Dear Salesian Sisters and Brothers,

Greetings from San Francisco! I drove up to Watsonville last Thursday, March 9th. I stayed overnight in Watsonville at our Parish, visited my brothers in the community and on Friday participated in an interview, at St. Francis High School, in a feasibility study to determine if the School can raise $7.9 million dollars for their Campaign Priorities. That afternoon I drove to Berkeley to begin my visitation of Don Bosco Hall.

Yesterday, Fr. Tim Ploch emailed all the provincials of the Inter-American region to inform us that he had fallen in his room while in Guadalajara. Fr. Tim is making the Extra-Ordinary Visitation in that province. Tim dislocated his shoulder and has been told by his Doctor that he must stay put for three weeks. In two weeks the provincial councils of the region will gather in Cochabamba, Bolivia for what is called, “The Team Visit.” This Team Visit is directed by the General Council. The Rector Major and his councilors will be present to give presentations and animate the discussions. Please pray for Fr. Tim and his speedy recovery. We are not sure Fr. Tim will be able to travel and be with us those days.

Tomorrow, the provincial council and I will meet at Villa Maria del Mar in Santa Cruz for our March Provincial Council meetings. This March meetings will focus on personnel issues for the next pastoral year, 2017-2018. Please keep us in your prayers. The provincial council and I will be gathering at a retreat house in Santa Cruz. We go to a retreat house for greater sacred and quiet space to plan, pray, discern and listen to what God might be asking of us. We go to this beautiful retreat house by the sea hoping that the clean air, scenery of the ocean, the waves crashing unto the shore and the uninterrupted time will inspire us to make wise and good decisions. Part of our agenda will also include the “Redimensioning of our Province,” as envisioned by the Provincial Chapter last March and April. This year, during my visitations, I

USA West Province Newsletter • San Francisco, California

March 12, 2017

REST IN PEACE

Doris Roche
Mother of Fr. John Roche.
RIP on Jan.23rd

Fr. Amable Lorenzo, SDB
the brother of our Fr. Avelino
RIP on Jan.18th

Archbishop Patrick Flores
Archbishop of San Antonio, Tx
He was a Salesian Cooperator
RIP on Jan.9th

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Fr. Harold Danielson..........01
Br. Joseph Reza..................10
Fr. Bob Stein.......................11
Fr. Chris Rosales..............17
Br. Joe Lockwood..............27
Fr. Armand Oliveri...........30
Fr. Itchan Laygo...............31

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Fr. Lucian Lomello, SDB
Br. Jerry Weirich, SDB
Br. Tony Matse, SDB
Fr. Armand Oliveri, SDB
Fr. Mario Rosso, SDB
Fr. John O’Brien, SDB
have reflected with the communities the summary and conclusions of the Provincial Chapter. We continue reflecting on what it means to be “Mystics in the Spirit, Prophets of Fraternity and Servants for the young.” Our communities must continue to look at how we are living these three aspects from General Chapter 27. The second part of the reflection consists on the five areas of Redimensioning in the Province. The Provincial Chapter focused on the following five areas: Care of the elderly, Vocation Animation, Formation: initial and on-going, Sharing the Mission with the laity and Ministry to the poor and immigrants. The concluding Provincial Chapter documents were given to all the Directors and Pastors at our August 2016 meetings. I asked the Directors to make those documents available to the confreres and to schedule time to reflect together on them. Once again, I ask that we not shelve these documents and forget about them.

These days, in Santa Cruz, we will look again at our priorities. As I mentioned at the Provincial Chapter last year, our province, in a special way, must focus on vocations, formation and the quality of our community life, which includes on-going formation. This on-going formation must also include the laity in our ministries. The Director or Pastor (in a Parish setting) sets the tone for how the community and the Mission will evolve and take shape. The Director is the keeper of the Charism and must see that that Charism is being lived out well by everybody. Many of our ministries, especially, our Schools, are well managed by the laity. But, they need and want our presence in order to better live out our Charism, our Salesian Preventive Educational Style and Spirit.

Last Friday, after my interview at St. Francis, the interviewer mentioned that one thing was very clear: how much everyone, from Faculty, staff, parents, benefactors and students, appreciated and felt very connected to the Salesian Spirit. It was clear that the Salesian characteristic gave them an identity. You can be a Catholic School but that can be too generic for some. But, being also Salesian gave the young and not so young a strong identity and something which could be easily identifiable. The Salesian Spirit could be easily felt, touched and perceived. These types of conversations have convinced me more and more how important our presence, our words, formation and example are for transmitting to others what “Salesian” means. I am saddened when I hear of cases where the Salesian Spirit is not well understood, appreciated, or articulated, even by those in authority and administration. It was our Father, Don Bosco’s legacy to us and to the young. And, it is equally sad when a lay person will tell me how a Salesian priest or brother is not living and setting the example of a Salesian educator or Director or presence.

As we continue our Lenten journey and pray for each other during these days of discernment, may our prayer and inner reflection lead us to examine ourselves on how well we are living out our Salesian Charism. May God inspire many more men and women to enter our Salesian communities and be part of our Salesian Family, so that the beautiful legacy left to us by Don Bosco and lived so magnificently by so many after him, may continue to blossom and permeate our world.

With warm regards,

Fr. Ted Montemayor, SDB

A WORD OF ADVICE FROM SAINT JOHN BOSCO

"Fly from bad companions as from the bite of a poisonous snake. If you keep good companions, I can assure you that you will one day rejoice with the Blessed Mother in Heaven; whereas if you keep with those who are bad, you will become bad yourself, and you will be in danger of losing your soul."

Saint John Bosco
Province Calendar

March, 2017

1  WE  March, 2017
2-6  FR-MO  Provincial Visit, St. Dominic Savio Parish, Bellflower
8  WE  Board Members @ 1:30 PM
10-17  FR-FR  Provincial Visit, Don Bosco Hall, St. Ambrose, Berkeley
13  MO  Provincial Council Presentation:
13-15  MO-WE  On-Going Formation
17  FR  Salesian Family Province Day, Bellflower, followed by Rock Out Poverty, Bellflower
19  SU  “Conjunto”, Cochabamba, Bolivia
26-2  SU-TH

MARCH
SALESIAN MISSIONARY INTENTION
IN THE LIGHT OF THE HOLY FATHER’S PRAYER INTENTION

For Salesians in the Middle East

That Salesians may continue to be signs of faith and hope among the persecuted Christians of the Middle East.

The Salesians continue to be present in sensitive places of conflict, such as Syria, Sudan, Tunisia, Egypt, Palestine, Iran, Israel, Turkey and Lebanon. Although these are places with ancient and deep Christian roots, the disciples of Christ are still considered foreigners. The Salesians through their mission as educators and witnesses of Christ, make the discriminated and persecuted Christians in Islamic context feel the affection, solidarity, communion and faith of the Universal Church.
ROCK OUT YOUTH POVERTY

FEATURING

TEDAY RISS & RACH

GHOST LIT KINGDOM

PRESENTED BY SALESIAN YOUTH MOVEMENT USA WEST

SUNDAY MARCH 19TH, 2017

ST. JOHN BOSCO HIGH SCHOOL, BELLFLOWER

2:30 PM - 8:00 PM* DOORS OPEN AT 2:00 PM

$10.00 ENTRY FEE

LIVE MUSIC | INTERACTIVE LEARNING ACTIVITIES | FOOD FOR PURCHASE | AND MORE

www.salesianym.org sym_usawest @symusawest /Salesian.Youth.Movement.USAWest
ROSEMEAD, CA. – March 6, 2017 – The Don Bosco Technical Institute (Bosco Tech) community is mourning the loss of trustee Monsignor Jeremiah Murphy who passed away on February 20, 2017. Monsignor Murphy faithfully served on the school’s board for 41 years.

A Los Angeles native born in 1937, Monsignor Murphy graduated from Transfiguration School and was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles after completing his studies at St. John’s Seminary in 1963. After ordination, he taught at St. Paul High School; was principal of Bishop Amat High School; and served as superintendent of high schools and colleges for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Named a monsignor in 1978, he served as archdiocese secretariat director and pastor of Hancock Park’s St. Brendan Church. He was named administrator of St. Victor Catholic Church in West Hollywood, and was appointed pastor there in 2003 where he served until his death. Monsignor Murphy also served on several philanthropic boards including the Dan Murphy Foundation and Junipero Serra High School, in addition to his responsibilities at Bosco Tech.

“The entire Tech community mourns the loss of Monsignor Murphy,” said Xavier Jimenez, president of Bosco Tech. “Our hearts are saddened at the passing of this great man who faithfully carried out his vocation to minister to others. He was an asset to the Bosco Tech board of trustees and a friend to the school for many, many years. His absence will be greatly missed.”

The funeral Mass, to be presided over by Archbishop Jose Gomez, will take place at St. Victor’s Catholic Church (8634 Holloway Drive, West Hollywood) on Wednesday, March 15, 2017, at 11:00 a.m.

Celebrating its sixty second year, Bosco Tech is an all-male Catholic high school that combines a rigorous college-preparatory program with a technology-focused education. The innovative STEM curriculum allows students to exceed university admission requirements while completing extensive integrated coursework in one of five applied science and engineering fields. Each year for the past several years, one hundred percent of the graduating class has earned college acceptances. Visit www.boscotech.edu for more information.

According to Niche.com, Bosco Tech ranks in the top three of all-boys schools in the Los Angeles metro area and among the top 100 all-boys high schools in America. Founded in 2002 by Carnegie Mellon University students as CollegeProwler.com, Niche provides reviews from everyday experts on neighborhoods, colleges, and K-12 schools to provide students, families and professionals with insight into important life decisions.

Karen E. Krynen
On March 3-5, 2017 the Salesian volunteer program had its mid year retreat at St. Dominic Savio parish, Bellflower. This year we had the blessing to count with 5 young people who are dedicating their lives to serve in our communities. These young people are: Armando Prieto, who is serving at Salesian Boys and Girls Club. He is in charge of many hats among them: tutoring, helping with maintenance, driving the children, running a computer program for children and more. Armando has been in our program for 3 years. Dany Benitez, who is serving at St John Bosco. He is helping the youth ministry office of our school, he is also in charge of our oratory and he has created a group that visit the homeless once a month. He also teaches zumba at St Dominic Savio. Dany has been with us 2 years. Fernando Regalado, who is serving at our parish Cristo Rey in Laredo Texas. Fernando teaches catechesis, lead the altar service children’s group, buys the groceries for the community and supports different groups. Fernando has been with us for 6 months. Fernando is considering becoming a Salesian, at the end of this year he is planning to join the candidacy.

We also have one more person who just arrived from Colombia. His nena is Diego Salazar. He will be serving at the Salesian Boys and Girls Club in LA. Diego will stay with us until June. Diego finished his bachelor’s degree and theology and would like to serve and practice his English before going to Jerusalem for an architect seminar. We welcome Diego to our Province. We also have one volunteer who was not able to participate in the retreat. Her name is Sarah Monico, she has been with us for 6 months and she is serving in our Salesian Club in East LA. Sarah help us tutoring our children and supporting in wherever is needed.

Next year we may have another volunteer. His name is Jake, he is from St Dominic Savio and he was participating in this retreat to discern his vocational call, please pray for him and for all our volunteers who are serving in our communities. Big thanks to all the volunteers who are changing the life of the children in our communities! Thank you for stepping forward and show us the power of the young people.
ROSEMEAD, CA. – February 23, 2017 – In a unique joint celebration, Don Bosco Technical Institute (Bosco Tech) and eighth and ninth grade girls from charter school Academia Avance celebrated National Engineers Week together on Wednesday, February 22.

The female students joined their high school hosts for presentations given by respected scientists and engineers, many of whom are Bosco Tech alumni. The speakers, who represented companies like Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, and NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory, covered topics as diverse as developing partnerships between engineering and business, creating space flight mechanisms, and designing cinematography special effects.

“Engineers devise solutions; often the solutions stem from combining old technologies in new ways, to find new solutions to old problems,” said Academia Avance Co-principal Angelica Gil. “It is an old problem that girls have not had the same pathways to careers in engineering that boys have. That’s why it’s exciting that Bosco Tech invited 60 eighth and ninth grade girls to their 2017 Engineering Week activities. The Avance girls had the chance to expand their awareness of the immense possibilities for engineers, especially for women. We are speeding into the future on girl power!”

“Because so many of the Tech’s alumni enter engineering and other STEM-related professions, we have a great resource from which to draw,” said Bosco Tech President Xavier Jimenez. “That we can share the opportunity to learn from engineering professionals with our friends at Academia Avance made the day even richer for us all.”

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high school that combines a rigorous college-preparatory program with a technology-focused education. The innovative STEM curriculum allows students to exceed university admission requirements while completing extensive integrated coursework in one of five applied science and engineering fields. Each year for the past several years, one hundred percent of the graduating class has earned college acceptances. Visit www.boscotech.edu for more information.

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Academia Avance is located in Highland Park. It is a public school chartered by the California State Board of Education. For more information, visit www.academiaavance.org

Karen E. Krynen
**BOSCO TECH ROSEMEAD** - Our students participated in the Lenten Footprints--Making Tracks for Neighbors in Need” walk over the weekend. Here are a couple of shots of them; they walked with Bishop O’Connell. If you need any more info for InTouch, please let me know:

More than 320,000 people in the San Gabriel Valley live in poverty—and Bosco Tech students are doing something about it! Our students participated alongside Bishop David O’Connell and Mr. Rudy Herrera (AU ’80) in “Footprints—Making Tracks for Neighbors in Need,” an annual Lenten event hosted by Catholic Charities to raise awareness about the problem of poverty and earn funds to help those in need throughout our community. The event was held at Bishop Amat Memorial High School’s track on Saturday, March 4.

Karen E. Krynen
Brother Sergio Paredes, SDB, a Coadjutor from Paraguay who has stayed with us at Don Bosco Hall for two and a half months learning English. Brother Sergio improved daily with the help of Fr. Bob Bauer who met with him over three hours each day. Sergio wanted to stay longer to continue his study, but he has been appointed to the Provincial Council in Paraguay and he is returning to teach in initial formation at their house for candidates and young Salesians. He hopes to return in their summer, which would be in November through January. We can only hope! He brought us a wonderful and “vibrant” presence to the community. In fact, the community invited him out to breakfast this morning to wish him farewell and we had a special cake and cards at supper on Monday evening.

Jaryn Breakfield
St. Luke Parish, Stockton

Jenny Ho
St. George Parish, Ontario

Megan Kelly
St. Francis High School, Watsonville

Simone Lamboy
St. Ambrose Parish, Berkeley

Eligio Marquez
St. Dominic Savio Parish, Bellflower

Sofia Ortega
St. Francis High School, Watsonville

Tyler Paniagua
St. John Bosco High School, Bellflower

Vivian Pham
St. Barbaras Parish, Santa Ana

Katie So
St. Francis High School, Watsonville
I am approaching the subject of weight gingerly. Why? I don’t want people to think that I am critical of you just because you might be on the “heavy” side. I want to have a deeper understanding of weight and how that affects your health. For the coming weeks, we will unravel how our weight could change our health and more importantly what can we do about it. I dare not offend you by making broad statements about weight or obesity. Hence I was extremely happy to come across this website “Weight Matters” in their introductory statement about why weight matters. It begins with an opening statement which reflects my belief and my motivation to begin our conversation on weight.

The issue of weight matters to people in many different ways. It evokes many different emotions and can often be difficult to talk about with your healthcare provider, spouse, friend, loved one or others.

The most important reason why weight matters is because of your health.

There are many health implications that accompany excess weight, such as diabetes, hypertension, sleep apnea and others. Sometimes weight can even affect emotional health as well. It is not uncommon for someone dealing with weight issues to be affected by depression or a lack of self-confidence.

Gaining excess weight and realizing the health implications is not always the easiest thing to recognize. In fact, most Americans do not realize that they are affected by excess weight or obesity, or even at risk for weight-related conditions. This is why it is so important for you to realize that YOUR WEIGHT DOES MATTER!

Let me begin by going into the physiological component of a fat cell this week. From Wikipedia in its definition of Adipocyte: Adipocytes, also known as lipocytes and fat cells, are the cells that primarily compose adipose tissue, specialized in storing energy as fat.

Your homework assignment from the Care Ministry this week: get your weight and height ready. Next week we will need these measurements to know your BMI (Body Mass Index).

The Care Ministry welcomes your comments/suggestions: kunlouis@gmail.com

I remember the joy of having electronic medical record starting in 2003 in my hospital; what a life changing experience that is. With a click, I know the medications my patients had taken before, I know their allergies, their emergency room and hospital visits. The plan of treatment is largely based on past history and current presentation. Unless you capture these data, your plan of care could be compromised. Now in the home setting, you owe it to yourself and the people living with you that you have a good record of your health status; medical conditions, medications and care provider information. Since you don’t live in a vacuum, you owe it to your family or community and let them know of what your health needs are. Not knowing is a price to pay, especially in case of an emergency, in some instances it would be your life. So here we are, presenting to you from the Care Ministry the health care plan form that you can use.
Health Care Plan (2017 Update)

Name:
DOB:
Home address and telephone:
Contact person:
Family contact person: address and telephone

Health Insurance:
Commercial insurance
Medi-Cal/Medi-Care
Dental Insurance
Others:

In case of emergency (ICE) contact:

Advance directives
Emergency Contact: (Family or the community you are living with)

Date: (updated annually) or more frequently if intermittent illness occurs.

Primary Attending physician/telephone (and for what medical problem):

Diagnoses:
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Pharmacy: (name and address)
Telephone:
Weight/height
Allergy:
Name of medicine: How much to take:

Indication/reason

1. Rx Drugs:
2. OTC meds (cover the counter):

Special Medical Clinics
Name of doctor
Type of doctor
Medicine

Family History:

Alcohol Asthma Bleeding disorder Cancer Depression Diabetes Glaucoma Heart disease Lung Disease Kidney Disease Seizures Thyroid Disease

Father’s Age at death:
Mother’s age at death:
Diet/Nutrition:
Equipment/supplies: Company:
Phone:

Activities of daily living: (walking, wheel chair, independent in preparing meal, out-shopping, activities outside the house without supervision?)

Glasses:
Dentures:
Incontinent/continent:
Fall risk?
Adaptive devices:
Driving:
Past surgeries:
Past emergency room visits (last 2 years):

Health History:

Eyes
Ears
Nose/Sinuses
Mouth/Throat
Neck
Heart
Stomach-Intestines/Endocrine
Kidney/Bladder
Muscle/Skeletal

Other Diseases:

Trust me, information sharing could be life-saving. The life you save could be yours or someone you love. Should you need the Health Care Plan Form in Words, please feel free to e-mail us (kunlouis@gmail.com) for the form.

Your homework assignment from the Care Ministry this week: make sure that your health information is on file with your family/community.

The Care Ministry welcomes your comments/suggestions: kunlouis@gmail.com