



THE BOSCO-LINK

A monthly publication of the Youth Ministry Team @ Bosco

No. 97

Box 1025, Walkerville, 1876.

Tel. BYC – 011 9492361 House – 011 9492360

Fax. BYC.0866805420 House - 011 9491022

November 2009 in Bosco

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

It is simply remarkable how the apostle Paul covered so much territory and accomplished so much without a car.

From the Rector's keyboard:

Greetings one and all,

The beginning of December and the start of Advent is with us. It is a short time to prepare ourselves for the celebration of the birth of Jesus the Christ. God entering into our time and space... an event worthy of some reflection and thanks giving! Mostly, the summer holiday season swamps out the little time we do try to put aside for some spiritual maintenance. So it does take extra effort to highlight the significance of the Season of Advent and Christmas for ourselves, families and believing communities.

It is also a time for reviewing the year that has flown past...even if that is put off until the 1st January. This has to be done – hopefully to encourage us to face the New Year. If there are relationships or situations that need to be sorted, then get to it, knowing that this is the best of seasons to cooperate with God's grace at work in our time.

So, what have been our achievements here at Bosco during the year?

We have managed to keep afloat during this time of recession... thanks to all those who support our activities here at Bosco.

Generous donations help us to bring in deserving young people for **LoveMatters** who would not otherwise be able to attend these life-skills / behaviour management courses.

One of the highlights / achievements of the year has to be the recognition Bosco received from renowned abstinence pro-life international speaker, Pam Stenzel. Pam visited and spoke here at Bosco at the end of May. A video of this event is now available from Metanoia Media. Statistics and further achievements can be left for another letter in the New Year when these have been compiled.

Wishing you all a very fruitful preparation for the Christmas Celebration, and a joyful Christmas followed by peaceful, friendly, blessed New Year.

Peace and Blessings

Fr Robert

Fr Robert Gore SDB

Name one of the early Romans' greatest achievements.

Learning to speak Latin.

COMMUNITY NEWS:

1. Fr Michael Power SDB died on the evening of the 20th November after a short illness. He was assistant to Fr Canice Dooley at Bosco Parish, Robertsham for the last seven years. His funeral and burial will be held on the 1st Dec. He will be missed by the Robertsham parishioners very much. A really gentle soul, with the concern of everyone at heart. A few months before he had celebrated 50 years of priesthood and 60 years of Salesian religious life.
2. 16th November we celebrated the 7th anniversary of Fr Declan Collins death. He was murdered in Ennerdale where he was involved with the parish and the development of skills training with the Salesian Sisters. He will be remembered by those past pupils who knew him as a geography teacher at Bosco.
3. News received too late for the Bosco Link 96: Grant Tungay, who worked as a volunteer at Bosco during 2007 made his vows with the Jesuits on Sept 5th. We keep him in our prayers as he follows the Ignatian path of religious life.
4. With two American volunteers in our midst we couldn't miss out on November 26th, Thanksgiving Day. Since all the volunteers had spent a few days in Manzini and arrived back late on Thursday 26th, we kept Thanksgiving on Black Friday (as it is called in the USA). Special packages arrived from USA during the week to ensure that the celebration was as authentic as possible. Turkey...mind you, that had to be found locally...and it was a bit of a search. Apple pie, corn, potatoes, bean something... and all the other foods. Dianne and Christina spent most of the day preparing, and it was a good feed that everyone was thankful for.

Today's preparations determine tomorrow's achievements.

Some of the Groups through during November:

LoveMatters: Laura Vicuna (33)

Own Run Programmes: Living fountain Minsitry (36); Grace Bible Church; Pretoria Daughters of St Anne (151); Upper room Christian Centre (20); Suncrest High; Bosco Past Pupils; De Beers Group Services (15).

Weekend Retreats: St Pauls (15); Masolenyane (180)

Day Retreats: Southern Deanery (100); Rivonia Parish (14); St Alberts (39); Methodist Church;

PAST PUPILS

1. Money donated by a Past Pupil is helping to sponsor a holiday camp here at Bosco for three days for youngsters who would not otherwise have the opportunity for some fun in the sun.



2. Terry Twala was married recently. His wife, Sannie, was welcomed into his family home, Zulu style, at Sebokeng on Sunday 22nd November. Fr Francois Dufour was there.

3. Saturday 28th Past Pupils pitched up down at the swimming pool with their wives and kids to enjoy a reunion from 11am until 5pm, organised and motivated by Sean Furlong. The Van Ins – Leo and Marc, Anthony Hyams, Ian and Sean Furlong, Sean Sullivan, Grant Pitt, Calvin Way, Brian Turner, Jose

DosSantos, Bryan Burns, Nicky McClure are some of the names I remember...past pupils from the late 70's and early 80's. The photo below is of Nicky Strydom (nee McClure - one of the

pioneering girls at Bosco) with daughter Michelle and Fr Ivo Pisacane. Michelle finishes Matric this year!!

On Sunday 29th the last Sunday of November the traditional gathering was held. The start of the day is with Holy Mass at 9am in Savio Chapel. The day also finishes at 5pm.

This time it is a group of past pupils from the later 80's and early 90s. The day is not as hot and clear as the Saturday, but that did not stop the children (even some of the adults) from enjoying the fun on the obstacle course and the refreshing (read "cold") crystal clear waters of the swimming pool. Thabang Moeng, Mongezi Dlali, Sipho Mabaso, Grant van Dassie, Paulo De Gouveia, Marlon Cannell and their families were among those who came out to enjoy the day in the country.



I can see that gatherings work better if organised by the Past Pupils themselves. However Management at the Bosco Youth Centre must give the go-ahead as other groups also use the Centre. Needless to add that a minimum contribution of R20 per adult will defray Centre costs for maintenance of the pool, fixing the braai places, etc.

So a big thank-you to those who made this contribution, and the organisers who did the collection.

BOSCO CENTRE NEWS

1. The R557 between the R82 and R59 is becoming quite a busy road. We always thought it would be the link between these two major routes. This has meant we have to take our security a lot more seriously. A fence went up a couple of months ago around the Bosco Centre erf. Now as I write the entrance gates on the R557 (Randvaal Rd) are being erected. Two large sliding (to be motorised) gates...one on the tarred road entrance to the Centre, the other on the gravel road which is occasionally used by the big coaches. Once we have enough disposable income (ha, ha!!) we could think of tarring that section of road and making an "entrance and exit only" gates.

2. Still on the topic of roads...the R557 attracts all sorts of environmentally dysfunctional morons who dump garbage, garden waste and fling litter out of car windows. On a couple of days during at the start of the month, staff and volunteers put on gloves and armed with plastic bags went along the stretch of road along the Bosco boundaries (both sides) and did a good clean-up job. Well done folks!

And may I add, took all the bags away and dumped them in their proper place. Unlike some contract workers who come along the R557, collect rubbish into plastic bags, which are piled at intervals along the side of the road....and then are left there for evermore...disintegrate, are torn open...what's the point?

3. The Bosco Youth Centre will be closing on the 18th December and will be open for business on the 11th January 2010.

LIFE ISSUES

[British Victims of Abortion \(BVA\)](#) has welcomed a new study which confirms that abortion is bad for women. The study, by Professor David Fergusson and his team at the department of psychological medicine, university of Otago, New Zealand, found abortion can put women at increased risk of mental health problems. [\[Telegraph, 2 November\]](#) <http://is.gd/4M13P> Margaret Cuthill of BVA commented: "What we at British Victims of Abortion hear in the counselling room confirms the truth of Professor Fergusson's results." [\[SPUC, 2 November\]](#) <http://is.gd/4L5NR>

HAVING THE RIGHT AIM IN LIFE DOESN'T MEAN A THING IF YOU'RE LOADED WITH BLANKS.

Some strange, funny and thought provoking stuff received at BYC

In almost all honour/shame systems, just like 1st century Palestine and 13th century Italy, the male of the species (and this is often called "patriarchy") achieves his status almost entirely in the outer world by various displays—public displays of authority and wealth, power and certitude, clothing and title, strength and bigness, roles and offices, sports and prowess.

The patriarchal mind sees almost everything automatically in terms of superiors and inferiors, winners and losers, which is the other end of the spectrum from Jesus' "the last will be first and first will be last" or Francis' love affair with "Lady Poverty."

They both subverted the honour / shame system by aiming for win / win situations for all.

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

Sunday School

Sunday after church, a Mom asked her very young daughter what the lesson was about.

The daughter answered, 'Don't be scared, you'll get your quilt.'

Needless to say, the Mom was perplexed.

Later in the day, the pastor stopped by for tea and the Mom asked him what that morning's Sunday school lesson was about. He said, 'Be not afraid, thy comforter is coming.'

Nigella Lawson vs. real women

("Nigella is the sexiest television chef ever to grace an apron" – born 6 Jan 1960 in London)

1. Nigella's Way

Stuff a miniature marshmallow in the bottom of a sugar cone to prevent ice-cream drips.

The Real Woman's Way: Just suck the ice cream out of the bottom of the cone, for goodness sake! You are probably lying on the couch with your feet up eating it anyway.

2. Nigella's Way

To keep potatoes from budding, place an apple in the bag with the potatoes.

The Real Woman's Way: Buy Smash and keep it in the cupboard for up to a year.

3. Nigella's Way

When a cake recipe calls for flouring the baking tin, use a bit of the dry cake mix instead and there won't be any white mess on the outside of the cake.

The Real Woman's Way: Spar sell cakes. They even do decorated versions.

4. Nigella's Way

If you accidentally over-salt a dish while it's still cooking, drop in a potato slice.

The Real Woman's Way: If you over salt a dish while you are cooking, that's tough!. Please recite with me the Real Woman's motto: 'I made it and you will eat it and I don't care how bad it tastes.'

5. Nigella's Way

Wrap celery in aluminium foil when putting in the refrigerator and it will keep for weeks

The Real Woman's Way: It could keep forever. Who eats it?

6. Nigella's Way

Cure for headaches: Take a lime, cut it in half and rub it on your forehead. The throbbing will go away.

The Real Woman's Way : Take a lime, cut it in half and drop it in 8 ounces of vodka : Drink the vodka. You might still have the headache, but you won't care!

7. Nigella's Way

If you have a problem opening jars, try using latex dishwashing gloves. They give a non-slip grip that makes opening jars easy.

The Real Woman's Way: Why do I have a man?

8. Nigella's Way

Freeze leftover wine into ice cubes for future use in casseroles

The Real Woman's Way : Left over wine?? Helloooo!!!

The saddest aspect of life right now is that science gathers knowledge faster than society gathers wisdom.

Isaac Asimov, scientist and writer (1920-1992)

GOING TO THE SEASIDE...BE AFRAID!

How to prevent shark attacks!!!

1. Don't swim in the sea.

More than 99% of all shark attacks happen in large water masses, also known as oceans. The way to establish if you're in an ocean is to taste the water. It should taste salty.

2. Swim with fat people.

Always make sure there are fat people already in the water before you enter. Chances are you will be able to swim faster than them and save yourself.

3. Don't go in the water without a knife.

That's to stab the nearest swimmer when you see a shark. As soon as he/she bleeds profusely, swim as fast as you can to the shore and claim you tried your best to save him/her. You might end up getting an award for bravery.

4. Listen intently

All sharks have a 'theme song' - If you hear the following, swim for your life : da-dam, da-dam, da-dam. If it sounds like this dadam, dadam, dadam you're already **gone**.

5. Don't panic.

Stay calm when a shark bites you. Its over, you're **gone** and it doesn't help you try and survive. The people on the shore will appreciate it, they don't want to hear your mad yelling and screaming, it's not nice. Please think of the children.....

WORSHIP?

The modern atheist who thinks he is freed from worship by his atheism sooner or later discovers that he is merely worshipping something else, whether it is "billions and billions of stars" or his own brain, or force, or pleasure, or money, or sex, or something else. In the end, the choice is always between the worship of Creator and the worship of a creature. It is never, ever between worshipping and not worshipping.

Bible and a Haircut

A teen had just passed his driver's license and inquired of his father if they could discuss his use of the family car. His father said he'd make a deal with his son.

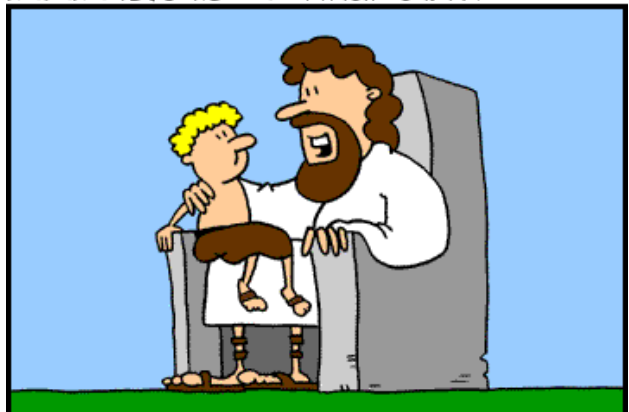
"You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little, get your hair cut and we'll talk about the car." The boy thought about that for a moment decided he'd settle for the offer and they agreed on it.

After about six weeks his father said, "Son, I've been real proud. You brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm real disappointed you haven't gotten your hair cut."

The young man paused a moment then said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair and there's even a strong argument that Jesus had long hair.

And his father replied, "Did you also notice they all walked everywhere they went. ▲

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT G4, INC.



Thanks to Christopher Huffman

12-24-1998

HOW ABOUT IF INSTEAD OF GIVING YOU EVERYTHING THAT YOU THINK YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS I GIVE YOU WHAT YOU NEED?