





Salesian Missions AUSTRALIA

Dear Friends,

Christmas is a time of reflection and celebration. Together we can be proud of the assistance and outreach given to many of the worthy Don Bosco projects around the world, which gives hope to those who are in need as a result of poverty, conflict, climate and disasters.

Despite the current financial pressures faced by many Australians, response to this year's emergency appeals and education programs has been exceptional. We are grateful for your on-going support so that we can continue to:

- provide food, supplies and housing to refugees and displaced people in Ukraine and Africa,
- offer vocational education throughout our many schools in the Pacific and Asia regions,
- support youth and outreach programs to enhance the development of local communities.

As part of our Don Bosco family we wish you and your families a very festive Christmas and look forward to continuing our shared compassion in providing assistance to those less fortunate.

Kind regards

Tina Newton
Director
Salesian Missions Australia

PRAYER

Lord, God of love, you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters:

Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace. Make us sensitive to the needs of those affected by conflict.

Sustain those who we assist through the Salesian Missions, to persevere in times of struggle and continue to be flames of hope amongst crisis.

Guide those who inflict conflict to be called to peace and mercy and help them to see the heart of those who struggle under their reign.

As we journey towards a new year, Lord, God of Love, be with us and all those in our care.

Visit our Website: www.salesianmissionsaustralia.org.au

Ukraine

With the new phase of the conflict and the change of its scale and impact, a crisis continues in Ukraine and the surrounding countries as Salesians of Don Bosco support refugees with the preparation for the extremely cold winter months. This year is particularly challenging with the loss of livelihoods, disruption to supply chains, insufficient electricity and fuel, the loss of housing and damage to infrastructure. A recent transfer of $86,000 has assisted with coats, clothing, blankets, heating equipment and housing as a priority.



Africa

A renewed focus on the Horn of Africa has commenced as ongoing conflict, civil unrest and difficult climate conditions continues to propagate food shortages and refugee displacement in the region. In Tigray, Ethiopia and Goma, DR Congo Salesians are actively welcoming refugees, distributing food and essentials reaching thousands of families as they migrate to safer locations. In Juba, South Sudan and Palabek, Uganda displaced persons camps house 90,000 refugees where education programs are run and co-ordinated by Salesians including efficient food production methods, encourage community support groups and small business opportunities.



India

In over 20 villages in Mumbai, before school Education Programs and tuition lessons are conducted to help children prepare for their day's classes, an assessment is made of the students educational level and support is given accordingly. Sustainability remains a focus with the promotion of organic farming methods to help farmers reduce chemical waste. Better crop selection and rotation is improving yields and reducing soil damage. In Bangalore Empowerment Programs continue to grow as small outreach groups effectively educate women and children on their rights. These groups provide a platform for social support and assistance, a space to learn new skills and an agent to support negotiations of rights.



Timor Leste

The emphasis on education through the many Don Bosco Schools and Technical Centres in Timor Leste continues as they accompany students and community groups to provide the skills needed to 'break the cycle' of poverty. In Fuiloro 80% of the community earn their living through farming. The Don Bosco Agricultural school gives students the opportunity to learn both efficient horticulture and animal husbandry by combining old and new technology with agricultural science. Produce is used both to feed the school boarders and to sell to the community. Don Bosco schools in Comoro, Fatumaca, Laga and Venilale scholarships and school support are provided so that students from poor families may have the opportunity of an education.



Pacific

Don Bosco Technical Centre in Alafua not only offers traditional trade courses such as Electrical, Carpentry, Plumbing and Mechanics, they also offer Hospitality and a Fine Arts program as part of the sustainable development of the school. Through Community and Government Qualifications Board consultations the school has adapted its courses to fill the future needs of the job market. The Fine Art program works closely with construction, welding and sewing to create carvings, furniture, art, stone carvings and much more. Currently there is a need for a new Fale (outdoor structure) to hold those in their 3rd year of the program. Any assistance is appreciated.

The Youth and Education Centre in Fiji continues to be a hub for the Nasinu Community, with over 200 young people attending the after school program and it is aways a hype of activity.

ONLINE DONATIONS Can be made through our secure website www.salesianmissionsaustralia.org.au
A tax-deductible receipt will be sent to your email address.

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Become a regular Donor – Help us to secure the continuation of our work.

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Please send your donation to:

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Salesian Missions:
www.salesianmissionsaustralia.org.au

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Donations to this Fund of $2 and over for development projects are tax deductible.

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(Subdiv. 30-BA ITAS 1997, item 1)