



Helping youth build a better future



Salesian Missions

NEWS

JUNE 2024

Ukraine War – It's been over 830 Days

The 750-person capacity Bunker has been completed; we pray that this will provide a safe place for the local community to retreat.

Currently, there is still a great need to provide relief and assistance to many, especially families and the elderly who have sons and husbands fighting the war. In Mariapolis, 950 displaced people continue to reside in the container village which was constructed over 18 months ago. Funding is needed as Salesians and volunteers distribute supplies and provide one hot meal each day.



THANK YOU

Dear Friends of Salesian Mission

Together we are making an impact and breaking the alarming growth in the cycle of poverty by giving hope through the many Don Bosco educational programs and relief work delivered everyday around the world.

Young people especially deserve a holistic education where knowledge, skills and the ability to dream can be realised. "Without confidence and love, there can be no true education" St John Bosco assured us and it is with this common vision that we appreciate your continued partnership.

Regular contributions are crucial to sustaining our efforts, particularly in covering teachers and staff wages, utility costs, luncheon programs, materials and emergency relief supplies.

We thank you for your continued support given the extremely trying times faced by all.

Yours Sincerely
Tina, Olga and Wendy

Samoa

Don Bosco High School and Vocational Centre are thrilled to receive a generous donation of laptops from the NAB (complimenting their 14-year-old computers) and a projector. This has certainly enhanced the student's education, enabling a true interactive learning experience.

At the Don Bosco Technical Centre enrolments continue to grow. The need for a technical education is in great demand with the school beyond its capacity. New classrooms are required to facilitate the growing numbers of students from underprivileged back grounds and to ensure they do not



miss out on the skills they need to find successful employment. It is a hope from the leadership team that one day the school will have a library to enhance the learning experience for both students and teachers.



African IDP's

In Ethiopia, DR Congo, South Sudan and Uganda, Salesians continue to provide a safe place to live and rest for those fleeing civil conflict. Meals, supplies and shelter are the first steps in offering comfort to displaced persons amongst a desperate situation. Please help us to maintain this vital assistance.

Timor Leste

Kerri from the Salesian Volunteering Program, "The Cagliari Project", shared with us the impressive opening ceremony of the new classrooms at Don Bosco Fatumaca Elementary and Junior High School. With a growing enrolment of 579 students up from 393, the school was in desperate need of additional space.



New Classrooms at Don Bosco College Fatumaca

The first hint that the new Australian-funded classroom complex was a "big deal" for Timor-Leste's DB College Fatumaca was the hundreds of smiling students lining the way as guests were led to the new building by young cultural dancers. The design allows for multiple uses, both during the school day and after hours.

The plans for a large room and four adjoining offices were presented to the Planning coordinator, Fr Gui Da Silva, who secured funding from Salesian Missions Australia and The O'Brien Foundation Australia, as well as from Salesians in Portugal and Timor-Leste.

"I would like to express my gratitude to the donors, the multi-purpose building with its generously proportioned classroom space will be ideal for the students and teachers' well-being" says Fr Alarico, Project Co-Ordinator.

India

Fr Francis in Bangalore continues to express the need for assistance to meet the ever-increasing running costs of the many Don Bosco Education Centres. Courses are offered in a variety of Trades including Mechanics, Printing, Agriculture and Tailoring. Youth from poor backgrounds have the opportunity to obtain the skills needed for future employment.

In Mumbai, Fr Edwin is assisting several Don Bosco Shelters to help street children with the education and training required to gain employment. Life coping skills and technical training is only one component of the assistance offered. Any help for this project would be welcomed.



We have been informed that currently mailouts from India have been paused, due to government increases in postage. Salesians are waiting for the stamping machines to be recalibrated by the government which may take some time, they ask for your patience. Please forward any communication or donations and we will ensure they are passed on.

Syria and the Holy Land

Local Salesians in Syria continue to provide support for those who remain displaced after the Earthquake. Trauma Healing Courses have been extremely successful giving participants the motivation to continue to care for those in need and support the youth during summer camps.

In Bethlehem a *Salesian Bakery* is making a small but critical contribution. As the economic climate worsens, people struggle to purchase the essentials. The bakery has increased production, stabilized selling prices for the locals and offer free bread to vulnerable families and charitable institutions (i.e. orphanages) each day. Product prices continue to increase along with demand, any assistance is welcomed.

BEQUESTS

Continue to make a difference

A bequest or legacy is a gift included in your Will. It is an act of generosity that can continue into future generations. By naming the Australian Salesian Mission Overseas Aid Fund (ASMOAF) as the beneficiary of a fixed cash amount or a percentage of the estate will ensure that the funds are dispersed to the project of your choice. For further information, please contact the Salesian Missions Office 03 9377 6060 or by e-mail salmiss@salesians.org.au or our website for more information.

MAKE A DONATION

As Banks are in the process of transitioning away from cheques thus making it increasingly difficult for some donors to support our work. Please contact our office so that we may offer a solution.

To Deposit into our bank account:

Account Name: Australian Salesian Missions Overseas Aid Fund
BSB: 063 003
Account Number: 0012 7879
Reference: Donor Number.

For online donations

visit our secure website www.salesianmissionsaus.org.au

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