the Salesians.

Among these was the cleric, Bro Michael Rua. His memorial is the 29th October, the date he was beatified in 1972 by Pope Paul VI. Don Rua became the successor of Don Bosco and saw to the miraculous expansion of the Salesians around the world. This Southern African region of the Salesians is named after him, as he was instrumental in organising the first small band of Salesians to land in Cape Town in 1896. Bl M. Rua died on the 6th April 1910.



The 150 also echoes round the corridors of Bosco as we celebrated the 150th week of LoveMatters. Holy Family School were the participants for this record week in the life of the LoveMatters programme. (I hope you read the Southern Cross report!)

Peace and Blessings

Fr Robert

Fr Robert Gore SDB

Community News:

1. BOSCO PAST PUPILS - The success of last year’s bring and braai has Sean Furlong and the gang from the Class of 81 spurring on another gathering this year on the 28th November from 11.00 until 17.00 down at the pool. R20 will be collected on the day as a donation to BYC. So join in with the fun --- I’ll attempt to get a few more names correct this time! If you want some more info contact sean@recruitlink.co.za.

2. VOLUNTEERSYouth Ministry Team at Bosco is looking for volunteers for 2010. A volunteer needs to be 19 – 25 years of age. Passed matric, preferably with some study or work experience after school. A practising catholic and keen on youth work. Get into contact if your are interested, (or know someone who is!) and I will send you the application form...with more details.

3. Michael Rua School is to become a High School. Some of the primary classes are moving to Japie Greyling in Daleside to make room for Grade 10, 11 and 12 over the next three years, beginning next year. .

A Volunteer at Bosco this year speaks out on Facebook!

My Testimony

My Virginity is not a cheap part of my life (Body) to be lost to anyone just for a few minutes of pleasure. For me being a Virgin it means I have control over my Body. which my friends who have already lost it "CAN NEVER GET BACK" There is a saying girls give sex to get love and guys give love to get sex. For me it is my Choice to give love without getting sex. I don't think sleeping around will secure a relationship (Love), but instead it will make me extremely insecure.

But it is my choice. As you have now given it all and it turns out not enough. If any girl breaks up a relationship with me because I stand for Purity, she has no respect for me or who I am. It is best to wait. I hear our youth asking because its God's plan for us and His plans are not designed to mess up our life. I commit myself to purity. Sex won't just happen if I make a decision to stick to my commitment and set my limits early.(Deuteronomy 30:1) I have given you a choice says the Lord between a blessing and curse(between the right and wrong). Sex is a gift from God. If you are a virgin accept you are not alone." tell them today I can choose to be like you, but you will never ever be like me (Pam Stenzel). Dear friends don't put your trust in condoms there is no guarantee. If you get a STI using a condom you will never get your life back. Life is full of choices not chances. Sex has two purposes reproduction and bond two people in love for ever.

If I choose to bond out of marriage I will pay. Dear friends my life is more than sex. I choose to abstain until I am ready. Abstinence is a choice you can make for your self.

Thank You LoveMatters
Stephen Mokoena

Some of the Groups through during October :

LoveMatters: Holy Family College (87); St Peter Claver (150).

Own Run Programmes: Suncrest High (109) ; Goudveld (57); Greenacres High (90).

Weekend Retreats: Maria Regina (13) Our Lady of Loreto (14); St Johns Forida (95); St Andrews Youth (25); St Patrick's (15)

Day Retreats: St Peter Claver (30)

PAST PUPILS

From: Gareth Anstee (86 – 88)

It was good to hear from Gareth linking with his school surprisingly in the mountains of South America.



“Here is a picture of the banner of St John Bosco that I saw at the base camp of Aconcagua which is in Argentina and is the highest mountain in South America. The camp is called Plaza de Mulas and it is at a height of 4300m above sea level. This was a very remote place and I was surprised to see the banner there. The summit of Aconcagua is at 6962m. To make a comparison, the summit of Kilimanjaro is at 5892m. I have been extremely privileged & fortunate enough to have conquered both of them. Everest is at 8848m and hopefully one day I will be up there.”

BOSCO CENTRE NEWS

1. LoveMatters page on FaceBook. To find it you search: LoveMatters@Bosco.
2. Thanks to Calvin Way who sent a donation for two trees. Why spend money on a Christmas tree that you throw out after the bells have stopped jingling. Grow a tree. Help us to plant trees here at Bosco...only R100.00 donation will give that tree-ful joy all year round.
3. Morning of the 26th we discovered that some idiots had climbed through the tiles into the swimming pool changing rooms. In the process broke the ceiling boards, removed two taps, and stripped out the electrical cable from the distribution board. What they took could not have been valued at more than a hundred Rands, but the damage they caused will go into thousands. This just at the time that we want those facilities to be in tip top condition for the parish groups which come to Bosco for a day's outing at the weekends.
4. We are now going into the November slump...examinations in all the schools. Weekends are busy though!

A FEW COMMENTS FROM THE MOST RECENT **LOVEMATTERS** PARTICIPANTS

“The striking thing for me about the week was....”

That life is all about choice, you just have to make the right one.

David really motivated me a lot about 10 keys of success.

STD'S , and all these other diseases, and a lot about other things

That love is a strong thing and we shouldn't have sex at a young age and abortion is not a good thing

This because I didn't know anything about "sex" now I understand that we had to learn it.

The abortion thing which means the process of it

How abortion can affect your life , Different Viruses and what drugs and alcohol can do to you

That sex is worth waiting for; how to control your speech; make the choice and take responsibility for your action

How women give birth and how abortion is done; the dangers of having sex at an early age

I learnt as a young man, I should think responsibly, and take responsibility for our action. Also that if we choose to do something we should face the consequences

LIFE ISSUES

A new statistical study into abortion in France has shown a huge rise in abortions since the procedure was legalised in 1974. Between 1974 and 2004, abortions increased from 40% to 60%. Chantal Blayot, professor of demography at Montesquieu-Bordeau IV, there is "a strong social pressure to abort" in France. [LifeSiteNews.com, 8 October] <http://is.gd/46q6p>

Relatives of elderly patients who died in suspicious circumstances at a hospital in Gosport, England, have called for a new criminal investigation. The relatives have given prosecutors a dossier, calling for charges against Jane Barton, a doctor at the hospital. Medication prescribed by Dr Barton is alleged to have contributed to the patient's deaths. [Portsmouth News, 17 October] <http://is.gd/4qfyA>

Researchers have made a breakthrough in the development of ethically-created stem cells. Scientists from the Scripps Research Institute in America used chemicals to speed up the process of creating induced pluripotency stem (iPS) cells. iPS cells are human cells modified to have properties similar to embryonic stem cells. [BBC, 18 October] <http://is.gd/4qfg9>

Catholic bishops from Africa have condemned the pro-abortion Maputo Protocol as "obnoxious". Concluding the Synod on Africa in Rome, the bishops issued a joint statement "denounc[ing] all surreptitious attempts to destroy and undermine the precious African values of family and human life." The Maputo Protocol is a charter of rights which has been adopted by the African Union. [LifeSiteNews.com, 23 October] <http://is.gd/4CzUO>

NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH WHEN WE REMEMBER IN A SPECIAL WAY ALL OUR DECEASED RELATIVES, FRIENDS, PAST PUPILS, AND COLLABORATORS.
Eternal rest give unto them O Lord. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Some strange, funny and thought provoking stuff received at BYC

While driving in Pennsylvania, a family caught up to an Amish carriage. The owner of the carriage obviously had a sense of humour, because attached to the back of the carriage was a hand printed sign...
'Energy efficient vehicle: Runs on oats and grass.
Caution: Do not step in exhaust.'

A FATHER'S LOVE

Psalm 103:13 As a father pities his children, so the LORD pities those who fear him.



Meditation

It is notable that Scripture puts the image of “father” and “pity” together. Normally, we associate “pity” with squishier members of the family: our sweet old granny who kisses the scratch and makes it better; or our mom, who pities us so beautifully when we are sick or lonely or frightened of the doctor.

But Scripture says God pities us like a father pities his children. How does a father pity his children? Often with much less outward tenderness, but with a determination to see to it that we really make it through to happiness. A father’s heart breaks at his child’s suffering as much as a mother’s. But fathers push us on to keep going in the face of adversity.

Mothers are more inclined to say “Here. Take a break. Have some ice cream. There.... Feeling better?” Both kinds of love are necessary to us. That is why Father God gives us Mother Mary. And that is why Mother Mary keeps pointing us back to Father God. Their pity is given, not to make us pitiful, but to make us endlessly

happy, strong, and free in Christ.

FOR A DAILY MEDITATION SUBSCRIBE ON: <http://www.mysoulprovider.org/>

Two little boys, ages 8 and 10, are extremely mischievous. They are always getting into trouble and their parents know all about it. If any mischief occurs in their town, the two boys are probably involved. The boys' mother heard that a preacher in town had been successful in disciplining children, so she asked if he would speak with her boys. The preacher agreed, but he asked to see them individually.

So the mother sent the 8 year old first, in the morning, with the older boy to see the preacher in the afternoon.

The preacher, a huge man with a

booming voice, sat the younger boy down and asked him sternly, "Do you know where God is, son?"

The boy's mouth dropped open, but he made no response, sitting there wide-eyed with his mouth hanging open. So the preacher repeated the question in an even sterner tone, "Where is God?!"

Again, the boy made no attempt to answer. The preacher raised! his voice even more and shook his finger in the boy's face and bellowed, "Where is God?!"

The boy screamed and bolted from the room, ran directly home and dove into his closet, slamming the door behind him. When his older brother found him in the closet, he asked, "what happened?"

The younger brother, gasping for breath, replied, "We are in BIG trouble this time. GOD is missing, and they think we did it!!!!!!!"

There's work to do, deadlines to meet; You've got no time to spare, But as you hurry and SCURRY- ASAP=ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER

Denzil Penberthy, an elderly Cornish farmer, received a letter from the Department for Work & Pensions, stating that they suspected he was not paying his employees enough and they would send an inspector to interview them.

On the appointed day, the inspector turned up.

"Tell me about your staff," he asked Penberthy.

"Well," said Penberthy, "there's the farm hand. I pay him £240 a week, and

he has a free cottage.. Then there's the dairymaid. She gets £190 a week, along with free board and lodging. There's also the half wit.. He works a 16 hour day, does 90% of the work, earns about £25 a week, along with a bottle of gin every week, and, occasionally, gets to sleep with my wife."
"That's who I want to talk to," said the inspector, the half wit."
"That'll be me then, " said Penberthy.

Everyone's a believer because everyone has a worldview - a view on how reality is and should be. Even the hardened sceptic holds assumptions & beliefs about knowledge, life and the cosmos. We may not always be aware of our worldview though - we may "catch" a worldview much like we catch a cold. It has been said that you either choose a worldview, or one is chosen for you.

Show me a week of your life, and I will tell you about your worldview. Show me what you spend your time & money on, and I will tell you how you see reality. Tell me what you get excited about, both positively and negatively, and I will tell you about your deep-down beliefs. Tell me about your hopes & fears, and I will have a good idea of your beliefs about ultimate reality. TGIF.

Walking into the bar, Mike said to Charlie the bartender, "Pour me a stiff one - just had another fight with the little woman."

"Oh yeah?" said Charlie, "And how did this one end?"

"When it was over," Mike replied, "She came to me on her hands and knees.

"Really," said Charles, "Now that's a switch! What did she say?"

She said, "Come out from under the bed, you little chicken."

A Sunday School teacher began her lesson with a question, "Boys and girls, what do we know about God?"

A hand shot up in the air. "He is an artist!" said the kindergarten boy.

"Really? How do you know?" the teacher asked.

"You know - Our Father, who does art in Heaven... "

Lipstick in School

According to a news report, a certain private school in Washington was recently faced with a unique problem. A number of 12-year-old girls were beginning to use lipstick and would put it on in the bathroom. That was fine but after they put on their lipstick, they would press their lips to the mirror leaving dozens of little lip prints.

Every night the maintenance man would remove them, and the next day the girls would put them back. Finally the principal decided that something had to be done. She called all the girls to the bathroom and met them there with the maintenance man.

She explained that all these lip prints were causing a major problem for the custodian who had to clean the mirrors every night (you can just imagine the yawns from those little princesses).

To demonstrate how difficult it had been to clean the mirrors, she asked the maintenance man to show the girls how much effort was required. He took out a long-handled squeegee, dipped it in the toilet, and cleaned the mirror with it.

Since then, there have been no lip prints on the mirror.

There are teachers and then there are educators.

TREE DONATION (or any other donation for that matter!)

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