



THE BOSCO-LINK

A monthly publication of the Youth Ministry Team @ Bosco

No. 98

Box 1025, Walkerville, 1876.

Tel. BYC – 011 9492361 House – 011 9492360

GPS: S26° 11.4" E28° 34.5"

Fax. BYC.0866805420 House - 011 9491022

January 2010 in Bosco

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

BOSCO YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM – 2010

INTRODUCTIONS



Bosco Volunteers spend a 12 months on the Youth Ministry Team. Volunteers are selected from applicants at the start and the middle of the year. Ages range from 19 to 27 and they are drawn from local and foreign applicants who have a passion to bring the Gospel to modern youth, in St John Bosco's way. With their training and experience they are well qualified at the end of their 12 months to be actively engaged in their local parish youth

The youthful Youth Ministry Team for 2010 exploring the beauty of the Bosco Youth Centre landscape. L to R from the back - Bro Clarence Watts SDB (Team Director); Kutloano Mokoena (Robertsham Parish, Jhg); Thobile Maloyi (St Benedict Parish, Zone 3Sebokeng); Roxxie Champion (Christ the King Parish, Queenswood, Pretoria); Dianne Marshall (St Raphael, Naperville, Chigaco, USA) Mandla Mavuso (St Joseph's Parish, Swaziland) Simon Ngenge (St Thomas Parish, Orange Farm, Gauteng); Sr Malgorzata Jaglarska FMA (Team Vice- director); Christina Shakour (St Anthony de Padua Parish, South Bend, Indiana, USA). The more ancient members, Frs Robert & John, could not make it to the top of the hill!!

From the Rector's keyboard:

Dear Readers,

Most importantly, welcome back as a friend of Bosco for 2010. May this year be blessed for you with many graces. 31st January we celebrated the Feast of St John Bosco, who died on this date in 1888. A large number of youth spent a day together from our local parishes...Robertsham, Lawley, Finetown, and Walkerville at Bosco for the Sunday Feast. Mass was concelebrated with Fr Jonathan Daniels as the principal celebrant under the trees near the swimming pool. A real blessing was that it did not rain at all during the day.

In this edition 98 of Bosco Link you will catch up with some of the news from Bosco Youth Centre from December and of course January.

Our new team is in place...with two team members who arrived the middle of last year. Although young, we have a mix of university graduates, matric graduates, and work graduates...and some are all these. Our volunteers come from parishes far and wide. It promises to be a fun year.

However, we also recognise that it is going to be a hard year ahead for many people. Not least, the Haitians who have suffered such tragedy with the earthquake. Our Salesian School collapsed killing about 200 students...two young Salesians were also killed. We keep them in our prayers.

Peace and Blessings

Fr Robert

Fr Robert Gore SDB

COMMUNITY NEWS:

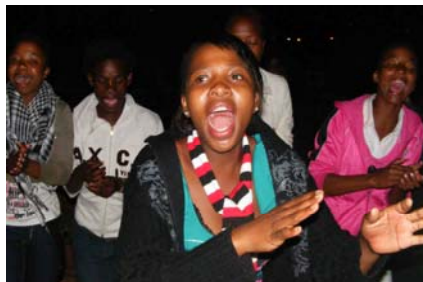
1. We have been having some exceptional rains here at Bosco. In the past we always felt that the rain-belt missed us. For six or seven years the vlei, which provided all sorts of entertainment for the youth, animals and bird life has been as dry as a moon rock. Now as the picture shows, it is awash with water, ducks and fowl, thick green foliage...a great sight...and one worth getting stuck in the mud for. Yes, the Bakkie got stuck on the wet track...but with Mandla's help, I reached home safely. (Spot the duck in the picture attempting to get away from this intruder!)



2. The new volunteers made their public commitment on Sunday, the Feast of St John Bosco, right after Fr Jonathan's homily. All of them faced the gathered youth and read their prayer of commitment for a year's voluntary service with the youth at Bosco. A little later on they signed their documents outlining their conditions of volunteering and service. The Rector concluded this part of the proceedings with a prayer, which was followed by a spontaneous applause from the youth.

3. Father Louis Blondel, a good friend of Bosco, was shot dead in his presbytery in Diepsloot during the night 6th/7th December 2009. Four people had allegedly broken into Presbytery. No doubt you read the details in the newspapers. Father Louis Blondel was the fourth Catholic priest to be murdered in South Africa during 2009. May he rest in Peace.

4. A Bosco Oratory Christmas Camp was held for eighty needy children from the local area for three days over the weekend. It was greatly subsidised by a donation received from a Past Pupil, for which we are very grateful.



Some of the Groups through during December 09/ January 10:

LoveMatters: 1st week Parishes: St Luke's; Holy Angels; St Benedict; St Pauls; Yithuba Lami; Debonir Park. (80), **2nd Week Parishes:** St Josephs; St Anthony's; Coronationville; Yithuba Lami (100).

Own Run Programmes: Bosco Oratory (80); Methodist Church (20); Ubuntu Mission (30).

Weekend Retreats/Events: Shotokan Karate Group (20); Our Lady of Lourdes (30) Holy Trinity Parish (29); Greenacres School (26); Randpark High (44).

Day Retreats/Picnics: Our Lady of Fatima (20); St Annes Teams (20); Twilight Children (300); Lerato Education Centre (30); Mayfair Convent (80); Orange Farm Primary (200); Kingdom Fellowship (50). Nathon Family (50). Assumption Convent Gr 12 (46); Assumption Convent Gr 11 (52); Assumption Convent Gr 10 (51); Assumption Convent Gr 8 (59); Marian Colege Gr 4 (85); Salesian Youth Movement (80).

PAST PUPILS

1. Silvio Ferraris (1974) was in contact. Married by Fr Francois Dufour 20 years ago, and celebrating this fine achievement, not only the quantity but also the quality...of marriage and family life. Congratulations.
2. Giorgio Silvestri with his wife, Nikki arrived at Bosco on the 16th Jan 2010. Recalling all the names of teachers - priests and brothers the year '81 - '83. Spent some years in England where he met his wife. Now living once again in Carltonville near his old homestead.

BOSCO CENTRE NEWS

1. Staff were back at work on the 6th January in preparation for the first groups to arrive from the 14th January '10. Grass had grown furiously over the Christmas break, and even now with grass cutting taking place when it is not raining, it seems like an endless task.
2. Clearing of the site for new accommodation (30 double rooms, en-suite) has started just below the tar quad. The rooms will have a stunning view overlooking the vista beyond the swimming pool. Anyone with a couple of million to invest in a worthy cause contact the Rector!
3. Security gates at the front entrance are now operational. These will be open during the day but after dark will be closed. The cell phone is the only way of contacting the security or management if you happen to be on the wrong side of closed gates. They will be open again at first light in the morning. Our thanks go to Simon (Salesian Past Pupil) of **Gate Repair Services (0845886766)**, Bryanston, for the generous donation of motors and installation of same, with a number of remotes.

"Let others praise ancient times; I am glad I was born in these." Ovid (43BC – 18AD)

LIFE ISSUES

Human Rights Watch, a pro-abortion group, has issued a report attacking Ireland's pro-life law and calling for legalised abortion in the republic. The group has accused the Irish government of being erratic and divisive in its response to the "need for abortion". The group also suggested that Ireland's constitutional protection for the unborn fails to meet Ireland's obligations under international law. [[Irish Examiner, 28 January](#)] <http://is.gd/7jAHR> Patrick Buckley, SPUC's consultant on the UN, said "[t]his report is dishonest in that its authors know full well that there is no such thing as a right to abortion under international law. The report is therefore more about trying to create such a right by exerting pressure on the Irish Government to permit the slaughter of the youngest and most vulnerable members of the human family in Ireland." [[Patrick Buckley, 28 January](#)] <http://is.gd/7jAU3>

A new morning-after pill, which manufacturers claim can be taken five days after sex, is available on prescription. Professor Anna Glaiser, of NHS Lothian in Edinburgh, Scotland, was responsible for research comparing the new drug with the current morning-after pill. Her research tested the two drugs on 2,221 women and was published in the *Lancet*, the medical journal. Professor Glaiser said that she does not expect the new drug, Ellaone, to reduce either unwanted pregnancy or abortion rates. [Family Education Trust](#) <http://is.gd/7jBir> said that it expected the drug to lead to an increase in promiscuity and sexually transmitted diseases and [ProLife Alliance](#) <http://is.gd/7jBsf> described the new drug as an "abortion pill". [[The Times, 29 January](#) <http://is.gd/7jBAb> ; [The Telegraph, 29 January](#) <http://is.gd/7jBL3>]

Evil is like a shadow - it has no real substance of its own, it is simply a lack of light. You cannot cause a shadow to disappear by trying to fight it, stamp on it, by railing against it, or any other form of emotional or physical resistance. In order to cause a shadow to disappear, you must shine light on it. (Shakti Gawain, teacher and author b. 1948)

Some strange, funny and thought provoking stuff received at BYC

Be sure and cancel your credit cards before you die.

This is so priceless, and so easy to see happening, customer service being what it is today.

A lady died last October, and a Bank billed her for November and December for their annual service charges on her credit card, and then added late fees and interest on the monthly charge. The balance had been R0.00, now is owed somewhere around R500.00. A family member placed a call to the bank:

Family Member: "I am calling to tell you that she died in October."

Bank: "The account was never closed and the late fees and charges still apply."

Family Member: "Maybe, you should turn it over to collections."

Bank: "Since it is two months past due, it already has been."

Family Member: "So, what will they do when they find out she is dead?"

Bank: "Either report her account to the frauds division or report her to the credit bureau, maybe both!"

Family Member: "Do you think God will be mad at her?"

Bank: "Excuse me?"

Family Member: "Did you just get what I was telling you - the part about her being dead?"

Bank: "Sir, you'll have to speak to my supervisor."

Supervisor gets on the phone:

Family Member: "I'm calling to tell you, she died in October."

Bank: "The account was never closed and the late fees and charges still apply."

Family Member: "You mean you want to collect from her estate?"

Bank: (Stammer) "Are you her lawyer?"

Family Member: "No, I'm her great nephew." (Lawyer info given)

Bank: "Could you fax us a certificate of death?"

Family Member: "Sure." (fax number is given)

After they get the fax:

Bank: "Our system just isn't set-up for death. I don't know what more I can do to help."

Family Member: "Well, if you figure it out, great! If not, you could just keep billing her. I don't think she will care."

Bank: "Well, the late fees and charges do still apply."

Family Member: "Would you like her new billing address?"

Bank: "That might help."

Family Member: "Avalon Cemetery, Chiawelo, Plot Number B9075769."

The Bosco Link 98 - January 2010

Bank: "Sir, that's a cemetery!"

Family Member: What do you do with dead people on your planet?!

Service with a surprise!

Hospital regulations require a wheel chair for patients being discharged. However, while working as a student nurse, I found one elderly gentleman already dressed and sitting on the bed with a suitcase at his feet, who insisted he didn't need my help to leave the hospital.

After a chat about rules being rules, he reluctantly let me wheel him to the elevator.

On the way down I asked him if his wife was meeting him.

'I don't know,' he said. 'She's still upstairs in the bathroom changing out of her hospital gown.'

What's that? You don't have to shout!!

A man was telling his neighbour, 'I just bought a new hearing aid. It cost me four thousand rands, but it's state of the art.. It's perfect.'

'Really,' answered the neighbour. 'What kind is it?'

'Twelve thirty...'

What do you stand for?

Boss: Why are you late?

Philemon: There was a man who lost a hundred rand note

Boss: ...and so you were helping him look for it?

Philemon: No. I was standing on it.



In the youth of a State arms do flourish; in the middle age of a State, learning; and then both of them together for a time; in the declining, Cowardice asks the question, 'Is it safe?' Expediency asks the question, 'Is it politic?' Vanity asks the question, 'Is it popular?' But, conscience asks the question, 'Is it right?' And there comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular but one must take it because one's conscience tells one that it is right. - Martin Luther King, Jr.

Computer Passwords....!

During a recent password audit at the Bank Of Ireland it was found that Paddy O'Toole was using the following password:

MickeyMinniePlutoHueyLouieDeweyDonaldGoofyDublin

When Paddy was asked why he had such a long password : he replied:

"Are yez flipin' stupid? Shore Oi was told me password had to be at least 8 characters long and include one capital"

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

A 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 at you.'

'Scripture?' replied the burglar.. 'She said she had an axe and two 38s!'

Knowing scripture can save your life - in more ways than one!

The believer in God has to account for the existence of unjust suffering; the atheist has to account for the existence of everything else. ~Rabbi Milton Steinberg

. ▲